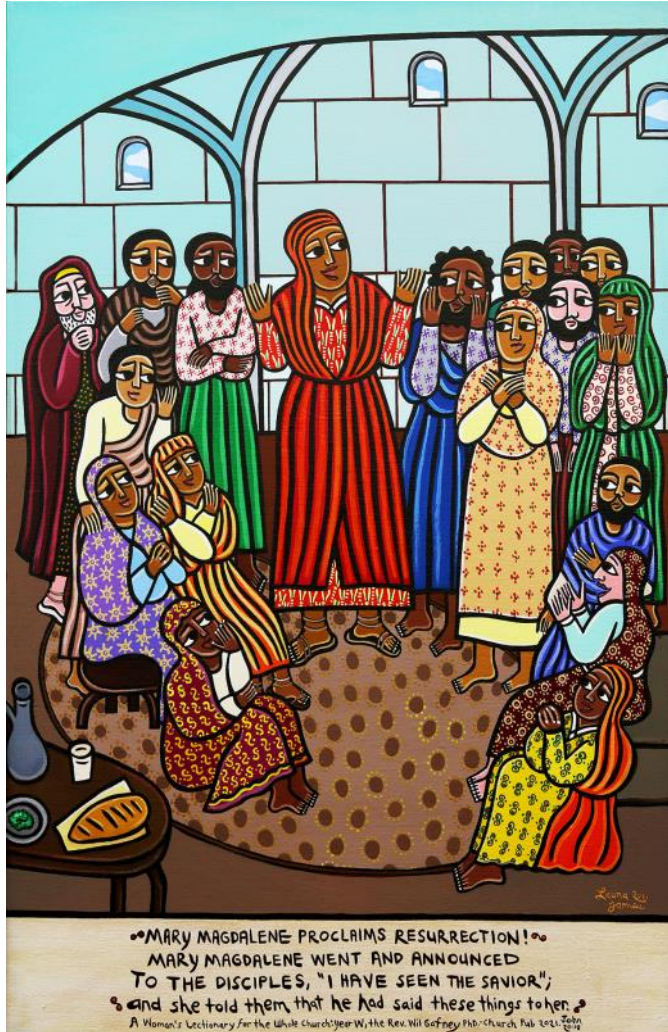


Faces of Our Faith

Facing Tradition — Mary Magdalene

July 9, 2023



SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 9, 2023

10:00 am

Peter said to Mary, "Sister, we know the savior loved you more than any other woman. Tell us the words of the savior that you remember, which you know but we do not, because we have not heard them." Mary answered and said, "What is hidden from you I shall reveal to you."

~ The Gospel of Mary

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** by M Jade Kaiser, "enfleshed"

Tim Shepherd

One: Listen! Listen for the voice of God, naming us all:
Holy. Beloved. Cherished. Valued.

All: We believe you delight in us!

One: Make us people who recognize and proclaim your
beauty and goodness in unexpected places.

All: Surprise us. Challenge us. Transform us.

One: All the ways we've erased people and their lives, all the ways we've diminished
them to make them fit our own experiences or expectations:

**All: We trust in you, Holy One, to reveal to us the sacredness of every life,
of every way of being, of every physical manifestation of your Spirit.**

One: We trust you to reveal what has been too long hidden.

All: May it be so!

**Rise in body or spirit*

Lyrics by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (alt.)



Ma - ry Mag - da - lene was suf - fer - ing
 Ma - ry was a weep - ing wit - ness
 Ma - ry's one that we've lost sight of



in her bo - dy, mind and soul, un - til Je - sus
 as she stood there at the cross. At the tomb, she
 in our church's his - tor - y. She's been la - beled



met her, of - fer - ing love that made the wound - ed whole.
 grieved for Je - sus; love had paid a hea - vy cost.
 and made light of; she's been called a my - ster - y.



"To - wer of Strength," the peo - ple called her,
 Three days on, the ri - sen Sa - vior
 May we see her lov - ing wit - ness



Christ's dis - ci - ple, come what may. She with oth - er
 gave her good news to pro - claim. She was first to
 in these stor - ies we've been told; And may her ex -



wo - men tra - velled, fund - ing Christ's work on the Way.
 preach the gos - pel. May we share it, just the same!
 am - ple help us To be faith - ful, strong and bold.

WE ARE A NURTURING, BELOVED COMMUNITY

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

Tim Shepherd

“Jazz Jennings”

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

“Magdalene”

Jeanne Quinn

Music and Lyrics by Libbie Schrader

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WE ARE GROWING AUTHENTIC, CHRISTIAN FAITH

A READING FROM SCRIPTURE

John 20:1-18

Tim Shepherd

New Revised Standard Version

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Storyteller

*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**"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 - ten in the soul's deep pa - ges, shines to - day, for - ev - er new.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The first staff starts at measure 1, the second at measure 5, the third at measure 9, and the fourth at measure 13. The piece ends with a double bar line at the end of the fourth staff.

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SERMON**"Facing Tradition: Mary Magdalene"**

Sharon Benton

SONG**"Magdalene"**

Song by Libbie Schrader. Video Directed by Michael A. Toscano.

Used with permission.

WE ARE LIVING CHRIST-INSPIRED ACTION**TESTIMONY**

Tim Shepherd

*Offering plates are available near the doors as you leave;
thank you for your gift helping to build justice and compassion.*

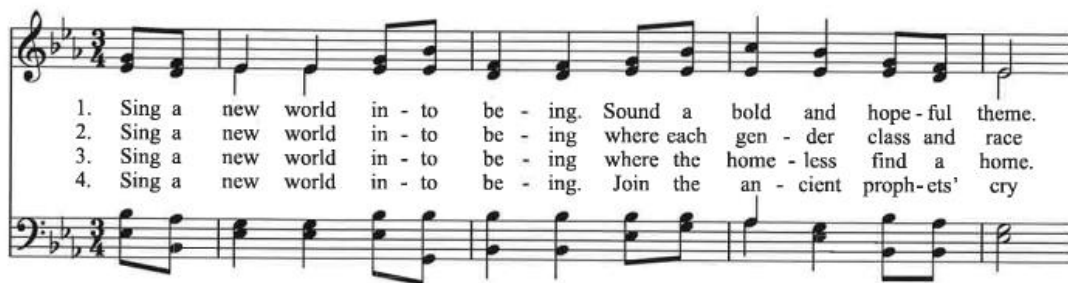
There are several other ways to give: 1) Give at our website, <https://fcb.net/giving/>.

2) Mail checks to First Congregational Church, 2401 Cornwall Avenue, Bellingham, WA 98225.

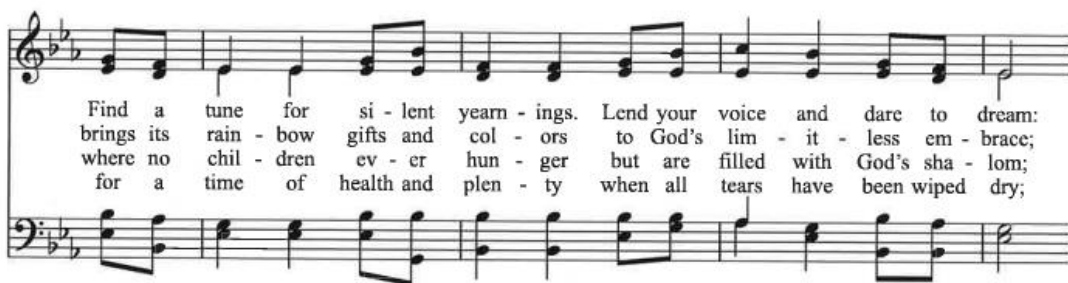
3) Use the Breeze app. Download from your app store, set up an account, and give!

4) Give by text. Text a dollar amount to (360) 205-1297, and set up your account.

5) Scan the QR code below or on the back cover of the bulletin.



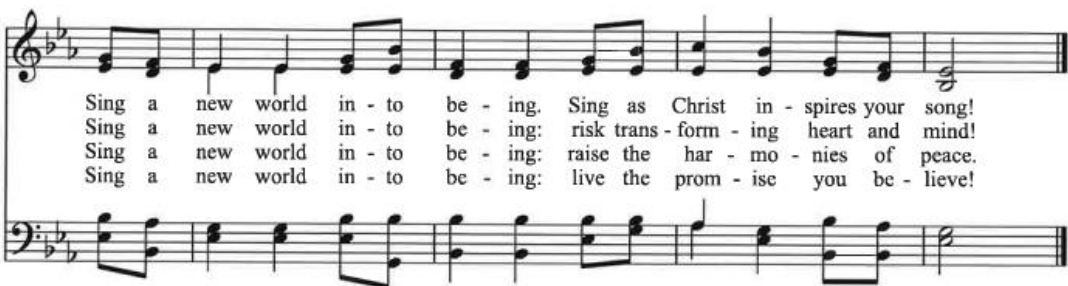
1. Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sound a bold and hope - ful theme.
 2. Sing a new world in - to be - ing where each gen - der class and race
 3. Sing a new world in - to be - ing where the home - less find a home.
 4. Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Join the an - cient proph - ets' cry



Find a tune for si - lent year - ings. Lend your voice and dare to dream:
 brings its rain - bow gifts and col - ors to God's lim - it - less em - brace;
 where no chil - dren ev - er hun - ger but are filled with God's sha - lom;
 for a time of health and plen - ty when all tears have been wiped dry;



dream a church where all who wor - ship find their lives and loves be - long.
 where the lines that once di - vi - ded form in - stead the ties that bind.
 where all peo - ple work for jus - tice, where all hate and vengeance cease.
 when com - pas - sion flows like wa - ters, pour - ing balm for all who grieve.



Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sing as Christ in - spires your song!
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing: risk trans - form - ing heart and mind!
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing: raise the har - mo - nies of peace.
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing: live the prom - ise you be - lieve!

***BENEDICTION**

Davi Weasley

POSTLUDE

Judy Widrig

All are invited to join us in the Pride Parade now! We'll carpool to Waypoint Park (new spot this year) where the parade begins. It ends at Depot Market Square, where First Congregational has a Festival table staffed by several of you — thank you for showing your support for all God's beautiful family.



Head Usher: Carol Garguile

Cover image is "Mary Magdalene Proclaims Resurrection! - John 20:18" ©Laura James, 2002. Used with permission.

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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