



**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH CHICO
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)**

**May 9th, 2021—Happy Mother's Day
Guest Preacher Rev. Georgeanne Bennett**

Rev. Jesse Kearns, Pastor

AGREE TO DIFFER • RESOLVE TO LOVE • UNITE TO SERVE

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Credits at end of bulletin*

Welcome Visitors! We are excited that you have chosen to worship with us today; all are welcome and beloved—all races, gender identities, sexual orientations, socio-economic statuses, *everyone*.

I. Prelude – (Nancy Thompson)

II. Welcome and Announcements

- Zoom Check-In on Tuesday at 1:00
- Sacred Grounds, 9:00 next Sunday
- Worship, 10:00 in the sanctuary, Zoom and FaceBook Live

III. Opening Hymn CH #658 “Restless Weaver” verses 1, 2,4 (Nancy Thompson)

Restless Weaver, ever spinning
threads of justice and shalom;
Dreaming patterns of creation
where all creatures find a home;
Gathering up life's varied fibers
every texture, every hue:
grant us your creative vision.
With us weave your world anew.

Where earth's fragile web is raveling
help us mend each broken strand.
Bless our urgent, bold endeavors
cleansing water, air and land.
Through the Spirit's inspiration
offering health where once was pain—
strengthen us to be the stewards
of your world knit whole again.

Restless Weaver, still conceiving
new life—now and yet to be—
binding all your vast creation
in one living tapestry:
You have called us to be weavers.
Let your love guide all we do.
With your Reign of Peace our pattern, we will weave
your world anew.

IV. Call to Worship – (Mary Kearns)

Cultivating God, we come as your children to grow
and learn,

because you are our divine vine grower.

God, we desire for you to abide within us,
and for your grace to be revealed anew daily.

As your branches, we ask you to nourish us.

We ask for continued growth.

May you transform our hearts and minds as we hear
your Word.

**May you help us to bear good fruit
through the vine of Jesus Christ.**

In Whose name we pray, Amen.

V. Acts 10:44-48 NRSV (Mary Kearns)

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell
upon all who heard the word. The circumcised
believers who had come with Peter were astounded

that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out
even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in
tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, “Can
anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people
who have received the Holy Spirit just as we
have?” So he ordered them to be baptized in the
name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay
for several days.

VI. John 15:1-17 NRSV (Georgeanne Bennett)

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the
vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that
bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes
to make it bear more fruit. You have already been
cleansed by the word that I have spoken to
you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch
cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine,
neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine,
you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in
them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can
do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown
away like a branch and withers; such branches are
gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you
abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for
whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My
Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit
and become my disciples.

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

VII. Sermon - "We Are All Connected" (Rev. Georgeanne Bennett)

VIII. Song of Reflection – CH # 651" God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens", verses 1, 3, 4 (Nancy Thompson)

God who stretched the spangled heavens
Infinite in time and place

Flung the suns in burning radiance
Through the silent fields of space
We Your children in Your likeness
Share inventive powers with You
Great Creator still creating
Show us what we yet may do

We have conquered worlds undreamed of
Since the childhood of our race
Known the ecstasy of winging
Through uncharted realms of space
Probed the secrets of the atom
Yielding unimagined power
Facing us with life's destruction
Or our most triumphant hour

As each far horizon beckons
May it challenge us anew
Children of creative purpose
Serving others honoring You
May our dreams prove rich with promise
Each endeavor well begun
Great Creator give us guidance
Till our goals and Yours are one

IX. Moment for Mission – (Surprise!)

X. Prayers of the People – (Mary Kearns)

XI. Communion Song — CH # 689 “We Are Not Our Own”, verses 1-3, 6

We are not our own. Earth forms us,
human leaves on nature’s growing vine, fruit of many
generations,
seeds of life divine.

We are not alone. Earth names us:
past and present, peoples near and far,
family and friends and strangers
show us who we are.

Through a human life God finds us;
dying, living, love is fully known,
and in bread and wine reminds us:
we are not our own.

Let us be a house of welcome,
living stone upholding living stone,
gladly showing all our neighbors
we are not our own!

XII. Institution of Communion (Kevin Zeitler and Max Erwin)

XIII. Postlude - (Nancy Thompson)

XIV. Blessing/Benediction (Rev. Georgeanne Bennett)



CALENDAR

May 9th-16th, 2021

This Sunday

9:00 a.m.-Sacred Grounds Adult Faith Formation
Christian Education, on [Zoom](#)

10:00 a.m.-Socially distanced Indoor Worship in
Sanctuary (masks required) and Worship
Streamed Live on [Zoom](#) and [Facebook](#)

Tuesday

1:00 p.m.-Weekly Check-in on [Zoom](#)

Next Sunday

9:00 a.m.-Sacred Grounds Adult Faith Formation
Christian Education, on [Zoom](#)

10:00 a.m.-Socially distanced Indoor Worship in
Sanctuary (masks required) and Worship
Streamed Live on [Zoom](#) and [Facebook](#)

Church Office Administrative Assistant Briony works
remotely from home on Fridays.

Looking Ahead

- **POSTPONED UNTIL JUNE**, via FCC Zoom room, Chico Area Interfaith Council (CAIC)
Annual Event
- **May 23rd—Pentecost Picnic In the Park!** Yes! We will be celebrating Pentecost at Wildwood park at **10:00 a.m.** This will be a picnic where everyone can socially distance and **bring their own food.** More information will come as we get closer to the date, announced on Sunday mornings and in the weekly Callerito email.
- **June 3rd Bible Study starts up again, 7 pm.** This Bible Study will be continuing Israel's monarchy with the Book of 2 Samuel. This will be over zoom and *maybe* in person. More information forthcoming! Sign up with Pastor Jesse or Briony in the church office.

2021 PENTECOST OFFERING

BE THE NEW CHURCH



The 2021 Pentecost Offering is a special offering in support of the new church movement in your Region and across the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

SUNDAYS MAY 16 AND MAY 23

BE BOLD + BE COURAGEOUS + BE GENEROUS + BE THE NEW CHURCH

Be the New Church

For the past thirteen months, many Disciples living across the United States and Canada have been struggling with social isolation. They've stayed away from their various places of worship to protect the health and safety of themselves and others. It has been hard.

How have new church leaders responded? By launching communities of faith in creative and innovative ways.

It's looked like spreading the word about the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) through Door Dash food deliveries, meeting with folks every week on Zoom to discuss anxiety, and making sure that the spiritual needs of transitioning out of correctional facilities are met.

From hospital and prison chaplains to tri-vocational pastors, courageous new church leaders have answered the call to **be the new church**.

To support them and their efforts to continue the new church movement, please contribute to the 2021 Pentecost Offering, collected in most congregations on Sundays, May 16 and May 23. Each year, half of the gifts made go to your own Region to support local new church development. The other half goes to New Church Ministry, which trains, equips, assists, and multiplies new church leaders. Through programs such as Leadership Academy, New Church Hacks, and Water the Plants, your gifts make a difference across the life of the Church. By participating in this Special Day Offering, you ensure the viability, vitality and sustainability of unique new church plants in your area and in states, provinces, and territories far away.

Please give generously. Let's all **be the new church**, together.

To access additional Pentecost Offering resources, including images, videos, and stories to share, you can visit:
<http://disciplesmissionfund.org/special-offerings/pentecost>.

Credits



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- “Restless Weaver” Words: O.I. Cricket Harrison, 1988, rev. 1993. Music: Attr. B.F. White, 11844; harm. Ronald A. Nelson, 1978. Words © 1995 Chalice Press, harm. © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, used by permission of Augsburg Fortress
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Some FAQs for Visitors

- **What is Communion?** Communion is a part of each Sunday morning where we remember the last meal that Jesus ate with the disciples by eating bread and drinking grape juice.
- **May I receive Communion?** Yes! Everyone is invited to receive -- we have no barrier to participating in communion.
- **What’s a “Doxology”?** Some Sundays we will sing a “doxology” (literally “saying of glory”) after we receive the offering. It is a prayer written in 1674 and is popular in Protestant Churches -- plus, we love the words.
- **Do we say the Lord’s Prayer together?** We do pray the Lord’s Prayer together occasionally on Sunday mornings during the prayer time.
- **What else should I know?** We’d love to share more of our loving and inclusive community with you. At FCC, you’ll find all generations worshipping together and participating in church activities. We have activities for kids and youth, and we love to share in community together.
- **Visit our website to donate online, subscribe to our mailing lists, and learn more about us!**
www.fccchico.com

Changes to In Person Worship

- We are continuing to have live-streaming options via Zoom, and FaceBook Live. **Jesse will only be able to interact with Zoom and FaceBook live people during Prayers of the People.**
- We are meeting in the Sanctuary with every other pew roped off. **As of April 1st, 2021, we are now in the orange tier!** This means we are at 50% of capacity or around 100 people. Services will be socially distanced, masks are required.
- We will take temperatures upon entry and names and contact information will be collected to aid in any contact tracing.
- Communion will be single-serve, pre-packaged sealed cups of juice with wafers sealed on top. Think Lunchables. The wafers are NOT gluten free. You may bring your own communion if you prefer.
- There will be no corporate singing
- **There will be no hymnals or paper bulletins available.** Songs will be on the monitors and the bulletin will be emailed out on Fridays and again on Sunday mornings. **We encourage you to either print your own copy to use during the service, or download it before coming.** There will be no public wifi available as we need ALL the bandwidth to livestream.
- Offering plates will not be passed. You may place your offerings in the plate as directed at the beginning or end of the service.
- Please do NOT attend the in person services if you are unwell, or think you may have been exposed to COVID-19.
- After every service, the sanctuary will be disinfected.
- Visit our website to donate online, subscribe to our mailing lists, and learn more about us!
www.fccchico.com