

DECEMBER 18, 2022

VESPERS CHICO

*"...nothing among you except
Jesus Christ and Him crucified."*

Community Highlights |

Christmas Worship Schedule

Christmas Eve @ Shaffer Ranch. 5:30pm
Christmas Morning @ Chico SDA. 10:30am

Sunday Deacon Helpers

Get more info & Sign-up here:
Al Gage | 530.592.7252



Family Services

Both December 25th and January 1st
Karey Davenport | 530.228.5334

For the thorough list of announcements with links to **GIVING, EMAIL LIST, WORSHIP PLAYLIST, SMALL GROUPS, SERMONS**, etc. check out our Linktree by scanning the QR code to the right.



Vespers Kids |

Nursery & Toddlers

Parents of Babies can utilize the cry rooms on either side of the sanctuary. Toddlers (1–3yrs.) are invited to play in the Crawlers class located in the children's wing. Both of these childcare options are available for the entire service.

Pre-school & Elementary

Our Runners Class (3-5yrs.) and our Elementary Class (5-8yrs.) are dismissed after the Worship Singing. Parents can drop their kids off at their classrooms across the courtyard in the kid's wing. Pick-up is right after the Benediction

Note Challenge

For older kids (9yrs.+), we have clipboards on the back table for drawing/sketching/coloring. If you can turn in 10 note pages with a little something you heard in church each week, you earn a prize!

Ridge Presbyterian Church

RidgeParadise & VespersChico

Office: 562 Manzanita Ave. Ste. 3 Chico, 95926

Find us Online: www.ridgepresbyterian.org

Call/Email: 530.872.8270 | office.ridgepres@gmail.com

Ridge Presbyterian is a church of people gathered around one thing—Jesus Christ, and his gospel of unlimited grace. As a church, we come from lots of different places: lost, found, burned, cynical, broken, hurting, or some combination of all of these. But what unites us and keeps us coming back together week after week is the reality of a Savior who has given unimaginable hope to any who admit their need and sprawl out before Him. This Jesus is really all we have to offer at RPC. We are convinced that not only is He enough, but that HE alone is true wisdom, life, and fullness of joy.

If you are new or newish here, we are so glad that you have joined us! We would love to know more about you, as well as give you the chance to learn a bit more about us. Use the QR code to the right to access our welcome card and let us know you were here.



Call to Worship – Psalm 145.14-18

The LORD upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down.

**The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food in due season.**

You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing.

**The LORD is righteous in all his ways
and kind in all his works.**

The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

—Opening Prayer—

Songs of Worship and Praise

Please feel free to worship in the way that the Lord is leading. Whether standing or sitting, hands raised or kneeling before the Lord. There is no required posture.

Tithes & Offerings

Our ushers will pass collection baskets during the final song. If writing a check, please make payable to “Ridge Presbyterian Church,” since both Ridge Paradise and Vespers Chico are sites of Ridge Presbyterian. Thank you for your generosity.

Dismissal & Blessing of Children

Our children are a blessing from the LORD! Return clipboards, visit the bathroom, and check kids in to the appropriate room for children’s church! (See back panel!)

Greetings & Fellowship

Welcome to all newcomers and visiting guests today. We are glad you are here! We’d love to connect with you through the welcome card linked to the QR code.

*God calls His people into worship,
not the other way around. His Word
is the only thing that can truly draw
our hearts into worship in Spirit and
Truth. And so, we begin here.*

*The Bible tells us to let the Word of
Christ dwell within us richly by
“singing psalms, hymns, and spiritu-
al songs.” Thus, we sing of what
God has done, and about our de-
light in Him.*

*Tithes and Offerings are part of our
worship and response to the gos-
pel. When we grasp that “He who
was rich, for our sake became
poor” it stirs us to reflect that gen-
erosity in our giving.*

*Our children are a gift from God!
And even though their discipleship
happens first and foremost at home,
we are also committed to the nurtur-
ing of their faith during Sunday
Worship.*

*Since we have peace with God
through the work of Jesus, we gladly
extend peace to one another and
welcome each other as brothers and
sisters in Christ.*

Fourth Sunday of Advent – David and Sarah Allison

⁴⁶ And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸ for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; ⁴⁹ for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. ⁵⁰ And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. ⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; ⁵² he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; ⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. ⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, ⁵⁵ as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever.” ⁵⁶ And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home. **-Luke 1.46-56**

An Advent Prayer

Heavenly Father, as we hear the words of Mary’s praise

**We, too, are moved towards worship and wonder;
Wake us to marvel at how You bring salvation.**

As we light this fourth candle of our Advent wreath

**Remind us that You alone fill hungry souls,
and that Jesus is the Bread of Life who satisfies.**

As we worship together in this pre-Christmas season

**Guard us from pride that kills our wonder,
and also from business that keeps us from marveling
at that which is truly marvelous—Jesus Christ and the news of His coming.**

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, the Savior and Light of the world. Amen.

Preaching of God’s Word – Genesis 3.14-15

“Anthems of Advent: God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen”

Pastor Josh Lee

¹⁴ The Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵ I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

Please receive your communion elements from our elders up front. Return to your seat and hold them until all have been served so we can eat and drink together.

Benediction – Numbers 6.24-26

“The Lord bless you and keep you ...and give you peace.”

*As we hear these familiar words
describing the days leading up to the
birth of Jesus, we light the candles of
the Advent wreath representing His
arrival as the Light of the World.*

*Prayer isn’t just a private interaction
with God, it is also a part of public
worship. God calls His people to
speak to Him as one unified body.
“My” prayers become “Our” prayers
as we cry out to Him together.*

*Because God has spoken to us
through His Word we strive to pro-
claim what it says and teach what it
means. It is through this Ministry of
the Word that the Church receives
training, correction, encouragement,
and a deeper experience of the
gospel of Jesus.*

*Followers of Jesus are invited to His
table where He spiritually feeds His
people. Though these elements are
common bread and juice, they sym-
bolize His body and blood and
“preach” to our senses that Christ
abides in us and we abide in Him.*

*God gets the final word in the wor-
ship service. And with it He chooses
to bless His people. Go in the peace
of His blessing!*