

**Camels, Needles, and Riches—Or Just Love**  
**October 10, 2021**  
**#BiggerBalcony**



**TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

October 10, 2021

10:00 am

#BiggerBalcony

*We need always to be thinking and writing about poverty,  
for if we are not among its victims its reality fades from us. We must talk about poverty,  
because people insulated by their own comfort lose sight of it.*

~ Dorothy Day, By Little and By Little: The Selected Writings of Dorothy Day

**PRELUDE**

Judy Widrig

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Davi Weasley

**RINGING THE BELL**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

©enfleshed adapted by Sharon Benton

Mark Gale

The Spirit of the Living God calls us to gather.

Together, we will become seekers of justice.

Together, we can enflesh the dreams of God who makes the impossible possible.

Together, we can give up that which destroys and choose that which sets free.

Let us worship the One who transforms the world.

*God of justice, will you draw near? Whether we struggle to pay our bills, to feed our children, to find work that sustains, or to live ethically in this complicated world, you promise us there is Good News for us. Set us free from stories and systems that destroy and set us on a path towards one another. Give us hearts that are gracious and fill us with zeal for justice until, together, we birth a new world free of exploitation of labor, of bodies, of the land, and of the life you intend for us. Amen.*

**MUSICAL RESPONSE**

**“Welcome Here”  
By Rachael Weasley**

Meril Davenport

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: 'Sweet and ho - ly Friend, welcome here. All of who we are, welcome here!'. The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: 'Faith - ful lo - ving Guide, wel - come here. Wel - come he - ere!'. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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**MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP**

Communication Board's KJ Hayes

**HYMN #565**

**“O God, We Bear the Imprint of Your Face”**

Ensemble

**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.**

**A READING FROM SCRIPTURE**

Mark 10:17-31  
Common English Bible

Mark Gale

**SCRIPTURE RESPONSE**

Mark Gale

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.**

**TIME WITH CHILDREN**

KJ Hayes

**SERMON**

“Camels, Needles, and Riches—or Just Love”

Sharon Benton

**MUSICAL INTERLUDE**

Judy Widrig

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

Mark Gale

*There are several options for giving: 1) Give at our website, <https://fccb.net/giving/>.  
2) .Mail checks to First Congregational Church, 2401 Cornwall Avenue, Bellingham, WA 98225. 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).*



1 Now let us all, in hymns of praise, bear wit - ness with one voice  
 2 What chang-es, chal-leng - es, and tests the church of Christ sur - vives!  
 3 Of all our la - bors, who can say what har - vest there shall be,



to God's re-deem-ing work in Christ, and bid the world re - joice.  
 How rich the rec - ords left to us of ded - i - cat - ed lives!  
 when time, that lim - its and dis-torts, be - comes e - ter - ni - ty?



To - day we call to mind the things that time can - not e - rode:  
 Still must the church pro - claim to all that now, and ev - er - more,  
 Then shall our hymns, re - heard be - low, be per - fect praise a - bove,



what God, Cre - a - tor of the world, is do - ing for our good.  
 the house of God is o - pen house, and Christ the O - pen Door.  
 as, face to face, we ful - ly know what this means: God is love!

*This setting of Fred Pratt Green's 1982 text appears in the composer's collection of thirty-five hymns, The Roy Hopp Hymnary (1990). Hopp holds master's degrees in both choral conducting and composition, and has served as a director of music in Michigan.*

Tune: OPEN DOOR C.M.D.  
 Roy Hopp, 1990

Alternate tune: ELLACOMBE

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**BENEDICTION**

Davi Weasley

**POSTLUDE**

Judy Widrig

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ELECTION INFORMATION:** Your Mission & Justice Board wants to let you know about election forums coming from the League of Women Voters. For information, see <https://www.lwvbellinghamwhatcom.org/2021-general-election-forums>.

### WORSHIP:

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

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

- **Monday**
  - ◆ Poetry Writing Group: **1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:00 pm**
  - ◆ Happy Hour: **1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:30-8:30 pm**
- **Wednesday**
  - ◆ Faith Formation for Children: **weekly, 6:00 pm**
  - ◆ Adult Forum: **weekly, 7:00 pm**
- **Thursday**
  - ◆ Evening Book Club, **6:30 pm weekly**
- **Friday**
  - ◆ Afternoon Coffee Group: **2nd & 4th Friday, at 1:00 pm**
  - ◆ Knitting Group, **Fridays, 10:00 am**
  - ◆ Spirit Group (Exploring Prayer), **Fridays, 6:30 pm**
- **Saturday**
  - ◆ Creative Connections, **1st Saturdays, 10:00 am**

### STAFF HOURS

**Pastors:** Davi & Sharon take Friday and Saturday as Sabbath days

**Faith Formation:** Ted & Susan are in T & W, 10-2

**Accountant::** Erin is in T, 9-5; W, 1-5; Th, 9-noon

**Office Manager:** Cydne is in M-F, 9-5, except M, 12:30-5:30, W, 11:00-5:30.

**Custodian:** Kurt is in 8-4

*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.fcb.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)

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: Davi Weasley**

**INTERIM MINISTERS OF FAITH FORMATION:**

**Ted & Susan Huffman**

**MINISTER OF MUSIC: Lucy Bledig**

**ORGANIST: Judy Widrig**

**WORSHIP MEDIA COORDINATOR:**

**Skyler Spain**

**NURSERY ATTENDANT: Lisa Harbine**

**ACCOUNTANT: Erin Kennedy**

**OFFICE MANAGER: Cydne Cochran**

**CUSTODIAN/MAINTENANCE: Kurt Aagard**

**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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