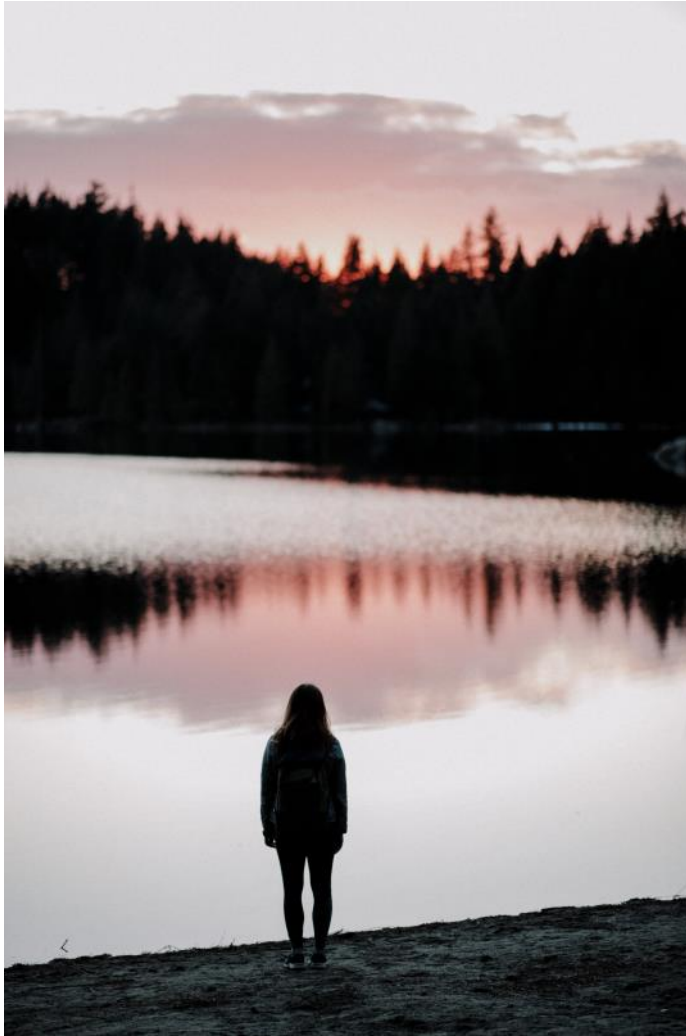


A Faith Vision

May 7, 2023



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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 7, 2023

10:00 am

Welcoming all, growing in faith, living God's love, justice, compassion ...

First Congregational Church Purpose Statement

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.

PRELUDE Judy Widrig

INTROIT "All Things New"
by Elaine Hagenberg One Accord

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Sharon Benton
& Scout Mitchell

RINGING OF THE BELL

OPENING SCRIPTURE READING Habakkuk 2:1-2 Louis Vetri

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE Louis Vetri

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.

***HYMN 541** "Be Now My Vision" SLANE

WE ARE A NURTURING, BELOVED COMMUNITY

EXPLORING THE MOVEMENT Scout Mitchell

PASSING THE PEACE Scout Mitchell

*If you're willing, please share peace with those worshipping online
by coming to the microphone and offering "The peace of Christ" or
"May God's peace be with you" or some other words of grace,.*

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

Tena Hilton

***COMMUNITY SONG**

“The Gospel in One Word Is Love”

LOVE, LOVE, LOVE

Musical notation for the song "The Gospel in One Word Is Love". It consists of two staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff has a measure rest labeled '1' and a measure rest labeled '2'. The lyrics are: "Love, Love, Love, Love, the Gos - pel in one word is__ love,". The second staff starts with a measure rest labeled '3' and a measure rest labeled '4'. The lyrics are: "Love your neigh - bor as your - self for God is__ love." The piece ends with a double bar line.

Anon. Traditional folk tune.

WE ARE GROWING AUTHENTIC CHRISTIAN FAITH

EXPLORING THE MOVEMENT

Megan Douglas

SHARING OUR STORIES

Megan Douglas

Turn to another person and respond to the prompt.

SUNG RESPONSE

“Halle, Halle, Halle”

Musical notation for the song "Halle, Halle, Halle". It consists of two staves of music in D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The first staff has the lyrics: "Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja." The second staff has the lyrics: "Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le - lu-ja, hal - le - lu - ja." The piece ends with a double bar line.

Tune: Arr. by John L. Bell; © 1990, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc. Used under OneLicense #A-718199.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Sharon Benton

Children are invited to Church School.

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

3
wig - gle through your fin - gers and dance up - on your nose. May the

5
peo - ple all a - round you help you live so lov - ing grows. May the

7
love of God fill you up un - til it ov - er flows.

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

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/ to send a message or call the church to talk with a pastor.*

ANTHEM

"I Dreamed of Rain"
by Jan Garrett, arr. Larry Nickel

One Accord

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Davi Weasley & Sharon Benton

When you come forward, you may also bring your 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.

*If you're worshiping at home, gather something to eat and drink:
the risen Christ will meet you right where you are.*

Communion Music

Judy Widrig

WE ARE LIVING CHRIST-INSPIRED ACTION

EXPLORING THE MOVEMENT

Paula McGrath

PROCESSION OF SIGNS

Paula McGrath

As the signs come forward, shout out (or type) other places you serve in the community.

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

Kate Eifrig

***MISSION SONG**

“What Does Our God Require”

MOON

What does our God re - quire of you?

What does our God re- quire of you? Ju - stice, Kind -

ness, Walk Hu—mbly wi th your God To seek ju stice,

and love kind ness and walk hum bly with your God

by Jim Strathdee Tune & text © 1986 Desert Flower Music/Jim and Jean Strathdee.
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***INVITATION & BENEDICTION**

Davi Weasley

“All Things New”
by Elaine Hagenberg

*After worship, join us in the Social Hall for refreshments
and continuing visioning conversations.*



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, he/him**
PAST MODERATOR: **Beth Tyne**
CLERK: **Janet Malley**
TREASURER: **Craig Jennings**
HISTORIAN: **Stacy Miller**
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