FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

A community reflecting God's love with a place at the table for everyone



This service encourages movement! Except 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

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



Matthew 2:13-23 (NRSVUE) ¹³ Now after [the magi] had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

¹⁶ When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the magi. ¹⁷ Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

¹⁸ "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

¹⁹ When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰ "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." ²¹ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³ There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazarene."

Isaiah 63:7-9 (NRSVUE) ⁷ I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD, the praiseworthy acts of the LORD, because of all that the LORD has done for us and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

⁸ For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not act deceitfully," and he became their savior ⁹ in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and pity it was he who redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

We will sacrifice others' children to save ourselves; The Son of God sacrifices himself to save all children.

Pharaoh feared Hebrew people would replace the Egyptians in Egypt. He enslaved the Hebrews and ordered the death of their children. (Exodus. 1:8-16) To set the Hebrew people free from slavery in Egypt, God does to the Egyptians what Pharaoh did to the Hebrews and orders the death of all the first-born Egyptian children. (Exodus 12:29-32)

The Babylonian Empire massacres Jewish children (Jeremiah 31:15). Jewish exiles in Babylon pray for the massacre of Babylonian children (Psalm 137:9)

King Herod fears being replaced by the newborn Jesus and so massacres all children under the age of 2 in Bethlehem (Matthew 2:16).

Jesus refuses to kill Herod's children and instead allow himself to be crucified to save all children.

Angels can save us from individual acts of violence.
Only God's presence saves us from both the cause and consequence of violence.

When have you been afraid of being replaced?

When have you done to someone what they first did to you?

When have you seen God break a cycle of violence?

Sundays

- Worship in the Sanctuary at 9:30 a.m.
- Dungeons & Dragons (5e) on 2nd Sun. of Month, 5pm, Room 6 (Kate Ory, Malinda Ard)
- Sundays @ 5 Service in the Sanctuary at 5:00 p.m.

Mondays

- Inviting Silence at 7:00 a.m. in the chapel (part of office wing) (Bill Kees)
- Time Out for Art in Room 6 from 1-4:00 p.m. (Caryl Quinones, Sherrill Heinz)
- Adult Children of Alcoholics Meeting in Room 4 at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesdays

- Quilters in the Fellowship Hall from 10:00 AM to 3:00 p.m. (Char Miller)
- Centering Prayer on Zoom from 4-5 p.m. (Bill Kees)
- Pastor's Bible Study on Zoom from 5-6 p.m. (Pr. Ben)

Wednesdays

- Spanish Conversation Group on Zoom at 9am (Clark Colahan)
- Inviting Silence at 11:00 a.m. in the chapel (part of office wing) (Bill Kees)
- Handbell Practice in the Fellowship Hall at 4:00 p.m. (Luke Nicolay)

Thursdays

- Spiritual Seekers Bible Study on 1st & 3rd Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. in Conference Room
- Afternoon Games at 1200 Park Ave. Clubhouse from 12 to 3:00 p.m. (Elise Gladu)
- Choir Practice in the Sanctuary at 5:45 p.m. (Luke Nicolay)
- Gambler's Anonymous at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room
- Contemporary Music Practice in the Sanctuary at 7:15 p.m. (Luke Nicolay)
- Troop 12 in Room 7 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. (Chris Brown)

Fridays

- Men's Breakfast at Farmer's Skillet on Rio Lindo at 8:00 a.m. (Howie Stensrud)
- Bulletin Folders in the Sanctuary at 2:00 p.m. (Laurae Dunn)
- Food Bank, 1st & 3rd Fridays in the Parking Lot from 3:00-5:00 p.m. (Lisa Roehling)