

Where We Are Found
January 28, 2024



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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

January 28, 2024

10:00 am

"Go and love someone exactly as they are. And then watch how quickly they transform into the greatest, truest version of themselves." ~ Wes Angelozzi

PRELUDE

"Sonata"
by César Franck

Judy Widrig
Carolyn Canfield, Violin

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Davi Weasley

RINGING THE BELL

WELCOME SONG

"God Welcomes All"
by John Bell

Energetically

God wel - comes all, stran - ers and friends;

God's love is strong and it ne - ver ends.

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*Rise in body or spirit

THE STORY

Davi Weasley

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Jim Holland

*Children may go with Josh to church school in the social hall
or remain in the sanctuary as they choose.*

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

*“Midsummer Moon”
by Rebecca Clarke*

Judy Widrig
Carolyn Canfield, Violin

*What do you need in times of crisis? When you're really scared or sad, what helps to ground you?
What are some times the Spirit has shown up for you?*

WE ARE A NURTURING BELOVED COMMUNITY.

***COMMUNITY PRAYER**

Connie Buckley

One: In our moments of terror,

All: May we learn that we are not alone.

One: In our moments of despair,

All: May we learn that the Story continues.

One: In our moments of utter confusion,

All: May we wait, together, for wonder.

One: When we are most outside ourselves,

All: May the Spirit call us home.



1 Come and find the qui - et cen - ter in the crowd - ed life we lead,
 2 Si - lence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,
 3 In the Spir - it let us trav - el, o - pen to each oth - er's pain,



find the room for hope to en - ter, find the frame where we are freed:
 God it is who speaks and names us, knows our be - ing, touch - es base,
 let our loves and fears un - rav - el, cel - e - brate the space we gain:



clear the cha - os and the clut - ter, clear our eyes, that we can see
 mak - ing space with - in our think - ing, lift - ing shades to show the sun,
 there's a place for deep - est dream - ing, there's a time for heart to care,



all the things that real - ly mat - ter, be at peace, and sim - ply be.
 rais - ing cour - age when we're shrink - ing, find - ing scope for faith be - gun.
 in the Spir - it's live - ly schem - ing there is al - ways room to spare!

WORDS: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-)

MUSIC: Attr. B. F. White (1800-1879), *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; arr. Ronald A. Nelson (1927-)

Words © 1992 Hope Publishing Company.

Music Arr. © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship* (Admin. Augsburg Fortress)

BEACH SPRING

8.7.8.7.D.

SUNG PRAYER

"With Sighs Too Deep for Words"
by Anne Krentz Organ. Used with permission.

Leader:



This is the sound of our Prayers And the Spirit in - ter - cedes for us

All:



with sighs, with sighs too deep for words. With sighs, with sighs too deep for words.

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.fcb.net/contact-us/ to send a message or call the church to talk with a pastor.*

WE ARE GROWING AUTHENTIC CHRISTIAN FAITH.

A READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Mark 5: 1-20
New Revised Standard Version

Connie Buckley

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Connie Buckley

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.**

SERMON

“Where Healing Finds Us”

Davi Weasley

MUSICAL MEDITATION

“Healer Divine”
by Raymond Haan

Chancel Choir

WE ARE LIVING CHRIST-INSPIRED ACTION.

TESTIMONY

Jonna Gillham & Jean Waight

CREATOR GOD,
who multiplies blessings,
bless these symbols
and the actions they represent
as we join with you to heal and protect
our planet from pollution and destruction.

HELP US
to set aside the desire for material riches,
opening our hearts to the myriad life forms
around us and the rich beauty
of this planet that we hold dear.

GUIDE US
as we learn to make sustainable changes
in our everyday lives.

AND BLESS
the scientists, researchers, activists,
and advocates for climate justice
as they multiply the blessings we offer.

WE PRAY
in awe
of the life and the beauty
on this planet that we call home.

AMEN



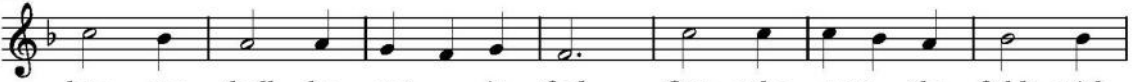
Let us hope when hope seems hope - less, when the dreams we
 Faith and hope in love's com - pas - sion will sur - vive though
 Like a child out - grow - ing child - hood, set - ting child - hood

7



dreamed have died. When the morn - ing breaks in bright - ness,
 knowl - edge cease, though the tongues of joy fall si - lent,
 things a - way, we will learn to live in free - dom,

13



hun - ger shall be sat - is - fied. One who sows the fields with
 dull the words of proph - e - cies. Faith shall see and trust its
 in the life of God's new day. Now we see as in a

20



weep - ing shall re - trace the sor - row - ing way and re - joice in
 ob - ject; hope shall set its an - chor sure; love shall bloom in
 mir - ror. Then we shall see face to face, un - der - stand how

27



har - vest boun - ty at the break - ing of the day.
 Love e - ter - nal. Faith and hope and love en - dure.
 love's com - pas - sion blos - soms through a - maz - ing Grace.

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Tune HYFRYDOL by Rowland H. Prichard. Public domain.

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POSTLUDE & SHARING

“D'un Matin du Printemps”

by Lili Boulanger

Judy Widrig
Carolyn Canfield, Violin

*After the postlude we encourage you share with someone your response to today's question:
What do you need in times of crisis? When you're really scared or sad, what helps to ground you?
What are some times the Spirit has shown up 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! .*

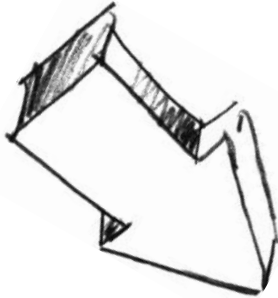
There are several other ways to give: 1) Give at our website, <https://fccb.net/giving/>.

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.



Congregational Conversation Sunday, February 4:

Join us after worship for an opportunity to talk about where we are with the budget, what the bylaw changes mean, and other items to be addressed at the **February 11 Annual Meeting**.

**The Annual Meeting will be held after worship,
Sunday, February 11.**



WEEKLY CALENDAR

*Do you receive our Friday Announcements email? Contact office@fccb.net to sign up!
For more information, see our Connection Calendar in the Friday email
or contact office@fccb.net.*

Sunday

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

Monday

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

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

Poetry Group: **1st & 3rd Mondays 7:00 pm**, Zoom

Tuesday

Book Club: **1st Tuesdays, 9:30 am**, Fireplace Room

Pilgrim Circle: **2nd Tuesdays, 12:00 noon**, Narthex

Green Team: **2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 7:00 pm**, Mt. Baker Room

Wednesday

Glee Club: weekly, **3:00 pm**, Narthex

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

Thursday

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

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

Thursday Book Group: **Thursdays, 5:00 pm**, Zoom

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

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

Friday

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

Sunday

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

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

Handbells: weekly, **11:30 am**, Room 16

*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.

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

Office Hours: 10:00 am-5:00 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

OFFICE MANAGER: Cydne Cochran, she/her

CUSTODIAN/MAINTENANCE:

Kurt Aagard, he/him

BOOKKEEPER:

Eric Bowen

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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