

Can These Bones Live? July 24, 2022



"I will
put my
SPIRIT
within you
and you shall
LIVE!

Ezekiel 37:5, NRSV

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 24, 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

Judy Widrig

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING THE BELL

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

enfleshed.com

Jennifer Green

One Voice: In the stillness...
In the quiet...
In all that rests on our minds and hearts...

Many Voices: Our souls wait for you, O God.

One Voice: In everything moving too quickly...
In our feelings of helplessness before all the obstacles that surround...
As anxiety abounds and needs exceed our capacities...

Many Voices: Our souls wait for you, O God.

One Voice: Though we cannot yet perceive the way from here
We do not give up on each other: we do not give into despair.
We trust in the One who has companioned life and love through
the troubles of every generation.

**Many Voices: Our hope is this: through all things, God resides with us,
within us, around us.**



1 Come and find the qui - et cen - ter in the crowd - ed life we lead,
 2 Si - lence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,
 3 In the Spir - it let us trav - el, o - pen to each oth - er's pain,



find the room for hope to en - ter, find the frame where we are freed:
 God it is who speaks and names us, knows our be - ing, touch - es base,
 let our loves and fears un - rav - el, cel - e - brate the space we gain:



clear the cha - os and the clut - ter, clear our eyes, that we can see
 mak - ing space with - in our think - ing, lift - ing shades to show the sun,
 there's a place for deep - est dream - ing, there's a time for heart to care,



all the things that real - ly mat - ter, be at peace, and sim - ply be.
 rais - ing cour - age when we're shrink - ing, find - ing scope for faith be - gun.
 in the Spir - it's live - ly schem - ing there is al - ways room to spare!

WORDS: Shirley Erena Murray (1931 -)

MUSIC: Attr. B. F. White (1800-1879), *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; arr. Ronald A. Nelson (1927 -)

BEACH SPRING

8.7.8.7.D.

Words © 1992 Hope Publishing Company.

Music Arr. © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship* (Admin. Augsburg Fortress)

*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**

"Receive My Peace"

by Rachael Weasley

I do not give as the world gives, A - le - lu - ia! A - le - lu - ia - al
I do not give as the world gives, re - ceive my peace.

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Phiwa Langeni

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

"Be Now My Vision" alt.

SLANE

Be now my vi - sion, O God of my heart; Make of our
wand'-rings a dar - ing new start. Teach us to lis - ten and
teach us to breathe, Trou - ble the Wa - ters; Love, come set us free.

SUNG RESPONSE

"I'm Gonna Sing When the Spirit Says Sing"

The musical score is written in treble clef, 4/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of three staves of music with lyrics underneath. The first staff starts with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The second staff begins with a '3' above the first measure, indicating a triplet. The third staff begins with a '5' above the first measure, indicating a five-measure phrase. The lyrics are: 'I'm gon-na sing* when the Spir - it says sing, ___ I'm gon-na sing when the Spir - it says sing, ___ I'm gon-na sing when the Spir-it says sing, ___ Oh - sing for the Spir-it of our God. ___'.

I'm gon-na sing* when the Spir - it says sing, ___ I'm gon-na
 3 sing when the Spir - it says sing, ___ I'm gon-na sing when the
 5 Spir-it says sing, ___ Oh - sing for the Spir-it of our God. ___

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A READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Ezekiel 37: 1-14

Jennifer Green

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Jennifer Green

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

“Can These Bones Live?”

Phiwa Langeni

HYMN 292

“Breathe on Me, Breath of God”

TRENTHAM

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

Offering Music

“Amazing Grace”
arr. Kevin McChesney

Ted Huffman, Handbells

SENDING PRAYER FOR PASTOR PHIWA

Davi Weasley

***BENEDICTION**

Davi Weasley

POSTLUDE

Judy Widrig

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SACRED EARTH FAIR Sunday, July 31, 1:00-5:00 pm: This event is sponsored by the Multifaith Network for Climate Justice. Read more on our blog: <https://www.fccb.net/blog/sacred-earth-fair/>

CREATION CARE August 15-18: This summer program for kids ages 3-5 grade (completed) will be held the mornings of **August 15-18, 9:00 am-12:00 noon**. Participants will learn about marine life, participate in park stewardship, sing songs, play games and share in God's loving care for the earth and for us. Watch for registration information soon!

FLOWERS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP: Sign up to participate in worship by sharing the beauty of your garden with us! [Sign up online](#). This Sunday's flowers were provided by Karen Troianello in memory of her mother Beverly Blair on Beverly's birthday.

SABBATH STARTERS! Join us on Sundays at **9:00 am** for a brief discussion & meditation. This will be offered in person in the Mt. Baker Room and online via Zoom. For details, see our blog: <https://www.fccb.net/blog/sabbath-starters/>

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**
- **Tuesday**
 - ◆ Glee Club, **5:00 pm**
- **Wednesday**
 - ◆ Adult Forum: see the blog for the summer schedule—<https://www.fccb.net/blog/adult-forum-summer-2022/>
- **Friday**
 - ◆ Knitting Group, **Fridays, 10:00 am**
 - ◆ Exploring Prayer, **Fridays, 6:30 pm**
- **Sunday**
 - ◆ Sabbath Starters, **9:00 am**
 - ◆ Youth Group, **Sundays, 11:30 am**—This month, youth group will meet only **July 24**.

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**

ACCOUNTANT: **Erin Kennedy**

OFFICE MANAGER: **Cydne Cochran**

CUSTODIAN/MAINTENANCE: **Kurt Aagard**

WORSHIP MEDIA COORDINATOR:

Georgia Drost

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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