

**The Sound that Love Makes:
Christmas Pageant
December 10, 2023**



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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 10, 2023

10:00 am

*“...I’m getting older,
and I’ve heard it said, “Christmas is for children.”
But somehow a fa-la-la keeps creeping out.”
~Ann Weems*

PRELUDE

Judy Widrig

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sharon Benton

RINGING THE BELL

WELCOME SONG

*“Come, Sound of Love”
by Ruth Cunningham*

Come sound of Love in - to our hearts. Come

Spir - it of Ad - vent in - to our hearts.

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THE STORY

Davi Weasley

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Davi Weasley

Children may return to sitting with their families today.

**Rise in body or spirit*

WE ARE GROWING AUTHENTIC CHRISTIAN FAITH

A NO-REHEARSAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

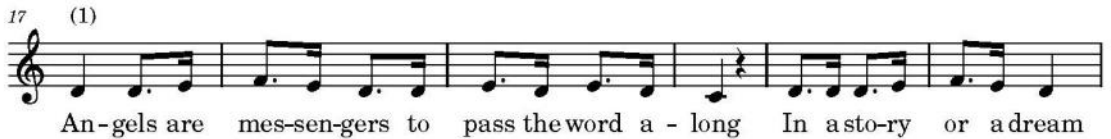
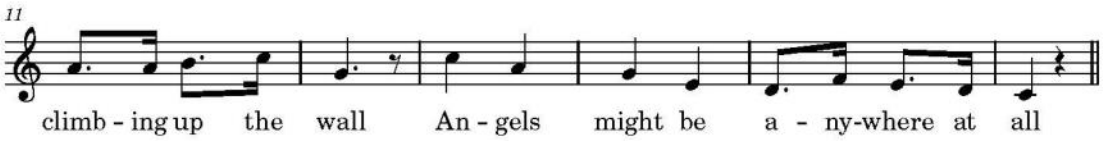
Carol 133 (black hymnal) "O Little Town of Bethlehem"
verse 1

ST. LOUIS

Carol

"Angels Might Be Anywhere at All"
by Tom Hunter. Used with permission.

CHORUS



2. *An angel came to Mary to say she'd have a son. Angels came to shepherds to say that he had come. And then they got together to sing a "gloria" There were lots and lots of angels telling what they saw. (Chorus)*
3. *We mostly think of angels with halos and with wings, Playing harps and being white and smiling while they sing. But maybe they wear clown clothes, do laundry or wear boots, And maybe there's an angel next to you. (Chorus)*

Carol 138 (black hymnal) "Jesus Our Brother, Strong & Good"
verse 1

ORIENTIS PARTIBUS

Carol

"We Three Kings"

1. We three kings of O - ri - ent are, Bear - ing
gifts we trav - erse a - far Field and foun - tain,
Moor and moun - tain, Fol - low - ing yon - der star.
O star of won - der, star of night, Star with
roy - al beau - ty bright, West - ward lead - ing, still pro -
ceed - ing, Guide us to the per - fect Light.

Text: Matthew 2:1-11; John H. Hopkins, Jr., 1820-1891
Tune: KINGS OF ORIENT, 88 44 6 with refrain; John H. Hopkins, Jr., 1820-1891

Carol 154 (black hymnal) "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" GO, TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN
verse 3

Thank you to our readers: Riley Archer, Jonna Gillham, Isa Sandoval, Leah Good.

WE ARE LIVING CHRIST-INSPIRED ACTION

*BENEDICTION

Davi Weasley

POSTLUDE & SHARING

Judy Widrig

*After the postlude we encourage you share with someone your response to today's question:
What are some sounds of this season that evoke a sense of love or hope for you?*

You may make an offering either in the plates at the door or online.



*Your generosity allows the work of this place nurture beloved community,
grow authentic Christian faith, and live Christ-inspired action. Thank you! .*

There are several other ways to give: 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 above or on the back cover of the bulletin.

Artist Statement for Sanctuary Art:

Inspired by the artwork "Seeing Shepherds" by Daniel Bonnell and our Advent theme "The Sound That Love Makes" I wanted to create a 'choir of angels'. Many hands and hearts came together to paint the angel banners. It's that spirit of community and collaboration that makes them 'sing'.

~Scott Ward

Cover Image "The Seeing Shepherds" by Daniel Bonnell.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Today after worship—Advent Book Sale in the Social Hall & Caroling in the Narthex!

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: weekly, **10:00 am**, Barkley Pond

Church Council: **4th Mondays, 7:00 pm**

Poetry Group: **1st & 3rd Mondays 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: weekly, **3:00 pm**

Adult Forum: weekly, **7:00 pm**

Thursday

Men's Breakfast Group, **1st Thursday, 9:00 am**, Country Club

Grandparent Group: **2nd Thursdays, 10:30 am**, Fireplace Room

20s/30s/40s/ Group, **5:30 pm**, **last Thursday** of the month.

Young Adult Peer Philosophy Group: weekly, **7:00 pm**, Fireplace Room

Friday

Game Night: **3rd Fridays, 6:00-9:00 pm**

Sunday

Chancel Choir: weekly, **8:30 am**

Children's Church School: weekly, **during worship**

Handbells: weekly, **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

Summer Office Hours: M-Th, 10:00 am-4:00 pm

LEAD PASTOR: Sharon Benton, she/her

PASTOR: Davi Weasley, they/them

CHURCH SCHOOL COORDINATOR:

Josh Marchand, they/them

MINISTER OF MUSIC: Lucy Bledig, she/her

ORGANIST: Judy Widrig, she/her

ACCOUNTANT: Marinda Seholm, 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, she/her

TREASURER: Craig Jennings

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