

**Binding the Gospel**  
**June 6, 2021**  
**#BiggerBalcony**



SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 6, 2021

10:00 am

#BiggerBalcony

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

PRELUDE

"Fugue in F Major"  
by Johann Pachelbel

Judy Widrig

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sharon Benton & Davi Weasley

WELCOME MUSIC

"Windy God"  
by Rachael Weasley

Jeanne Quinn

Windy God, take the fi - re of my tongue and let it  
sing for you! Win - dy God, take the fi - re of my tongue and let it  
sing for you! Win - dy God, take the fi - re of my tongue, Win - dy  
God, take the fi - re of my tongue and Win - dy God, take the  
fi - re of my tongue and let it sing for you! Win - dy

**RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

Anne Campbell, Robert Campbell, Ted Huffman, and Susan Huffman

**New Member Covenant**

We promise to worship God, preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, celebrate the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion and encourage the realization of God's will in the lives of people from birth to death, individually and collectively, as seen in the life, teaching, death and living presence of Jesus Christ. In keeping with Christ's teaching, we are "Welcoming all, Growing in Faith, Living God's Love, Justice, Compassion..."

**Congregational Covenant**

**We, the members of First Congregational Church of Bellingham, United Church of Christ, warmly welcome you: not to a congregation of the sinless, but to a living community of faith that seeks to find new ways of being in relationship with God and enacting God's intention for the wholeness of humankind. We give thanks for your life stories, your faith journeys, your diversity of gifts. We pray that God will help us provide a nurturing environment for you and enable us to take time for one another as we establish a shared faith and common history.**

**MUSICAL MEDITATION**

"God Is Still Speaking"

by Mark A. Miller

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

*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/donate/?url=https://www.fccbucc.org).*

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 3:19b-35

New Revised Standard Version

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

“Binding the Gospel”

Sharon Benton

HYMN

“We Limit Not the Truth of God”

ELLACOMBE



We li - mit not the truth of God to our poor reach of  
Who dares to bind to one's own sense the or - a - cles of  
E - ter - nal God, In - car - nate Word, Spir - it of flame and



mind, to no - tions of our day and place, crude, par - tial and con -  
heaven, for all the na - tions, tongues, and climes and all the a - ges  
dove; en - large, ex - pand all liv - ing souls to com - pre - hend your



fined; No, let a new and bet - ter hope with - in our hearts be  
given? That u - ni - verse, how much un - known! that o - cean un - ex -  
love; And help us all to seek your will with wis - er powers con -



stirred: O God, grant yet more light and truth to break forth from your Word.  
plored!  
ferred:

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Davi Weasley

**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.*

**THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

Sharon Benton & Davi Weasley

*Gather something to eat and something to drink;  
the risen Christ will meet us wherever we are*

**BENEDICTION**

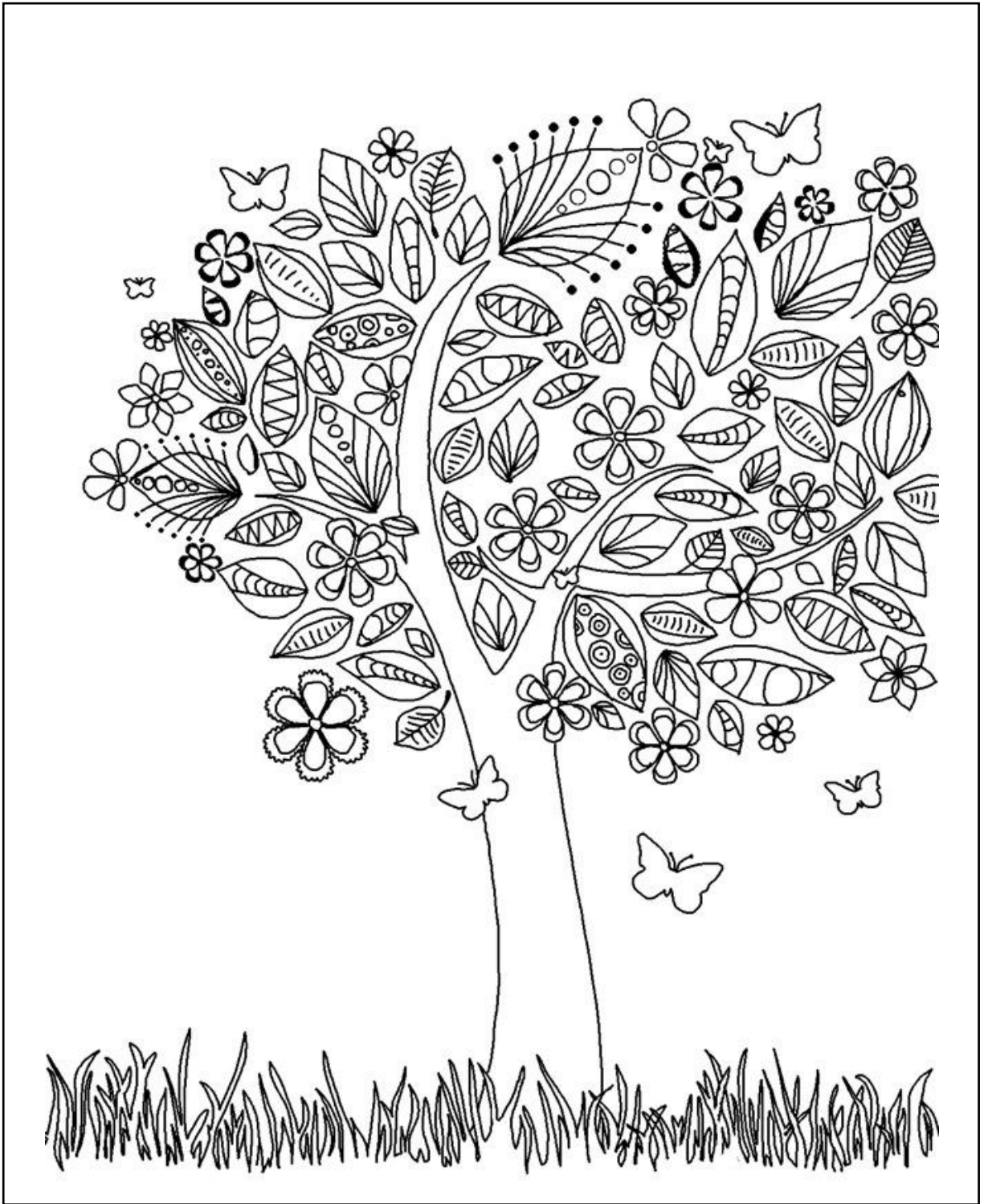
Davi Weasley

**POSTLUDE**

"Juba Dance"  
by Nathaniel Dett

Judy Widrig

*Cover image by Conger Design on Pixabay.*



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Zoom Coffee Hour today after worship!**

Join via the link in the Connection Calendar.

### **Mid-Year Congregational Meeting next Sunday, June 13, after worship.**

Join via the link in the Connection Calendar.

#### **WORSHIP:**

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

**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**
  - ◆ Coffee Hour, **2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays. 1:00 pm**
  - ◆ Prayer Series, **Fridays, 6:30 pm**
- **Saturday**
  - ◆ Create & Check In, **First of the month 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/>.*

**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)

Davi: [davi@fccb.net](mailto:davi@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

Office Mobile Phone: 360-303-6806

**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: Davi Weasley**

**MINISTER OF CHRISTIAN FORMATION:**

**Sharry Nyberg**

**MINISTER OF MUSIC: Lucy Bledig**

**LIMITED TERM CHAPLAIN Stevi Hamill**

**NURSERY ATTENDANT: Lisa Harbine**

**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: Bill Henkel**

**VICE MODERATOR: Beth Tyne**

**PAST MODERATOR: Caryl Dunavan**

**CLERK: Janet Malley**

**TREASURER: Laurie Hoyt**

**HISTORIAN: Stacy Miller**

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