

Life Long Learning  
June 4, 2023

All who heard him  
were amazed...

Luke 2:47, NRSV



**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

June 4, 2023

10:00 am

*Today you follow in the footsteps of so many generations  
who came before you . . . and step into a future made brighter  
by your love for your faith, your family, and your community.”  
~ traditional Bar Mitzvah/Bat Mitzvah blessing*

**PRELUDE**

Judy Widrig

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Sharon Benton

*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.*

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

**THE STORY**

Davi Weasley

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Scout Mitchell

**One:** Shout for joy! Sing God’s Glory! Give glorious praise!

**All:** **How awesome are your deeds!**

**One:** Come and see what God has done!

**All:** **How awesome are your deeds!**

**One:** God brought the people from slavery to freedom.

**All:** **How awesome are your deeds!**

**One:** God has tested us, tried us, and brought us to this place.

**All:** **How awesome are your deeds!**

\*HYMN

"Come In"

by Roger Sherman

with the Chancel Choir

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 2/4. It consists of eight staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Come in, you par - ents and sib - lings, Come in, you in, you he - roes and art - ists, Come in, you cou - sins and nib - lings, Come in, you seek - ers and doubt - ers. scho - lars and re - bels, Come in, you sing - ers and lov - ers. Let the mu - sic fill your soul. Close your Let the mu - sic make you whole. eyes and breathe to - ge - ther, (Sit be - side a per - fect stran - ger) O - pen to the Life a - round you, Let the mu - sic fill your soul. Come soul. O - pen to the Life a - round you, Let the mu - sic fill your soul." The score includes a repeat sign at the beginning, a first ending bracket (1.) at measure 35, and a second ending bracket (2.) at measure 36. The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of the eighth staff.

Come in, you par - ents and sib - lings, Come in, you  
in, you he - roes and art - ists, Come in, you  
6 cou - sins and nib - lings, Come in, you seek - ers and doubt - ers.  
scho - lars and re - bels, Come in, you sing - ers and lov - ers.  
12 Let the mu - sic fill your soul. Close your  
Let the mu - sic make you whole.  
20 eyes and breathe to - ge - ther, (Sit be - side a per - fect  
26 stran - ger) O - pen to the Life a - round you, Let the mu - sic  
35 fill your soul. Come soul. O - pen to the Life  
46 a - round you, Let the mu - sic fill your soul.

Robert Bode

Roger W. Sherman

## SHARING OUR STORIES

Susan Huffman

What's the first Bible you remember reading or receiving? Is there a Bible that is particularly significant to you (a family Bible or a particular interpretation)?

*We invite you to turn to a neighbor (or get up to find someone new) and share your response to today's prompt. Please feel free to ponder silently on your own, if you prefer.*

## SUNG RESPONSE

### "Dance with the Spirit"

Dance with the Spir - it ear - ly in the morn - in',  
walk\* with the Spir-it through-out the long day. Work and hope for the  
new life a-born-in', lis - ten to the Spir - it to show you the way.

The musical score is written on three staves in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is primarily in the soprano line, with accompaniment in the piano line. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

Words and music: Jim Strathdee, 1995

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## A READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:41-52

Scout Mitchell

*Spark Bible NRSV (p. 1131)*

## SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Scout Mitchell

**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.

**BRIDGING FROM FIFTH GRADE TO MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Ted Huffman

**SUNG RESPONSE 742** "Gathered Here in the Mystery of this Hour"

GATHERING CHANT

**HONORING OUR GRADUATES**

Davi Weasley

**ANTHEM**

"Go to the World"  
by Karen Marroli

Chancel Choir

**MOMENT FOR MISSION**

Wear Orange Day

Liz Hjelmseth

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Sharon Benton

**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.*

**SUNG RESPONSE 283**

"Spirit of the Living God"

**A READING FROM SCRIPTURE**

The Boy at the Temple  
*Spark Story Bible (p. 320)*

Scout Mitchell

**SCRIPTURE RESPONSE**

Scout Mitchell

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.**

**PRESENTING FAMILY STORY BIBLES TO THREE YEAR OLDS TO 2ND GRADERS** Sharon Benton

\*HYMN 351

“I Was There to Here Your Borning Cry”

BORNING CRY

**INVITATION TO OFFERING “Strengthen the Church” UCC Special Offering** Dana Lehn

*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.*

*5) Scan the QR code to the right or on the back cover of the bulletin.*

**Offering Music**

Judy Widrig

*Children who would like to bring the communion elements to the table  
please gather with Susan and Ted in the Narthex now.*

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Davi Weasley & Sharon Benton

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

**Communion Music**

Judy Widrig

**\*HYMN 411**

*"Praise the Source of Faith and Learning"*

PROCESSION

**\*BENEDICTION**

Davi Weasley

**POSTLUDE**

Judy Widrig

*After worship today please join us for a church school celebration in the Social Hall and then the Wear Orange Day event in the south parking lot, beginning at 11:30 am.*



**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: 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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