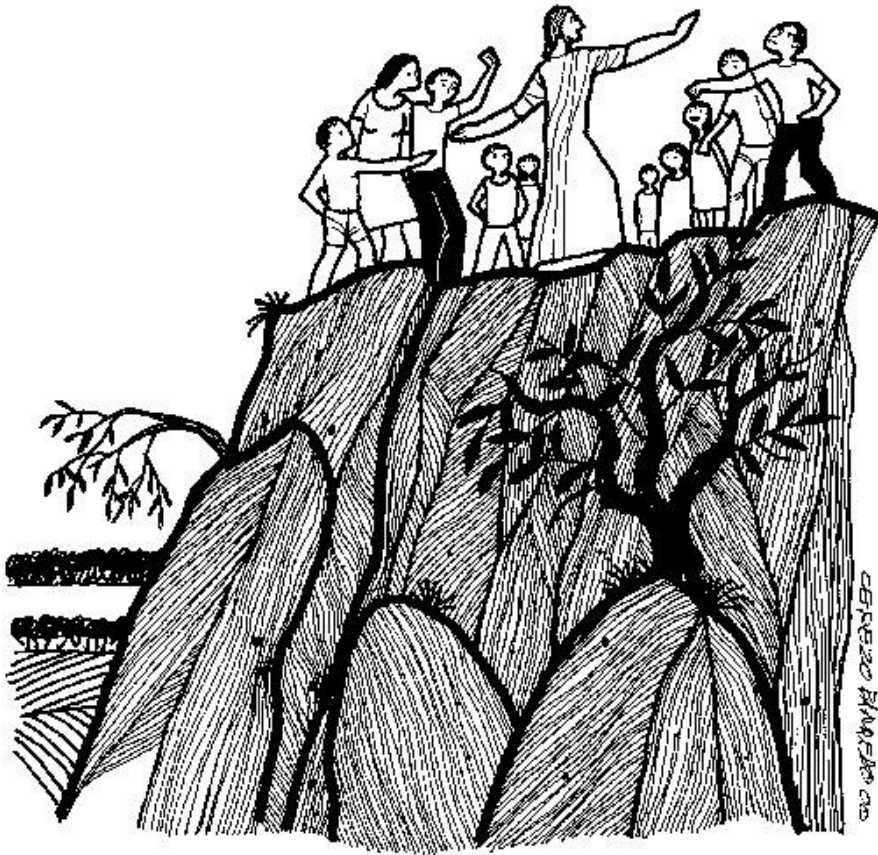


What About Us?
Two Stories and a Response
January 30, 2022



FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 30, 2022

10:00 am

PRELUDE

Judy Widrig

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Davi Weasley

RINGING THE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jennifer Green

One Voice: Sometimes I wish Jesus would just tell it to us straight:
What is the main message of Christianity?

All Voices: **But then, when we hear him preach (love one another—
even our enemies—for example), we're not always
big fans of how it affects us.**

One Voice: Being a Jesus-follower can be challenging.
Maybe this week we just commit to not throwing anyone off a cliff?

All Voices: **O, God: help us pay attention to our reactions
when we hear things that disturb us.
Help us to consider what lies underneath.
Help us to remember you love others as much as you love us. Amen.**

MUSICAL RESPONSE

"I Am the Light of the World"
by Jim Strathdee

LIGHT OF THE WORLD

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by quarter notes G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4, and a half note G4. The lyrics "I am the light of the world!" are written below the first staff. The second staff continues with quarter notes G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4, and a half note G4. The lyrics "You peo-ple come and fol-low me!" are written below the second staff. The third staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a 4/4 time signature. The melody starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4, and a half note G4. The lyrics "If you fol-low and love you'll learn the mys-ter-y of what you were meant to do and be." are written below the third staff. The number "5" is written above the first note of the third staff.

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Climate Justice Conversation

Beth Hawthorne

MUSICAL MEDITATION

“Weaving Forests/Tejiendo Bosques”
by Jose Perez Reardon

Jose Perez Reardon

A STORY

“Elijah and the Widow of Zarephath”
1 Kings 17

Sharon Benton

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.*

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

Judy Widrig

A STORY

“Elisha and the Healing of Naaman”
2 Kings 5

Sharon Benton

A READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Luke 4:21-30
Common English Bible

Jennifer Green

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.**

Jennifer Green

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Vanessa & Max Bronsema

SERMON

“What About Us?
Two Stories and a Response”

Sharon Benton

MUSICAL MEDITATION

“Lay Me Low”
by Daniel Schwandt

Lucy Bledig &
Darlene Mathias

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Jennifer Green

*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

Davi Weasley

POSTLUDE

Judy Widrig

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



ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY AFTER WORSHIP—Climate Justice Conversation! Join us on Zoom after worship to learn and talk about climate justice. Join the conversation using the Connection calendar in the Friday email.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING FEBRUARY 6! Join us after worship for this important event in the life of the church. The Annual Report will be emailed to everyone tomorrow, along with the Zoom link.

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.

- **Monday**
 - ◆ Poetry Writing Group: **1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:00 pm**
 - ◆ Happy Hour: **1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:30-8:30 pm**
- **Wednesday**
 - ◆ Sharing Stories: **weekly 6:30 pm**
 - ◆ Adult Forum: **weekly, 7:00 pm**
- **Thursday**
 - ◆ Evening Book Club, **5:00 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

Davi: davi@fccb.net

You can also email our Office Manager Cydne at 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 • www.fccb.net

Facebook: 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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