

Stories in the City
Palm Sunday
April 2, 2023



first  **congregational**
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
timeless worship + modern faith

We thank the following people for assisting with worship:

HEAD USHER:

Janet Ott

LITURGIST:

Jen Green

Please note: we stream our worship service to Facebook and Zoom, so those up front leading worship will be on camera.

Masking is encouraged but not mandatory during services.

Council supports individuals making the best decisions for their health and for the health of our community and, as always, encourages best practices - hand washing, staying home when unwell, and staying up to date with vaccinations. Please always respect others' choice to mask.

PALM SUNDAY

April 2, 2023

10:00 am

Intergenerational worship tries to make space and be welcoming of diverse layers and levels of ability in worshipping the Divine.

It takes intention and grace from every person.

Wiggles are for all ages and abilities. Silence is for all ages and abilities.

We're all learners together, worshipping a God who loves us all.

PRELUDE

Judy Widrig

INTROIT

"Hosanna"

SAMSON

LEADER:



"Ho - san-na!" the peo-ple sang to Je - sus, "Ho - san-na! Save us, Son of God!"

5 ALL:



"Ho - san - na! the peo-ple sang to Je - sus, "Ho - san-na! Save us, Son of God!"

9 LEADER: ALL: LEADER: ALL:



1. Ho - ho - ho Ho - ho - ho Sa - a - na Sa - a - na
2. (clap - clap - clap) (clap - clap - clap) (clap - clap - clap) (clap - clap - clap)
3. (stomp-stomp-stomp) (stomp-stomp-stomp) (stomp-stomp-stomp) (stomp-stomp-stomp)

11 LEADER: ALL: LEADER: ALL:



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13 ALL:



"Ho - san - na! the peo-ple sang to Je - sus, "Ho - san-na! Save us, Son of God!"

RINGING THE BELL

THE STORY

HYMN 213 (seated)

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

ELLACOMBE

THE STORY CONTINUES

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The Disciples

One Voice: When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil,
asking, “Who is this?”

All Voices: Who is this? Who is this?

One Voice: This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.

All Voices: But who is this? Who is this?

One Voice: This is a many, many great, great grandson of the famous King David.

All Voices: But who is this? Who is this?

One Voice: This is the child born to Mary in Bethlehem.

All Voices: But who is this? Who is this?

One Voice: This is the one who came to save us, to show us the Way of God.

All Voices: But who is this? Who is this?

One Voice: This is the one who taught about compassion and justice.

All Voices: But who is this? Who is this?

One Voice: Follow us and you’ll understand better.

All Voices: Hosanna! We will follow Jesus.

*HYMN

“Come Into the Streets With Me”

SEE SAW SACCARA DOWN

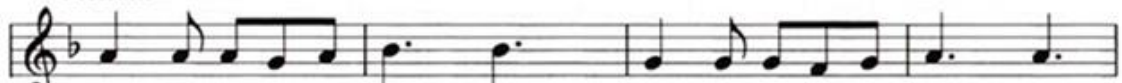


Come in-to the streets with me! Come to where the crowds will be,
All the peo - ple shout his name, wa-ving bran-ches, sing his fame,
If the sol - diers draw their swords, will we dare to sing these words,
Je - sus goes where things are rough, Je - sus knows when life is tough,



see a strange and gen - tle king on a don-key tra - vel - ling.
throw their coats up - on his road, glad to praise the Son of God.
be his friends just for a day, cheer him on, then run a - way?
al - ways comes to us, his friends, so his st - ory ne - ver ends.

Refrain



Come and fol-low my lea - der, come and fol-low my lea - der,



Je - sus Christ is ri - ding by, come and fol-low my lea - der!

by Shirley Erena Murray. © 1992, Hope Publishing Company. Used under OneLicense #A-718199.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jen Green

One Voice: God we don't always get things right.

All Voices: We're sorry, God.

One Voice: Sometimes we just watch when something bad is happening.

All Voices: We're sorry, God.

One Voice: Sometimes we think we're doing the right thing,
but later we find out it was wrong.

All Voices: We're sorry, God.

One Voice: Sometimes we need to apologize, but we don't like feeling bad or wrong.

All Voices: **We're sorry, God.**

One Voice: Sometimes we just need to know you love us anyway,
even when you show us in so many ways.

All Voices: **We're sorry, God.**

One Voice: Help us say sorry when it really matters.

All Voices: **We're sorry, God. ...**

KYRIE ELEISON

gently

Cantor: Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. ALL: KY - RI - E E - LEI - SON.

Musical notation for the first system. It consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The vocal line is in 4/4 time and begins with a half note 'KY', followed by a quarter rest, then a quarter note 'RI', a quarter rest, and a half note 'E'. The piano accompaniment consists of a bass line with a half note 'E' in the first measure, followed by a half note 'E' in the second measure, and a half note 'E' in the third measure. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4.

Cantor: Chri - ste e - lei - son. ALL: CHRI - STE E - LEI - SON.

Musical notation for the second system. The vocal line starts with a half note 'CHRI', a quarter rest, and a half note 'STE'. The piano accompaniment has a half note 'E' in the first measure, a half note 'E' in the second measure, and a half note 'E' in the third measure. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4.

Cantor: Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. ALL: KY - RI - E E - LEI - SON.

Musical notation for the third system. The vocal line begins with a half note 'KY', a quarter rest, and a half note 'RI'. The piano accompaniment has a half note 'E' in the first measure, a half note 'E' in the second measure, and a half note 'E' in the third measure. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Jen Green

One Voice: God, we proclaim your grace.

All Voices: Grace that holds every story,
grace that redeems every dream,
grace that reveals Love stronger than death.

Give us strength to hear the good news of our own forgiveness,
the good news of our own belovedness.

Give us strength to proclaim belovedness and peace to our siblings.

One Voice: The peace of Christ be with you.

All Voices: And with God's world.

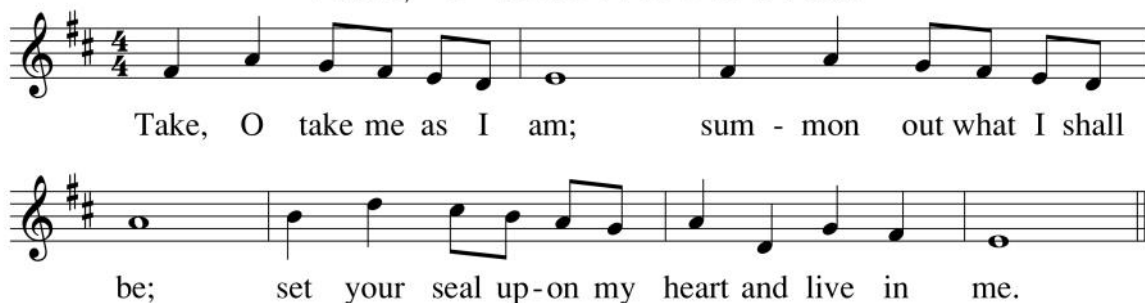
PASSING THE PEACE

Davi Weasley

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 INVITATION TO PRAYER

"Take, O Take Me as I Am"



Take, O take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall
be; set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Davi Weasley

As we pray, you may write your prayers on the purple sheet or in the chat box online.

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.*

ANTHEM

**“Bow Down Low”
by James Bowyer**

One Accord

A READING FROM SCRIPTURE

**Matthew 21:1-11
Common English Bible**

Jen Green

REFLECTION

“Important Parts of the Story”

Sharon Benton

***HYMN 216**

“All Glory, Laud, & Honor”

ST. THEODULPH

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Davi Weasley & Sharon Benton

When you come forward, please bring your purple prayer pages and offering to lay in the plates.

Sung Invitation

Come, Let Us Bring

By Billema Kwillia & Marty Haugen

*Come let us bring our gifts to God in praise,
So that we might minister in countless ways.*

*Come, let us bring the warm and fragrant bread,
Broken here so all God's people might be fed.*

*Come, let us bring the sweet, abundant wine.
In this cup, we taste the joy of grace divine.*

*If you're joining us from home, gather something to eat and drink;
the risen Christ will meet us wherever we are.*

If you're worshiping in person today, you may come forward to receive communion. If you wish to remain seated, someone will come around to you in your seat. Raise a hand or indicate that you would like communion as they come around, If you come forward you will be on the video stream

Communion Music

“Jubilate Deo”
by Peter Anglea

One Accord

SONG

"Hosanna"

SAMSON

LEADER:



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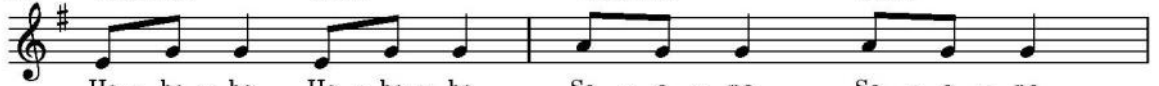
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BENEDICTION

Davi Weasley

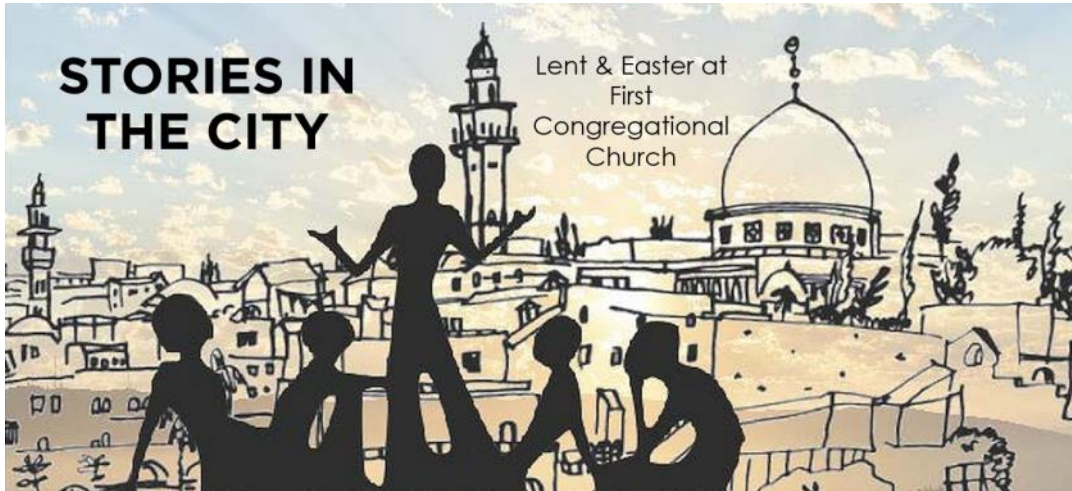
POSTLUDE

"Jubilate Deo"
 by Jay Althouse

One Accord

Join us in the Social Hall as the intergenerational exploration of Palm Sunday continues. Come, make pretzels (yum! yum!), weave palm fronds, write postcards to our legislators, help put together the Holy Week puzzle, learn more about Passover, or join others in a "Going Deeper" conversation. Everyone is welcome to join in the variety of activities!

**April 23 after worship
Congregational Meeting about Staffing
See the Friday email for details.**



Join us throughout Lent and into Easter.

Holy Week Worship

Palm Sunday Intergenerational Service:

April 2, 10:00 am, Sanctuary, Facebook, & Zoom

Maundy Thursday Storytelling Service:

April 6, 7:00 pm, Sanctuary, Facebook, & Zoom

Good Friday Tenebrae Service:

April 7, 7:00 pm, Sanctuary, Facebook, & Zoom

Easter Sunrise Service:

April 9, 6:30 am, Bloedel Donovan Park

Easter Celebration Service:

April 9, 10:00 am, Sanctuary, Facebook, & Zoom

See the Connection Calendar & Friday Announcement emails for special opportunities to connect during Lent.

Order Easter Tulips!

Let's make our Sanctuary beautiful for Easter and renew a Lenten tradition! Order a pot of tulips for \$10 and take them home after worship on Easter Sunday. This is a ministry of the Arts & Worship Board.

You can also order using this online form: <https://fccb.breezechms.com/form/e5290e32>

I/We (name): _____ would like to purchase (#) _____

tulips(s) for \$10.00 each for Easter Sunday.

_____ Purchased as a gift to the church

_____ Purchased in Memory of: _____

_____ Purchased in Recognition of: _____

Please return this order form with payment (cash or checks written to First Congregational Church with the notation "Tulips" to the Church Office or by mailing to: First Congregational Church, 2401 Cornwall Avenue, Bellingham, WA 98225.

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, she/her
PASTOR FOR YOUTH, YOUNG ADULTS,
& MISSION: Davi Weasley, they/them

INTERIM MINISTERS OF FAITH FORMATION:

Ted, he/him & Susan Huffman, she/her

MINISTER OF MUSIC: Lucy Bledig, she/her

ORGANIST: Judy Widrig, she/her

ACCOUNTANT: Erin Kennedy, she/her

OFFICE MANAGER: Cydne Cochran, she/her

CUSTODIAN/MAINTENANCE:

Kurt Aagard, he/him

WORSHIP MEDIA COORDINATOR:

Georgia Drost, she/they

MODERATOR: Mark Schofield

VICE MODERATOR: Scott Ward

PAST MODERATOR: Beth Tyne

CLERK: Janet Malley

TREASURER: Craig Jennings

HISTORIAN: Stacy Miller

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