

**“Naming the Blessings”**  
**January 22, 2023**



THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 22, 2023

10:00 am

*We thank the following people for assisting with worship:*

**HEAD USHER:**

Lyz Staman

**LITURGIST:**

Amelia Bacon.

*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 us.*

*Often when we talk about the collected teachings of the Sermon on the Mount, from the beatitudes onwards, there is a tendency to describe how Jesus turned the world upside down, how everything was turned on its head by Jesus' teaching. It is perhaps not the best analogy to use. What Jesus really did was to turn our perspective right way up. He shifts our understanding of reality so that we can grasp that what had been thought to be the final word on what is objective reality was in turn an incomplete view. Jesus does not come to change everything completely, he rather comes to bring better clarity to what already is: "I have not come to abolish [the laws] but to fulfill them."*

~ Spill the Beans Resource Team

**PRELUDE**

Mia Kelly, cello

**INTROIT 584**

"I Am the Light of the World"

LIGHT OF THE WORLD

refrain only, 2x

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Sharon Benton

**RINGING THE BELL**

**THE STORY**

Davi Weasley

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

by Spill the Beans

Amelia Bacon

One Voice: Come, worship the Christ who tends to the poor.

All Voices: **Come, worship the Christ who wipes away our tears.**

One Voice: Come, worship the Christ who gives inheritance to the meek

All Voices: **Come, worship the Christ who nourishes the hungry.**

One Voice: Come, worship the Christ who gives mercy to the merciful.

All Voices: **Come, worship the Christ who gives vision.**

One Voice: Come, worship the Christ who blesses the peacemakers.

All Voices: **Come, worship the Christ who remembers the persecuted.**

One Voice: Come, worship the Christ who finds the lost.

All Voices: **Come, worship the Christ who is with us now and always.**

\* Rise in body or spirit

**\*HYMN 181**

“You Are Salt for the Earth, O People”

BRING FORTH

**PASSING THE PEACE**

Sharon Benton

*If you're willing to come to the microphone and offer “The peace of Christ” or “May God's peace be with you” or some other words of grace, please note you are also sending your message to those worshiping on line.*

**SUNG RESPONSE 524**

“This Little Light of Mine”  
verse 1

THIS JOY

**TIME WITH CHILDREN**

Ted Huffman

*The children are invited to go to Children's Church during the song.*

**SUNG RESPONSE 154**

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”  
refrain only

AFRICAN AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

**A MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP**

Jen Sandoval

**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.*

**MUSICAL INTERLUDE**

Judy Widrig

**A READING FROM SCRIPTURE**

Matthew 5:1-20  
NRSV & CEB

Amelia Bacon

**SCRIPTURE RESPONSE**

Amelia Bacon

**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**

“Naming the Blessings”

Sharon Benton

**HYMN 311** (seated)

“Renew Your Church”

ALL IS WELL

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

Amelia Bacon

- 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**

Judy Widrig

\*HYMN

"When Our God Redeems the Very Least"

I'LL FLY AWAY



1 When our God re - deems the ver - y least,  
 2 When our God re - stores the sick and weak, we will re -  
 3 When our God re - vives the world from death, we will re-joyce, will re -  
 4 When our God re - turns in vic - to - ry,

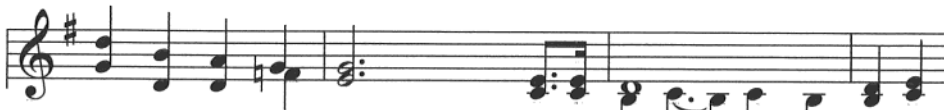


joyce.  
 joyce, will re-joyce. When the hun - gry gath - er for the feast,  
 When the earth is giv - en to the meek,  
 When the word of God fills ev - ery breath,  
 When we live in glo - rious lib - er - ty,

*Refrain*



we will re-joyce. We will re-  
 we will re-joyce, will re-joyce, will re-joyce. We will re-joyce, will re-



joyce with glad-ness. We will re-joyce.  
 joyce with glad-ness. We will re-joyce, will re-joyce with glad-ness. All our



We will re-joyce!  
 days we'll sing to God in praise. We will re-joyce, will re-joyce, will re-joyce!

What does it mean to pray "thy kingdom come"? This text (loosely modeled on Psalm 126) sketches out some of the features that help us to know when God's reign has truly come. The energy of the gospel song tune adds to the sense of rejoicing repeatedly promised in this text.

TEXT: Sylvia G. Dunstan, c. 1991

MUSIC: Albert E. Brumley, 1932; arr. Evelyn Simpson-Curenton, c. 2001

Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.

Music © 1932 Hartford Music Co., ren. 1960 Albert E. Brumley & Sons (admin. ClearBox Rights)

I'LL FLY AWAY  
 9.4.9.4 with refrain

**\*BENEDICTION**

Davi Weasley

**\*SUNG BENEDICTION**

“As You Go Out From Here”

sung 2x

As you go out from here, may our God go  
with you. The face of God shine on you ev - 'ry day.  
We are sent by God wher - ev - er we are liv - ing,  
salt and light as peo-ple of the Way.

The musical score is written on four staves in 2/4 time, featuring a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and accessible, with lyrics printed below the notes.

Text: Bryan Moyer Suderman (Canada), 2001

Music: Bryan Moyer Suderman, 2001; acc. Charlene Nafziger (Canada)

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**POSTLUDE**

Mia Kelly, Cello

**Save the Date:  
February 12  
Annual Meeting  
after worship**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Do you receive our Friday Announcements email? Contact [office@fccb.net](mailto:office@fccb.net) to sign up!*

**FLOWERS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP:** Add to the beauty of our worship by providing flowers!

Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4fabae2baaf58-flower1#/>

### WORSHIP:

- **Sundays, 10:00 am**—Hybrid worship in person, on Facebook Live, and now on Zoom, our #BiggerBalcony.

### WEEKLY CALENDAR

*For details, see our Connection Calendar in the Friday email or contact [office@fccb.net](mailto:office@fccb.net).*

#### Monday

Board Meetings—2nd Mondays, **6:30 pm**

Church Council—4th Mondays, **7:00 pm**

Poetry Group—**7:00 pm**

#### Tuesday

Book Club—First Tuesday of the month, **9:30 am**

#### Wednesday

Meet Me in the Middle—**12:00 noon**

Glee Club—**3:00 pm**

Adult Forum—**7:00 pm**

Chancel Choir—**7:00 pm**

#### Thursday

Evening Book Study—**5:00 pm**

#### Friday

Knitting Group: weekly, **10:00 am**

SPIRIT Group, 2nd & 4th Fridays, **6:15 welcome, 6:30 pm**

Game Night—3rd Fridays, **6:00-9:00 pm**

#### Saturday

Creative Connections—1st Saturdays at **10:00 am**

#### Sunday

Chancel Choir—**8:30 am**

Worship—**10:00 am**. Children's Church during worship

Youth Group—**11:30 am**

Going Deeper—after worship, hybrid

*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**

**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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