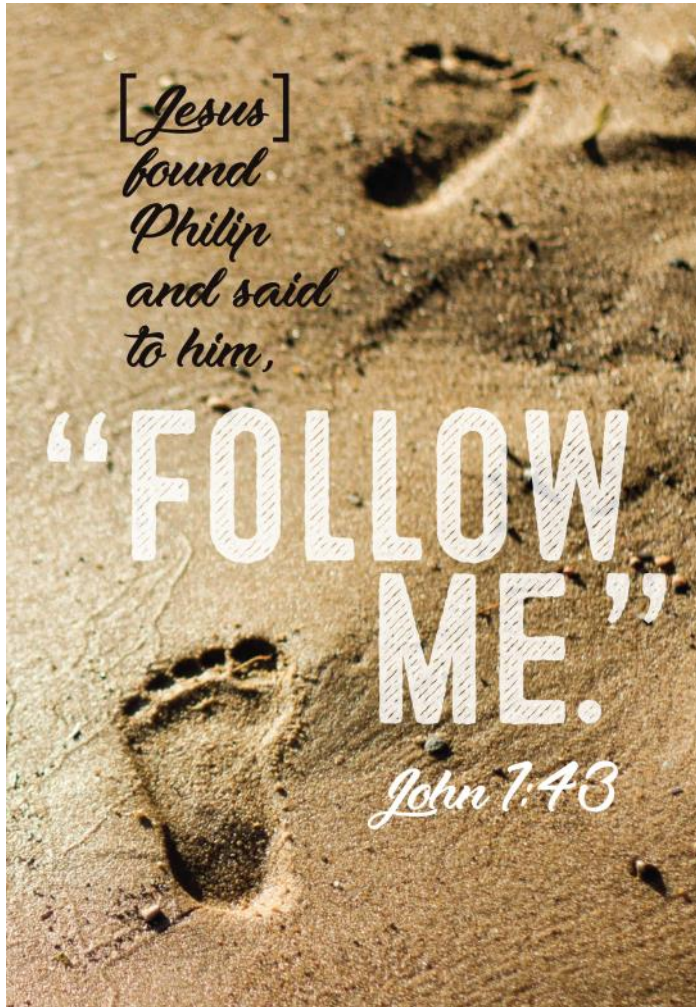


**Martin Luther King Jr. Sunday**  
**January 17, 2021**  
**#BiggerBalcony**



SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

January 17, 2021

10:00 am

#BiggerBalcony

Please sign in to Worship Connect to let us know you're here!

<http://tiny.cc/worshipconnect>

PRELUDE

"Deep River"

Judy Widrig

From the Africa Diaspora Collection Vol. 3 by Samuel Coleridge Taylor

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WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sharon Benton

WELCOME SONG

"God of Change & Glory"

KATHERINE

Refrain

Lucy Bledig, vocals & piano

by Al Carmines. Used with permission.



Ma-ny gifts, one Spir-it, one love known in



ma-ny ways. In our dif-fer - ence is bless-ing, from di-ver-si - ty we praise One Giv-er,



one Lord, one Spir-it, one Word Known in ma-ny ways, hal-low-ing our days.



For the Giv-er, for the gifts, praise, praise, praise!

A READING FROM THE POETS

“Living Psalm 139”  
by Maria Mankin

Janet Ott

*“O God, you have searched me and known me.”*

It’s something, isn’t it,  
to imagine being known  
so thoroughly  
that the pain you hold  
is understood without you  
having to say a single word,  
without you having to testify  
about your decision from last year  
or ten years ago or yesterday,  
when you said the thing that led  
to the other thing that brought you  
so low you thought you’d never be known  
for more than the pain that crystallized  
around your hopes and your heart?

It’s something, isn’t it,  
to believe in One  
who isn’t afraid of your broken parts  
or ugly deeds or the cowardice  
or the fear or the anger or the  
hundred other ways you have tried  
to make yourself disappear

when you felt unworthy  
of a great and abiding love  
and had persuaded yourself  
that forgiveness was beyond reach  
and grace, an undeserved gift?

It’s something, isn’t it,  
to be loved by God,  
to be both fearfully  
and wonderfully made  
just as you are –

not happier, not a work in progress,  
or with fewer secrets or scars –  
but just you, as you are,  
welcome at the table?

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Janet Ott

*There are several options for giving: 1) Mail checks to First Congregational Church, 2401 Cornwall Avenue, Bellingham, WA 98225. 2) Give at our website, <https://fccb.net/giving/>. 3) Use the GivePlus app. Download from your app store, set up an account, and give! 4) Give by text. Text a dollar amount to 208-516-2657, and set up your account. You’re ready for easy giving by text! 5) Give by PayPal. Our easy link is [PayPal.Me/fccbucc](https://www.paypal.com/US/mf/fccbucc).*

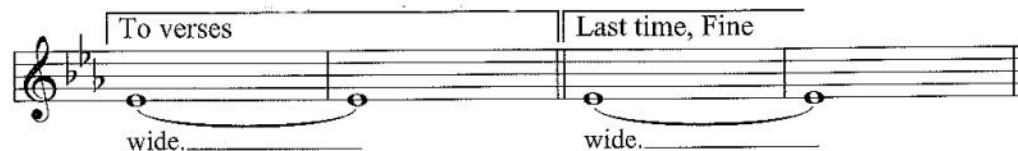
by Gordon Light. Tune: © 1994, Common Cup Company



Draw the cir-cle\_ wide. Draw it wid-er still. Let this be our\_



song, no one stands a - lone, stand-ing side by side, draw the cir-cle\_



wide.\_\_\_\_\_

wide.\_\_\_\_\_



1. God the still - point of the cir - cle, 'round whom all cre -  
 2. Let our hearts touch far hor - i - zons, so en - com - pass  
 3. Let the dreams we\_ dream be larg - er, than we've ev - er



- a - tion turns; noth - ing lost, but  
 great and small; let our lov - ing  
 dreamed be - fore; let the dream of

D.C.



held for - ev - er in God's gra - cious arms.\_\_\_\_\_  
 know no bor - ders, faith - ful to God's call.\_\_\_\_\_  
 Christ be in us, o - pen ev - 'ry door.\_\_\_\_\_

Words and Music: Gordon Light, Copyright ©1994 Common Cup Company, [www.commoncup.com](http://www.commoncup.com).

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SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

One: For the Word of God in scripture,  
for the Word of God among us,  
for the Word of God within us:

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Have You Tried Turning it Off and On Again?”

David Wesley

Suggested viewing: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GimrxP2U0ZE>

SONG

“Keep Your Eyes on the Prize”

David Wesley

Traditional Spiritual

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*Paul and Silas bound in jail,  
Had nobody for to go their bail.  
Keep your hand on that plow, hold on.*

*God gave Noah the rainbow sign,  
No more water, the fire next time.  
Keep your hand on that plow, hold on.*

Refrain:

[Refrain]

*Hold on, hold on.*

*Keep your hand on that plow, hold on.*

*The only chain a man can stand  
Is the chain from hand to hand.*

*Keep your eyes on that prize, hold on.*

*Hold on, hold on.*

*Keep your eyes on that prize, hold on.*

*Paul and Silas began to shout,  
Jail door opened and they walked out.  
Keep your hand on that plow, hold on.*

[Refrain]

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Sharon Benton

**The Prayer of Jesus**

*We invite you to use the language for God that is most comfortable for you:  
"Our Creator," "Our Father" or "Our Mother."*

**Our Creator**

who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

**Thy kingdom come,**

thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven.

**Give us this day our daily bread,**

and forgive us our debts,  
as we forgive our debtors.

**And lead us not into temptation,**

but deliver us from evil,

**For thine is the kingdom,**

and the power,

and the glory,

forever and ever. *Amen.*

**BENEDICTION**

David Weasley

**POSTLUDE**

*"Prelude on 'Poor Mourners Got a Home'"*

Judy Widrig

from the *Africa Diaspora Collection Vol* by Wallace McClain Cheatham

ASCAP Work ID 462962554, Oxford University Press. Used under CSS #12615

*Stay online for a few minutes to chat with the pastors and others.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 11:00 am.**

**SEE FRIDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR ZOOM LINK.**

### **WORSHIP:**

- **Sundays, 10:00 am**—Worship on Facebook Live. #BiggerBalcony

Upcoming Services:

- **January 24:** Mark 1:16-20
- **January 31:** TBD
- **February 7:** Isaiah 6:1-8
- **February 14:** John 2:1-11

**WAYS TO CONNECT:** For more information about these and other groups and activities, contact [office@fccb.net](mailto:office@fccb.net).

- **Monday**
  - ◆ Poetry Writing Group: **1st & 3rd Mondays at 7:00 pm**
  - ◆ Happy Hour: **1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:30-8:30 pm**
- **Tuesday**
  - ◆ Book Club, **First Tuesday of the month, 9:30 am**
  - ◆ PJs & Storytime **Tuesdays, 6:30 pm**
- **Wednesday**
  - ◆ Adult Forums, **Wednesdays, 6:30 pm**
  - ◆ Faith Formation for Children & Youth **Wednesdays, 6:30 pm**
- **Thursday**
  - ◆ Morning Coffee Group: **1st & 3rd Thursdays, 9:30 am**
  - ◆ Evening Book Club, **6:30 pm weekly**
- **Friday**
  - ◆ Knitting Group, **Fridays, 10:00 am**
  - ◆ Mystery Book Club, **1st Friday, 1:00 pm.**
  - ◆ Coffee Hour, **2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays. 1:00 pm**
- **Saturday**
  - ◆ Create & Check In, **every other Saturday, 10:00 am**

*To stay up to date, follow us on social media, subscribe to our Friday Email, or check in with our Full Circle Blog, [https://www.fccb.net/blog/..](https://www.fccb.net/blog/)*

**Open and Affirming (ONA):** As an Open and Affirming congregation believing in a loving God, all people are welcome in this church without regard to gender, race, ethnicity, economic or social status, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

**We Try To Use Language** which will help people feel included in our worship. Since not everyone is comfortable with the same language, we invite you to amend the words of the service as we sing and pray if they do not adequately express your faith. We invite you to assist us in creating new expressions of our common faith and life together.

**Technical Support:** If you need help streaming our worship services or connecting in other ways, please let us know.

### **VIRTUAL APPOINTMENTS WITH PASTORAL STAFF**

In the before time, our pastoral staff were available by appointment. In COVID-19 time, they are available for virtual meetings by appointment. Contact them by email or call the pastoral care line, 360-733-4255

Sharon: [sharon@fccb.net](mailto:sharon@fccb.net)

David: [david@fccb.net](mailto:david@fccb.net)

Sharry: [sharry@fccb.net](mailto:sharry@fccb.net)

You can also email our Office Manager  
Cydne at [office@fccb.net](mailto:office@fccb.net)  
and she'll pass your message on.

### **FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH United Church of Christ**

*An Open & Affirming Congregation*

2401 Cornwall Avenue, Bellingham, WA 98225

Church Office: 360-734-3720

**24/7 Emergency Pastoral Care: 360-733-4255**

[office@fccb.net](mailto:office@fccb.net) • [www.fccb.net](http://www.fccb.net)

Facebook: [facebook.com/fccbucc](https://facebook.com/fccbucc)

Twitter: @BhamUCC

*Office Hours: 9:00 am-5:00 pm*

**LEAD PASTOR: Sharon Benton**

**PASTOR FOR YOUTH, YOUNG ADULTS,**

**& MISSION: David Weasley**

**MINISTER OF CHRISTIAN FORMATION:**

**Sharry Nyberg**

**MINISTER OF MUSIC: Lucy Bledig**

**NURSERY ATTENDANT: Lisa Vaughn**

**ORGANIST: Judy Widrig**

**OFFICE MANAGER: Cydne Cochran**

**ACCOUNTANT: Renée Relin**

**CUSTODIAN/MAINTENANCE: Kurt Aagard**

**CARE ADMIN. SUPPORT: Laura Norton**

**FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE:**

**Alanna Steele**

**HEALTH MINISTER: Carol Nicolay**

**MODERATOR: Caryl Dunavan**

**VICE MODERATOR: Bill Henkel**

**PAST MODERATOR: Scout Mitchell**

**CLERK: Dorothy Shimer**

**TREASURER: Laurie Hoyt**

**HISTORIAN: Stacy Miller**

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