

# What We Carry

## May 15, 2022



## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 15, 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.*

### PRELUDE

“Adagio from Toccata in E minor, BWV 914”  
J. S. Bach

Lucy Bledig

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER OF WELCOME FOR PASTOR PHIWA

**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!**

### RINGING THE BELL

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

@enfleshed, used with permission

Mark Gale

One Voice: Together we gather to worship with the Spirit!  
As we celebrate Their Expansive Love,

**All Voices: They celebrate the ways we are learning compassion.**

One Voice: As we express gratitude for Their Faithfulness,

**All Voices: They honor the ways we show up in life's struggles.**

One Voice: As we come to Them with more questions than answers,

**All Voices: They live with us in the unknown.**

One Voice: Alleluia, Divinity is with us and within us!

**All Voices: Let us worship God.**

\* Rise in body or spirit



1. Let us build a house where love can dwell And  
 4. Let us build a house where hands will reach Be -  
 5. Let us build a house where all are named, Their



all can safe - ly live, A place where saints and  
 yond the wood and stone To heal and strength - en,  
 songs and vi - sions heard And loved and treas - ured,



chil - dren tell How hearts learn to for -  
 serve and teach, And live the Word they've  
 taught and claimed As words with - in the



give. Built of hopes and dreams and vi - sions,  
 known. Here the out - cast and the stran - ger  
 Word. Built of tears and cries and laugh - ter,



Rock of faith and vault of grace; Here the  
 Bear the im - age of God's face; Let us  
 Prayers of faith and songs of grace, Let this



love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:  
 bring an end to fear and dan - ger: All are wel - come,  
 house pro - claim from floor to raft - er:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

## **RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

Lyn Badger, Reanea Dahlm, Judith Irion, David Macaulay, Linda Portwood

### **New Member Covenant**

We promise to worship God, preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, celebrate the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion and encourage the realization of God's will in the lives of people from birth to death, individually and collectively, as seen in the life, teaching, death and living presence of Jesus Christ. In keeping with Christ's teaching, we are "Welcoming all, Growing in Faith, Living God's Love, Justice, Compassion ..."

### **Congregational Covenant**

**We, the members of First Congregational Church of Bellingham, United Church of Christ, warmly welcome you: not to a congregation of the sinless, but to a living community of faith that seeks to find new ways of being in relationship with God and enacting God's intention for the wholeness of humankind. We give thanks for your life stories, your faith journeys, your diversity of gifts. We pray that God will help us provide a nurturing environment for you and enable us to take time for one another as we establish a shared faith and common history.**

### **\*PASSING THE PEACE**

*If you're willing, please come to the microphone to offer "peace" to those worshiping 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"**

**HALLELUJAH**

**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/](http://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**

**Ted & Susan Huffman**

**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 wide 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**

Acts 11:1-18

Mark Gale

New Revised Standard Version

**SCRIPTURE RESPONSE**

Mark Gale

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**

"What We Carry"

Phiwa Langeni

**\*HYMN 451**

"Be Now My Vision"  
verses 1-3

SLANE

## INVITATION TO OFFERING

Mark Gale

*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](#).*

### Offering Music

“Heart Wide Open”  
by Lea, [thisislea.com](http://thisislea.com)

Lucy Bledig

## SENDING OF CAROL NICOLAY, HEALTH MINISTER

Davi: In November of 2013, First Congregational called Carol Nicolay to be our Health Minister. She has served faithfully in this role for nearly a decade—caring for our sick, companioning our wounded, and honoring our dying. Now, Carol and Neal are called to another place, and Carol is called out of her role as Health Minister. We gather now to celebrate her vital ministry among us, and to release her from her call here.

Do you, the members and friends of Frist Congregational Church of Bellingham, release Carol from the duties of Health Minister?

**People: We do, with the help of God.**

Davi: Do you offer your encouragement for her ministry as it unfolds in new ways, and in new places?

**People: We do, with the help of God.**

Davi: And do you, Carol, release this local church from turning to you and depending on you?

Carol: *I do, with the help of God.*

Davi: Do you offer encouragement and prayers for the continuing ministries of care here at First Congregational Church of Bellingham?

Carol: *I do, with the help of God.*

## \*BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

“Basse et Dessus de Trompette”  
by Louis-Nicolas Clérambault

Lucy Bledig

**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](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*

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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