

Faces of Our Faith
Facing Tradition — Judas Iscariot
June 18, 2023



THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 18, 2023

10:00 am

*Judas' relationship [with Jesus] is fraught, complicated, and ultimately tragic,
but I know there were moments of beauty.*

~Lauren Wright Pittman

PRELUDE

Judy Widrig

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Davi Weasley

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

Sharon Benton

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

SAB

Darlene Mathias

One: Faces of our faith—ordinary people like you and me.

All: Faces of our faith—the famously mischievous, the notorious, or those completely forgotten by many.

One: Faces of our faith—Biblical and contemporary.

All: Faces of our faith—what we see in the mirror.

One: Today we turn our gaze upon Judas,
facing our tradition and what many of us have learned.

**All: Do I have a bit of the betrayer in me?
Have I ever seen only one part of a person?**

One: Holy One, open us to a new vision of Judas and ourselves.

All: Give us a glimpse of what you see in each of us.

***HYMN 207**

“Just as I Am”

WOODWORTH

WE ARE A NURTURING, BELOVED COMMUNITY

PASSING THE PEACE

Sharon Benton

One: May the Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

SUNG RESPONSE 377

“Forward through the Ages”
verse 1

ST. GERTRUDE

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Griffey Bronsema

Minister: And do you who witness and celebrate this sacrament make your covenant with Griffey?

People: We joyfully welcome you, Griffey, as you are baptized in our covenant community. We offer ourselves to be your siblings, uncles and aunts, grandparents, and cousins in Christ. We join in the covenant that your parents acknowledge this day on your behalf. We offer our understanding and support as you explore your faith life, and we enfold you in our love and the love of God as we know it.

A READING FROM *RIGHT NOW! REAL KIDS SPEAKING UP FOR CHANGE*

Darlene Mathias

“Jonas Corona”

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

“What Wondrous Love is This”

Unbroken Circle

WE ARE GROWING AUTHENTIC, CHRISTIAN FAITH

A READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Mark 14, selected verses

Darlene Mathias

New Revised Standard Version

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Darlene Mathias

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.**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Susan & Ted Huffman

The regular Church School class has concluded for the year. During the summer, the children are welcome to move about, sharing in the activities in the children's corner or moving to the pillows in the front. This week, following the Time with Children, children are welcome to go to the narthex where there will be some activities previewing this summer's Creation Care Camp.

SUNG RESPONSE

"Light of Ages and of Nations"

HOLY MANNA

Light of a - ges and of na - tions ev - ery race and ev - ery time

5 has re - ceived thine in - spi - ra - tions, glimps - es of thy truth sub - lime.

9 That which came to an - cient sag - es, Greek, Bar - bar - ian, Ro - man, Jew,

13 writ - en in the soul's deep pa - ges, shines to - day, for - ev - er new.

SERMON

"Facing Tradition: Judas"

Sharon Benton

*HYMN

"Lay Me Low"

LAY ME LOW

Lay me low, _____ where your love can find me. _____ Lay me
low, _____ where your love can hold me. _____ Lay me
low, _____ where your love can bless me. _____ Lay me
low, _____ Love, lay me low. _____ Lay me

Text: Shaker traditional

Music: Daniel E. Schwandt

Used under OneLicense.net #A-718199

Music © 2013 Daniel E. Schwandt, admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

WE ARE LIVING CHRIST INSPIRED ACTION

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Darlene Mathias

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

A RENEWAL OF VOWS AT 50 YEARS

Susan & Ted Huffman

One: Members and friends of this congregation, please rise in body or in spirit and together affirm your support to this couple

All: **We offer our prayerful blessing and loving support to this couple and to their marriage.**

***HYMN 22**

“Sing Praise to God, Who Has Shaped”

LOBE DEN HERREN

***BENEDICTION**

Davi Weasley

POSTLUDE

“Salt Spring”
by John Reischman

Unbroken Circle



Cover Image by Lauren Wright Pittman, graphic image inspired by Mark 14:1-2, 10-50. Artist statement; “I feel like Judas represents those who are afraid to stand up against the powerful. He allows fear to move him. He faces torture and death by aligning himself with Jesus and does what I think a lot of us would do. A lot of us would chose safety and betrayal instead of the path of suffering for a fight that seems impossible to win. I think we act like Judas in passing moments every day.”

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

Summer Office Hours: M-Th, 10:00 am-4:00 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: Malinda Seholm, she/her

OFFICE MANAGER: Cydne Cochran, she/her

OFFICE ASSISTANT: Monica Morton

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

OneLicense #A-718199

CCS #12615

