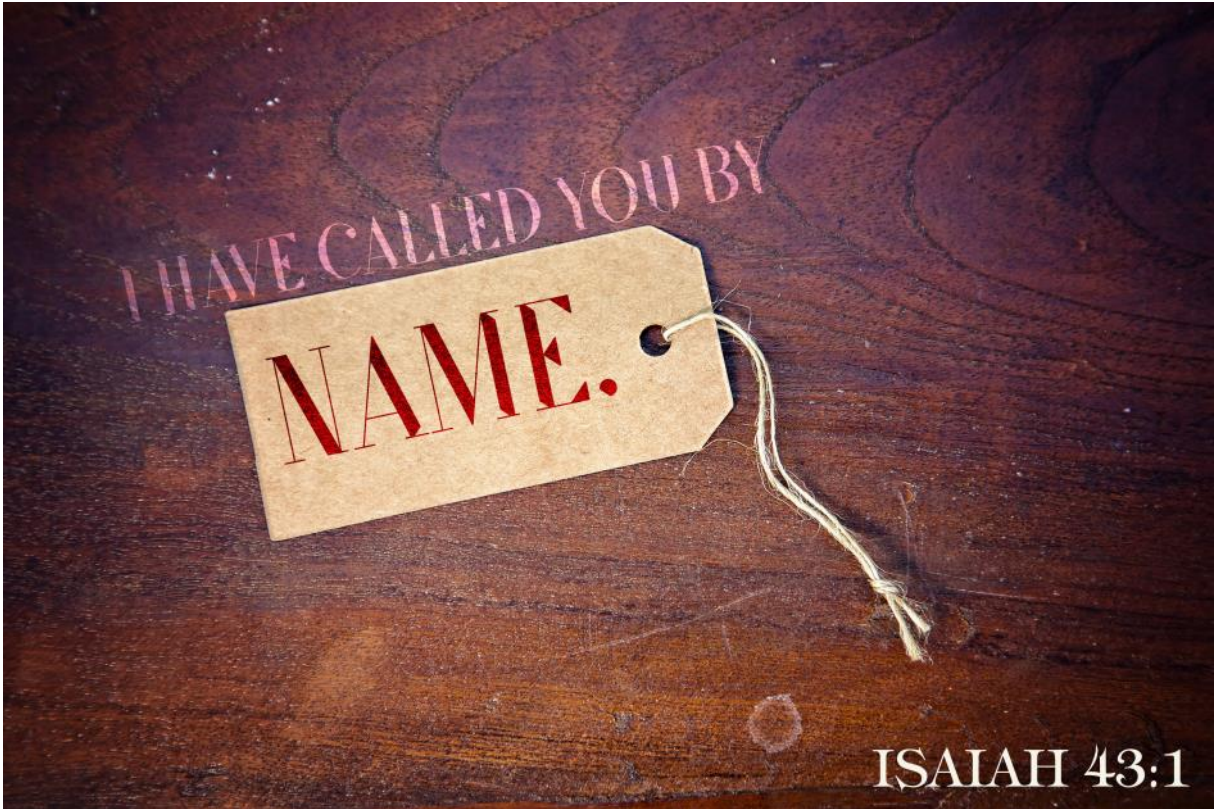


# You Are Mine: A Love Note

January 9, 2022



**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

January 9, 2022

10:00 am

*If you're worshipping in person today, please hum along with the music!*

*"You are precious in my sight...and I love you" (Isaiah 43:4). Jesus cannot do what he is called to do (proclaim the Kingdom of God, release to the captives, sight to the blind, etc.) without hearing these words and neither can we. ~ Eric Fistler*

*That who we are is constituted by whose we are is a profound truth. We are constituted by others' claims on us. I am who I am in my relationships with and responsibilities for others ... All of [my] familial relationships make me who I am ... God's claim on us, however, is more radical than any other. To belong to the Creator is much more radical than to belong to any clan.*

*To be claimed by God the Creator puts us in relationship with all of creation and carries with it a sense of responsibility for all of creation, all of humanity. As a child of God, I am related to and responsible for every child of God. ~ Joyce Shin*

**PRELUDE**

Judy Widrig

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Sharon Benton

**RINGING THE BELL**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

M Barclay @enfleshed

Carol Garguile

One Voice: Through every age of struggle,  
every era of hope,

**All Voices: the Holy One is a faithful companion.**

One Voice: From spirits that seduce with power,

**All Voices: They deliver and transform.**

One Voice: In the labors of liberation,

**All Voices: They sustain with joy and courage.**

One Voice: Praise God, whose presence is a force for life.

**All Voices: Companioning One, the calling of love is full of risk.**

**Oppressive forces and institutions seem so permanent,  
and our individual lives, so vulnerable and fleeting.**

**Deepen our faith in your abiding promises,  
that we may be brave for each other.**

**In community, we pray. Amen**

**MUSICAL RESPONSE**

“I Am the Light of the World”

LIGHT OF THE WORLD

by Jim Strathdee

*Please clap along!*



"I am the light of the world! You peo-ple come and fol-low me!" If you



fol-low and love you'll learn the mys-ter-y of what you were meant to do and be.

**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.*

**MUSICAL MEDITATION**

*"Crashing Waters at Creation"*

STUTT GART

by Sylvia Dunston

**A READING FROM SCRIPTURE**

Isaiah 43:1-7

Carol Garguile

Common English Bible

**SCRIPTURE RESPONSE**

Carol Garguile

**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 & Susan Huffman

**SERMON**

“You Are Mine: A Love Note”

Sharon Benton

**MUSICAL MEDITATION**

“I Have Called You by Your Name”  
by Daniel Charles Damon

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

Carol Garguile

*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).*

**Offertory**

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

### IMPORTANT DATES TO COME:

Below are some opportunities the Funding Plan Committee has organized for conversations about how we might financially support our ministries in 2022. Mark these on your calendar. Your participation is valued.

- Congregational Conversation today, **Sunday, January 9, 11:30 am** on Zoom
- Church Council Meeting, **Monday, January 24, 7:00 pm** on Zoom
- Congregational Meeting, **Sunday, February 6, 11:30 pm**

### 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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