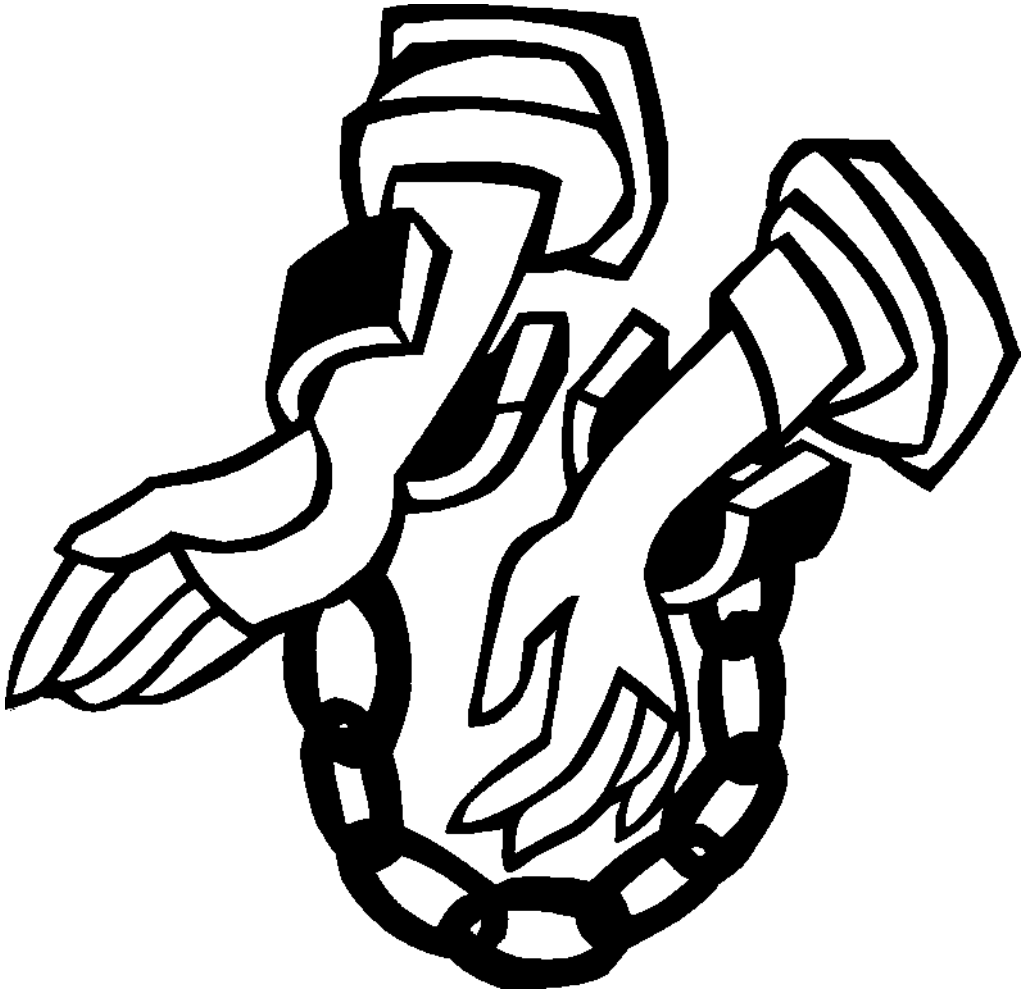


Liberation
January 31, 2021
#BiggerBalcony



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

January 31, 2021

10:00 am

#BiggerBalcony

Please sign in to Worship Connect to let us know you're here!
<http://tiny.cc/worshipconnect>

PRELUDE

“Beloved Jesu” BWV 731
by J. S. Bach

Judy Widrig

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!

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Scout Mitchell

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Margie Kimberley

- 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/fccbu](https://www.paypal.com/mefccbu).*

"Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

by James K. Manley. Text: © 1978, J. Manley Publishing.

Used under OneLicense #A-718199.



Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle-ness, blow through the wil - der-ness



call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,



stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.



- 1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
- 2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand
- 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
- 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;
 and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;
 then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;
 From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;



and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing:
 and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,
 and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,
 our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.

*to Refrain*

"A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings."
 then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.
 when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.
 With bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 1:21-28

Margie Kimberley

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Margie Kimberley

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

“We’re Here for Liberation”

Sarah Murphy-Kangas

HYMN

"O God, We Bear the Imprint of your Face"

ROSEBERRY

Text by Shirley Erena Murray, © 1987 Hope Publishing Company Music.

Tune by Bruce Neswick, © 1994 Pilgrim Press. Used under OneLicense ##A-718199.

Shirley Erena Murray, 1981; rev. 1994

1 O God, we bear the im-print of your face: the col - ors of our
 2 Where we are torn and pulled a - part by hate be - cause our race, our
 3 O God, we share the im - age of the One whose flesh and blood are



skin are your de - sign, and what we have of beau-ty in our race as
 skin is not the same, while we are judged un - e - qual by the state and
 ours, what-ev - er skin; in Christ's hu-man - i - ty we find our own, and



man or wom-an, you a-lone de - fine, who stretched a liv - ing fab - ric
 vic-tims made be - cause we own our name, hu - man - i - ty re - duced to
 in your fam - i - ly our prop-er kin: Je - sus our broth - er we still



on our frame and gave to each a lan-guage and a name.
 lit - tle worth, dis - hon - ored is your liv - ing face on earth.
 cru - ci - fy; love is the lan-guage we must learn, or die.

Composer Bruce Neswick provided this setting at the request of The New Century Hymnal. Neswick, Organist-Choirmaster of Christ Church Episcopal Cathedral, Lexington, Kentucky, is a graduate of the Institute of Sacred Music of Yale University Divinity School.

Tune: ROSEBERRY 10.10.10.10.10.
Bruce Neswick, 1994

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharry Nyberg

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

Sharon Benton

POSTLUDE

"Bagatelle" Opus 126 No.1
by Ludwig van Beethoven

Judy Widrig

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

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

David: david@fccb.net

Sharry: sharry@fccb.net

You can also email our Office Manager Cydne at 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

Office Mobile Phone: 360-303-6806

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

office@fccb.net • www.fccb.net

Facebook: 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

OneLicense #A-718199

CCS #12615