

# Hope in Action

## January 1, 2023

She will bear a son,  
and you shall call  
*his name Jesus,*  
for he will save his people  
from their sins.

Matthew 1:21





**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Diane Cooper-Schick

One Voice: We've heard the words before—

**All Voices: The baby, the manger, the star, the songs.**

One Voice: We're tired of music now, the giftwrap, even the cookies—

**All Voices: so how does this season call us?**

One Voice: Dare we look at the Christ Child and see where we might be led?

**All Voices: Dare we hear the calls of the many hungry children of our world?**

One Voice: Lead us, O God, as we seek to put hope into action.

**All Voices: Ignite the sputtering candles of our souls; keep us alert for your call.**

**\*HYMN 154**

“O Come All ye Faithful”

ADESTE FIDELES

**TIME WITH CHILDREN**

Davi Weasley

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

Diane Cooper-Schick

*From where are you drawing hope in these days?*

*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 Breeze app. Download from your app store, set up an account, and give!*

*4) Give by text. Text a dollar amount to (360) 205-1297, and set up your account.*

**Offering Music**

Penelope Keep

**HYMN 139**

“The First Nowell”

THE FIRST NOWELL

**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.*

*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.*

**HYMN 131**

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

CAROL

**A READING FROM SCRIPTURE**

Matthew 1: 1-17

Diane Cooper-Schick

New Revised Standard Version

**SCRIPTURE RESPONSE**

Diane Cooper-Schick

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.**

<b>SERMON</b>	“A Genealogy of Hope”	Davi Weasley
<b>ANTHEM</b>	“Romanze: Andante” from <i>Eine kleine Nachtmusik</i> by W. A. Mozart Darlene Mathias, Elaine Woods & Adrienne Stewart	String Trio
<b>HYMN 154</b>	“Go Tell it on the Mountain”	
<b>*BENEDICTION</b>		Davi Weasley
<b>POSTLUDE</b>	“Minuetto: Allegretto” from <i>Eine kleine Nachtmusik</i> by W. A. Mozart Darlene Mathias, Elaine Woods & Adrienne Stewart	String Trio

**WESLEY COVENANT PRAYER**

“I am no longer my own, but thine.  
Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.  
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.  
Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,  
exalted for thee or brought low for thee.  
Let me be full, let me be empty.  
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.  
I freely and heartily yield all things  
to thy pleasure and disposal.  
And now, O glorious and blessed God,  
Parent, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.  
And the covenant which I have made on earth,  
let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.”



# **FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Bellingham, Washington

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

We are a congregation  
composed of many  
made up of one and one and one.

Together, in all we do, we aim to hold  
God at our center as we  
seek in our diversity a common vision.

Together, God at our center in all we do, we seek to  
experience God's love  
celebrate God's gifts  
listen  
practice Christ's teachings  
take care of each other  
bring love and justice to our community

welcome and include all people in the life and work of the church  
one by one by one  
God at our center.

**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**

**ACCOUNTANT: Erin Kennedy**

**OFFICE MANAGER: Cydne Cochran**

**CUSTODIAN/MAINTENANCE: Kurt Aagard**

**WORSHIP MEDIA COORDINATOR:**

**Georgia Drost**

**MODERATOR: Beth Tyne**

**VICE MODERATOR: Mark Schofield**

**PAST MODERATOR: Bill Henkel**

**CLERK: Janet Malley**

**TREASURER: Jen Sandoval**

**HISTORIAN: Stacy Miller**

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