

**Trick or Treat  
October 31, 2021  
#BiggerBalcony**



**TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

October 31, 2021

10:00 am

#BiggerBalcony

**PRELUDE**

Judy Widrig

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Davi Weasley & Sharon Benton

**RINGING THE BELL**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Gail Dunavan

The stranger comes to the door.  
She rings the bell, hungry.  
He rings the bell, curious.  
They ring the bell, to show us something wondrous.

The stranger enters our life.  
They befriend us, teaching us truth.  
He challenges us, teaching us love.  
She comforts us, teaching us call.

The stranger disappears.  
He slips into our heart, blazing in memory.  
They slip out into the street, leaving the door open.  
She slips into Story, and we are never the same.

Siblings, friends, beloved of God:  
Trick or treat.

**MUSICAL RESPONSE**

**"Welcome Here"**  
By Rachael Weasley

Gail Dunavan

Musical notation for the song "Welcome Here" in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. The melody is written on a single staff with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Sweet and ho - ly Friend, welcome here. All of who we are, welcome here! Faith - ful lo - ving Guide, wel - come here. Wel - come he - re!"

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**MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP**

Trustees

Darlene Mathias

**MUSICAL MEDITATION**

**"Ruth's Song"**  
by Christopher Giffen

Christopher Giffen

**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.**

**A READING FROM SCRIPTURE**

Ruth 1: 1-18  
New Revised Standard Version

Gail Dunavan

**SCRIPTURE RESPONSE**

Gail Dunavan

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**

Ted Huffman

**MUSICAL INTERLUDE**

Judy Widrig

**SERMON**

“Trick or Treat”

Davi Weasley

**HYMN**

“My Life Flows on in Endless Song”

Gail Dunavan

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

Gail Dunavan

*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).*

**BENEDICTION**

Sharon Benton

**POSTLUDE**

Judy Widrig

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



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

After a long, thoughtful decision-making process, Church Council has voted to approve a return to hybrid worship (in person & online) **November 14**. To be as welcoming and inclusive as possible, we are not requiring proof of vaccination. We trust the members of our community to take appropriate care of each other and encourage all who can to be vaccinated.

### Precautions:

- Masks required
- Distancing practiced
- Windows will be open, so dress warmly
- Sign in for contact tracing
- If you wake up feeling even a little under the weather, join us at home on Facebook Live.

### 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**
  - ◆ 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 Study, **Sundays, 11:30 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)

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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