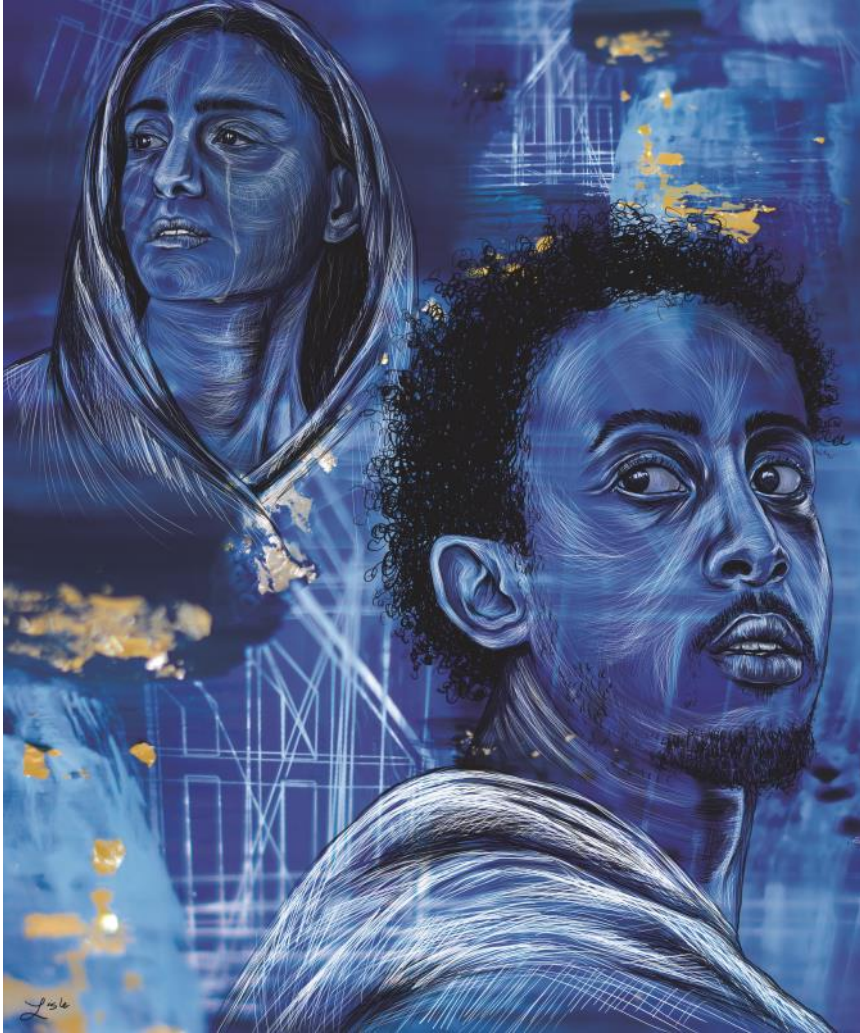


# Chosen Home

December 26, 2021



**first**  **congregational**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
timeless worship + modern faith

**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**

December 26, 2021

10:00 am

**PRELUDE**

Judy Widrig

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Davi Weasley

**RINGING THE BELL**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Amelia Bacon

One Voice: While others celebrate, or rest, or move on with their lives,

**All Voices: We celebrate incarnation.**

One Voice: As we've found home again, or wandered in wilderness,

**All Voices: We celebrate incarnation.**

One Voice: We bring our questions and our doubts as ...

**All Voices: We celebrate incarnation.**

One Voice: We wonder about Christmas and wonder with Christmas —

**All Voices: We celebrate incarnation.**

One Voice: We join Jesus in his provocative questions.

**All Voices: We celebrate incarnation.**

**MUSICAL RESPONSE**

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Lucy Bledig

verse 1

*Hum along with the music!*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Rev. 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.**

**MUSICAL MEDITATION**

“Joy to the World”

Darlene Mathias, Cello

Music by George Frideric Handel, Adapted by Lowell Mason.

Arranged by Brendan Fox. © 2019 by HAL LEONARD LLC.

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**A READING FROM SCRIPTURE**

Luke 2: 41-52  
New Revised Standard Version

Amelia Bacon

**SCRIPTURE RESPONSE**

Amelia Bacon

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**

Susan Huffman

**SERMON**

“Chosen Home and Other Provocative Answers”

Davi Weasley

**MUSICAL MEDITATION**

“The First Nowell”  
*Hum along with the music!*

THE FIRST NOWELL

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

Amelia Bacon

*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/fccbucc](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?url=https://www.fccb.org).*

**Offertory**

Judy Widrig

**BENEDICTION**

Davi Weasley

**POSTLUDE**

Judy Widrig

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



Cover Image: "Chosen Home" by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity. Inspired by Luke 2:41-52. Digital painting with collage. *As I created this image, I felt the grief and tension shared by Jesus and his mother. The distance between them is poignant and heavy. Young Jesus looks over his shoulder at what he must leave behind as he moves forward in the other direction. His mother grieves what she can't fully understand, but she holds all of these things in her heart, keeping them forever. A dividing line made of gold separates them—but this boundary is also sacred and needed for Jesus to live into the fullness of his calling.*

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:** The office is closed **December 27 & 28** for the Christmas holiday and **Monday, January 3** for the New Year Holiday.

### WORSHIP:

- **Sundays, 10:00 am**—Hybrid worship in person and 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**
  - ◆ Youth Group, **Sundays, 12:00 noon**

*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.

### **APPOINTMENTS WITH PASTORAL STAFF**

Pastoral staff are available by appointment virtually or in person, with masks. 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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