

Coming Out of the Ordeal

May 8, 2022



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 8, 2022

10:00 am

Welcome! Please participate in as much or as little of the service as you feel comfortable.

*We love children in worship—their noises and wiggles are welcome, too.
There are pillows in the front where they can see the instruments and participate fully,
or the coloring, book, and play area is available in the corner near the windows.
Their movements back and forth are a joy for all of us.*

“I’ll tell you what freedom is to me: No fear.” ~ Nina Simone

PRELUDE

**“You Are Welcome Here”
by Linda Allen**

Linda Allen

*No matter who you are, where you’ve traveled
If all you’ve known has come unraveled
Are you tired? Too tired to bear it?
We will walk with you, we will share it
You are welcome here, welcome here
You are welcome here.*

*No matter who you are, what name you choose
The miles you walked In someone else’s shoes
Who you are, the work you do,
Does not define our care for you
You are welcome here, welcome here.
You are welcome here.*

Instrumental

*If you feel loved, and long to share it
If you feel lonely, we’ll help you bear it.
If you are strong, strong as an oak tree
If you’re a river seeking mystery
You are welcome here, welcome here.
You are welcome here.*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Davi Weasley

RINGING THE BELL

* Rise in body or spirit

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One Voice: They teach us to be afraid.

All Voices: **Afraid! Of danger, of shame, of loneliness, of not fitting in.**

One Voice: They teach us to be obedient.

All Voices: **Obedient! To those who want our labor or our ideas
or just our obedience.**

One Voice: They teach us to be captive.

All Voices: **Captive! To our addictions, to our habits, to white supremacy
and patriarchy.**

One Voice: And yet the Risen Jesus calls us:

All Voices: **To danger without despair! To love that conquers shame!
To loneliness that frees us! To not fitting in to the world so that
we might be Guests of the Beloved Community!**

One Voice: May we hear the call of the Risen Jesus!

All Voices: **May we join the saints in Freedom!**

***HYMN 436**

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

CWM RHONDDA

verses 1, 2, 4

***PASSING THE PEACE**

If you're willing, please come to the microphone to offer “peace” to those worshipping online; or you might stay in your seat and type a message into your smartphone to someone at home; or you might wave, bump elbows, or show other signs of peace with others.

***SUNG RESPONSE 236**

“Halle, Halle, Halle”

Arr. by John L. Bell

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le - lu-ja, hal - le - lu - ja.

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.*

*If you have a prayer request you'd like to share confidentially with our pastors,
have added to the confidential prayer list, or spoken aloud in worship,
go to www.fccb.net/contact-us/ to send a message or call the church to talk with a pastor.*

SUNG RESPONSE 765

"Alleluia"

ALLELUIA

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Phiwa Langeni & Davi Weasley

CONGREGATIONAL BLESSING

God, we pray for Pastor Phiwa. May they be blessed as they help to lead us through this season of renewal, of visioning, of change and rest. Give them strength and courage for tender truth-telling, and lead us to support them, to love them, and to journey with them, as you call us! Amen!

SUNG RESPONSE

"May the Love of God Fill You"
by Tom Hunter

May the love of God fill you from your
head down to your toes. May it trickle through your fingers and
dance up on your nose. May the people all around you help you
live so loving grows. May the love of God fill you up un -
til it over flows.

A READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Revelation 20: 9-17
New Revised Standard Version

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

“Coming Out of the Great Ordeal”

Davi Weasley

***HYMN #573**

“Lead On Eternal Sovereign”

LANCASHIRE

INVITATION TO OFFERING

*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).*

Offering Music

“A Small Vase of Flowers”
by Linda Allen

Linda Allen

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Judy Widrig

Cover image by Bram. on Unsplash

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flowers for Sunday Worship: Sign up to bring flowers for the Sanctuary on Sunday! [Sign up online.](#)

Mission & Justice Events: Our Mission & Justice Board has a lot going on. Keep up with these activities, on our blog, <https://www.fccb.net/blog/>. Click on the Justice category, or select one of the tags for more specific information.

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**
- **Wednesday**
 - ◆ 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**
 - ◆ 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.

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

VISITING PASTOR: **Phiwa Langeni**

LEAD PASTOR: **Sharon Benton** —
on sabbatical

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

ACCOUNTANT: **Erin Kennedy**

OFFICE MANAGER: **Cydne Cochran**

CUSTODIAN/MAINTENANCE: **Kurt Aagard**

FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE:

Alanna Steele

MODERATOR: **Beth Tyne**

VICE MODERATOR: **Mark Schofield**

PAST MODERATOR: **Bill Henkel**

CLERK: **Janet Malley**

TREASURER: **Jen Sandoval**

HISTORIAN: **Stacy Miller**

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