

Faces of Our Faith
Facing Trouble — Judges
July 16, 2023



SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 16, 2023

10:00 am

The story of Judges has value as a tragedy. It's a sobering explanation of the human condition, and ultimately it points out the need for God's grace...

-The BibleProject

PRELUDE

“Adagio”
from “Flute Sonata in C Major” by J.S. Bach

Leigh Hjelmseth

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 OF JUDGES

Sharon Benton

*Rise in body or spirit

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

SAB

Amelia Bacon

One: We are a people who love our neighbors.

All: And sometimes we let ourselves be swayed by them too much.

One: We know in our whole beings God's call to our lives:

All: Do justice, love kindness, walk humbly with our God.

One: We seek leaders who show us how to build God's Beloved Community.

All: Yet Christ says it's already within and around us: we know Shalom!

One: May we trust our knowing, O God; may we trust your trust in us.

All: Let's worship the God whose realm is our highest goal.

***HYMN 312**

"We Love Your Realm, O God"
verses 1-4

ST. THOMAS

A READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Judges 2:11-12, 18-19, 22-23

Amelia Bacon

Common English Bible

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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.

JUDGES

Othniel, Ehud, and Shamgar

Sharon Benton

Verse 1

1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam - en -
 ta - tion, I hear the sweet, though far - off hymn that
 hails a new cre - a - tion. Through all the tu - mult
 and the strife, I hear the mu - sic ring - ing; It
 finds an ech - o in my soul— how can I keep from sing - ing?

In various nineteenth-century hymnals this hymn was attributed to different poets, including Anna Warner. The earliest published source credits Robert Lowry as the composer, although Silas Vail later claimed the music. The third stanza was written by Doris Plenn in the 1950s when her friends were imprisoned during the McCarthy era.

Tune: ENDLESS SONG 8.7.8.7.D.
 Attrib. to Robert Lowry in Bright Jewels
 for the Sunday School, New York, 1869

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

Amelia Bacon

"Sophie Cruz"

*People can show the way to our leaders,
 not just leaders showing the way for the people!*

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.*

MUSICAL MEDITATION

“Andante-Presto & Allegro”

Leigh Hjelmseth

from “Flute Sonata in C Major” by J.S. Bach

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Ted and Susan 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.*

SUNG RESPONSE 772

“Nothing Can Trouble”

TAIZÉ, JACQUES BERTHIER

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JUDGES

Deborah the Prophet and Gideon

Davi Weasley

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Do you receive our Friday Announcements email? Contact office@fccb.net to sign up!

WORSHIP:

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR

For details, see our Connection Calendar in the Friday email or contact office@fccb.net.

Monday

Walking Group, **10:30 am**, Barkley Pond
Board Meetings—**2nd Mondays, 6:30 pm**
Church Council—**4th Mondays, 7:00 pm**
Poetry Group—**7:00 pm**

Tuesday

Book Club—**1st Tuesdays, 9:30 am**
Pilgrim Circle—**2nd Tuesdays, 12:00 noon**
Green Team—**2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 7:00 pm**

Wednesday

Glee Club—**5:00 pm**
Adult Forum—**7:00 pm**

Thursday

Evening Book Study—**5:00 pm**

Friday

Knitting Group: weekly, **10:00 am**
Quilters: weekly, **12:00 noon**, off-site
Game Night—**3rd Fridays, 6:00-9:00 pm**

Saturday

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

Sunday

Youth Group—**11:30 am**

*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

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: Erin Kennedy, she/her

OFFICE MANAGER: Cydne Cochran, she/her

OFFICE ASSISTANT: Monica Morton, 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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