

## Faith Lutheran is a community reflecting God's love with a place at the table for everyone.

This service encourages movement! With the exception of during the sermon, at any time you are encouraged to get up, raise your arms in praise, dance, light a candle, kneel before the cross, bless yourself with the waters of baptism, or pray with the healing prayer minister. You can also sit and relax the whole time.

We encourage you to discover how you can be a part of reflecting God's love through connecting more deeply with our community. To find out more, please speak with our Equipping Minister after worship or visit [ChicoFaithLutheran.org](http://ChicoFaithLutheran.org)

Our shared ministry is made possible by the generosity of our members. If you would like to support our work proclaiming Christ's love in word and deed, you can either make a donation in the wooden box at the back of the sanctuary, visit [ChicoFaithLutheran.org/give](http://ChicoFaithLutheran.org/give) or use the QR code below



*A Reconciling in Christ Congregation*



*Galatians 3:28*



## Monstrosities try to make us monsters but the Son of Man maintains our humanity



### Luke 6:20-31

<sup>20</sup> Then [Jesus] looked up at his disciples and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

<sup>21</sup> "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

"Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

<sup>22</sup> "Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. <sup>23</sup> Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

<sup>24</sup> "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

<sup>25</sup> "Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

"Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

<sup>26</sup> "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

<sup>27</sup> "But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; <sup>28</sup> bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. <sup>29</sup> If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. <sup>30</sup> Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. <sup>31</sup> Do to others as you would have them do to you."

**We are tempted to do to others what they do to us.**

**Empires in the Bible are portrayed as beasts, because they are beastly in their behavior, and try to make us into beasts.**

<sup>1</sup> In the first year of King Belshazzar of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head as he lay in bed. Then he wrote down the dream: <sup>2</sup> I, Daniel, saw in my vision by night the four winds of heaven stirring up the great sea, <sup>3</sup> and four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another.

<sup>13</sup> As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him.

<sup>14</sup> To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

<sup>15</sup> As for me, Daniel, my spirit was troubled within me, and the visions of my head terrified me. <sup>16</sup> I approached one of the attendants to ask him the truth concerning all this. So he said that he would disclose to me the interpretation of the matter: <sup>17</sup> “As for these four great beasts, four kings shall arise out of the earth. <sup>18</sup> But the holy ones of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever—forever and ever.”  
– *Daniel 7:1-3, 13-18 (NRSVUE)*

**The term “Son of Man” means a human being, or “the human one.” Jesus gives himself the title of “human” because he treats us humanely and restores our humanity.**

**Supervillains re-inflict their trauma. Superheroes repair it.**

**The victory of the Son of Man is shown when we refuse to treat others as they treat us, and instead do to others as we would have them do to us.**

**We celebrate the saints, not because they were perfect, but because they show us the victory of the Son of Man, now and forever**

*What suffering have you experienced that has shaped who you are?*

*Who has shown you how to hold onto your humanity?*

*This week, how can you reject doing to others as they have done to you, and instead do to them as you would have them to do you?*