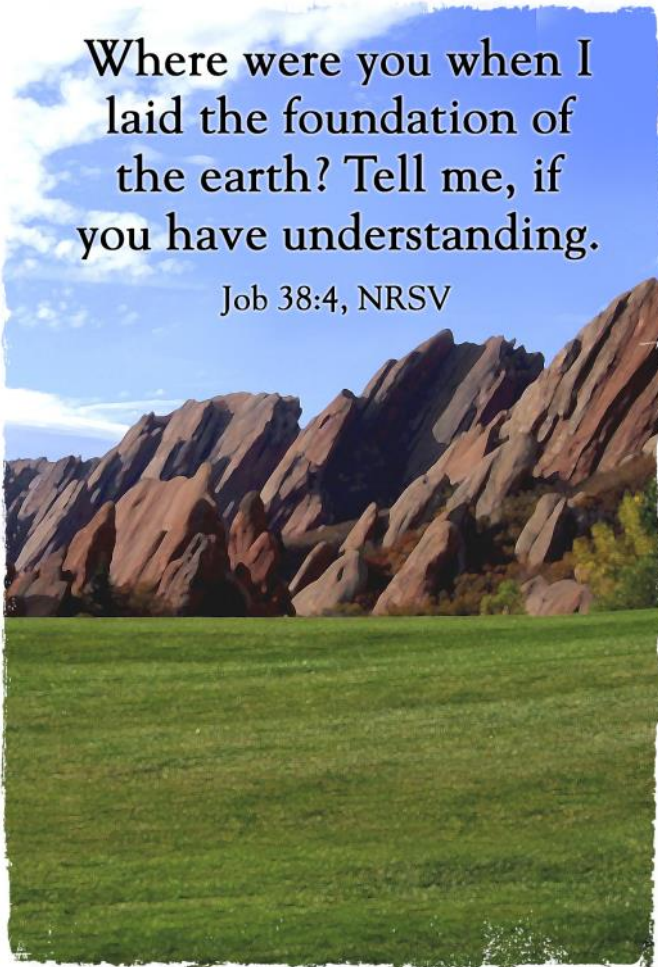


**God Shows Up**  
**October 17, 2021**  
**#BiggerBalcony**

Where were you when I  
laid the foundation of  
the earth? Tell me, if  
you have understanding.

Job 38:4, NRSV



**TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

October 17, 2021

10:00 am

#BiggerBalcony

*"We are closer to God when we are asking questions  
than when we think we have all the answers." ~ Abraham Joshua Heschel*

*"My faith is a wounded faith, but my life is not without faith. I didn't divorce God, but I'm  
quarrelling and arguing and questioning, it's a wounded faith." ~ Elie Wiesel*

**PRELUDE**

*"Cello Concerto, First Movement"* Clara Kelly, Judy Widrig  
by Shostakovich

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Sharon Benton

**RINGING THE BELL**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

©enfleshed

Liturgist

On days when your anger is hot,  
may the Spirit be an autumn breeze against your face.  
On days when your resiliency is low,  
may the Beloved Community pull up a chair for you on the porch.  
On days when your mind is stuck in binaries,  
may there be room to hold it all together –  
the sorrow, the beauty,  
the bewilderment, the hope.  
May we feel in our bodies that, in the holding,  
in our togetherness, we are blessed.

**MUSICAL RESPONSE**

**"Welcome Here"**  
By Rachael Weasley

Lucy Bledig

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 music consists of simple eighth and quarter notes with rests.

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**MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP**

**MUSICAL MEDITATION**

**"Heart Wide Open"**  
[www.thisislea.com](http://www.thisislea.com)

Lea Morris

*try tapping your heartbeat along with this song!*

**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.*

**TIME WITH CHILDREN**

Children's Sabbath

Susan Huffman

**A READING FROM THE POETS**

"Show Up"

Joe Davis

from the Children's Defense Fund 2021 Children's Sabbath

**A READING FROM SCRIPTURE**

Job 38:1-7

Reader's Theater

Common English Bible

**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**

"God Shows Up"

Sharon Benton

**MUSICAL INTERLUDE**

“Gigue in C”  
by J. S. Bach

Mia Kelly & Judy Widrig

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

Liturgist

*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).*

**MUSICAL INTERLUDE**

Judy Widrig

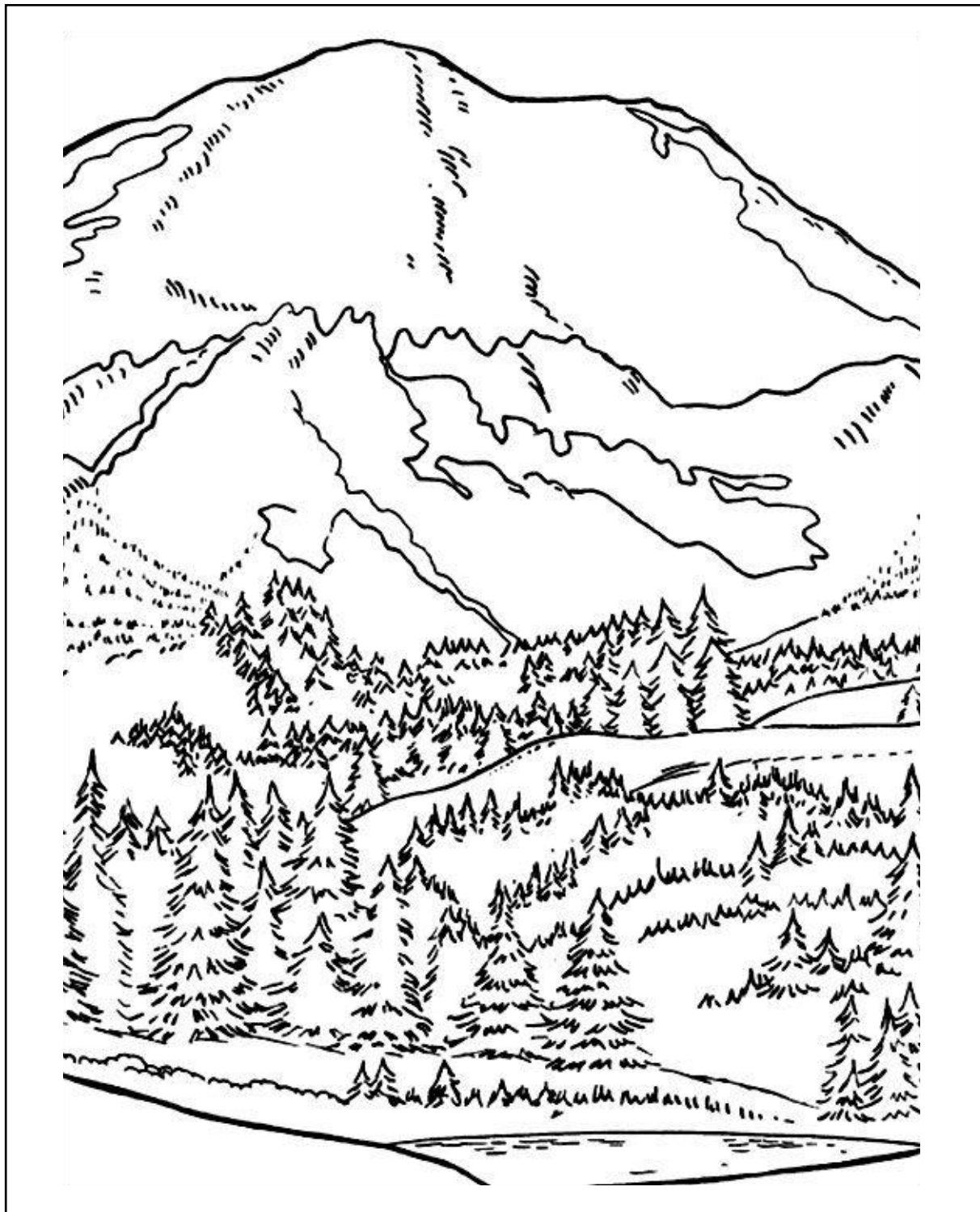
**BENEDICTION**

Sharon Benton

**POSTLUDE**

Judy Widrig

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



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PLEDGES OF FUNDING, PROMISES OF FAITH:** As we prepare for the challenges of another year, please consider a financial pledge or promise to your faith community. Here is the link to our completely online pledge form: <https://forms.office.com/r/x66hcLu7aa>. Or download a paper copy on our Giving page: <https://www.fccb.net/giving/>

### 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@fccb.net](mailto:office@fccb.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**
- **Sunday**
  - ◆ Lectionary Bible Study at **11:15 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.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)

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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