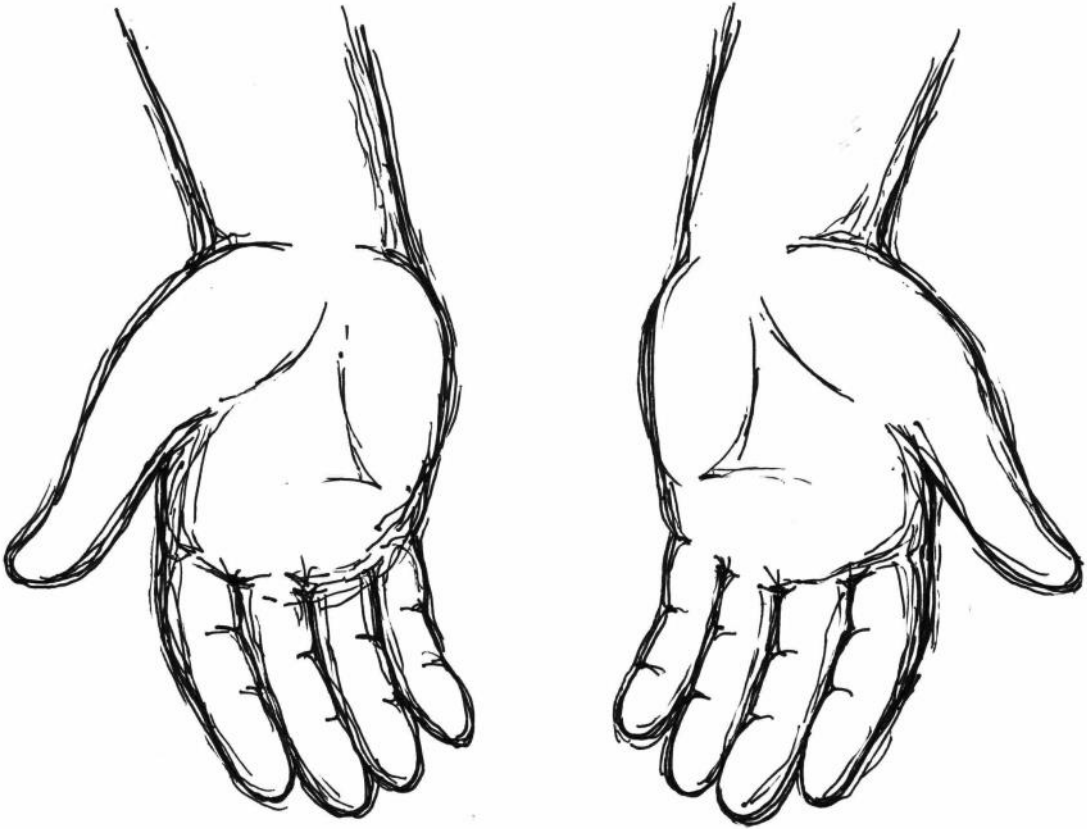


Easter!
A Humble Faith:
A Little Bit Brave
March 31, 2024



EASTER SUNDAY

March 31, 2024

10:00 am

PRELUDE

“En Bateau”

Alia Kerr & Lucy Bledig

WELCOME

Davi Weasley

RINGING THE BELL

INTROIT

“Jubilate Deo”
by Peter Anglea

One Accord

THE STORY

Sharon Benton

**Rise in body or spirit*

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Janet Ott

One Voice: Have you heard the good news?

All Voices: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

One Voice: Don't be afraid to shout it out.

All Voices: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

One Voice: Whatever fears are holding you back—

All Voices: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

One Voice: New life always emerges!

All Voices: Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen, indeed!

***HYMN 233** (black hymnal) "Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

EASTER HYMN

TIME WITH CHILDREN

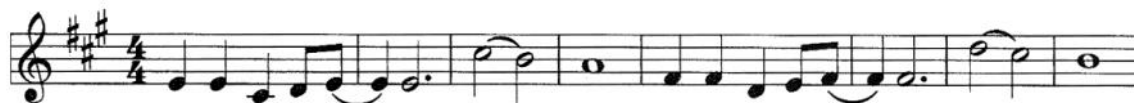
Davi Weasley

SUNG RESPONSE

"Halle, Halle, Halle"

HALLELUIA

Kim Menninga, American Sign Language



Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.



Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le - lu-ja, hal - le - lu - ja.

COMMUNITY PRAYER

by SAB

Janet Ott

One Voice: The sun rises on hope,
stretching warming rays across every stone, every branch,
every blade of grass.

**All Voices: The sun rises on hope,
touching our tired, cried-out eyelids,
and encouraging them to open, see the new day.**

One Voice: This is the light of your love, O God;
the hope of your resurrection, O Christ.

**All Voices: These are waking moments when we sense something shift –
a lightening of sorrow or fear or pain;
an easing of daily concerns;
a vision for a way through death-dealing moments into new life
here and now.**

One Voice: Touch us, O Spirit, with healing hope for this new day.
Send your rays of love reaching into our shadowed lives,
that we may see the stone
rolled away
from all our tombs

**All Voices: 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.**

***HYMN 231** (black hymnal) “Because You Live, O Christ”

VREUCHTEN

A READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Mark 16:1-8

Janet Ott

New Revised Standard Version

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Janet Ott

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

“A Humble Faith:
A Little Bit Brave”

Sharon Benton
Davi Weasley

ANTHEM

“I Know That My Redeemer Lives”
by Dan Forrest

Chancel Choir

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING

Sharon Benton

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 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 below or on the back cover of the bulletin.



MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Alia Kerr

What fears hold you back from proclaiming Good News of what God makes possible?

How might you allow resurrection to lead you forward?



1 Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!
 2 Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.
 3 Christ is ris - en! Earth and heav - en nev - er - more shall be the same.



Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der: all cre - a - tion is a - mazed.
 Walk with glad - ness in the morn - ing. See what love can do and dare.
 Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.



In the des - ert all - sur - round - ing, see, a spread - ing tree has grown.
 Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not a ser - vant, but a friend.
 Tell its grim, de - mon - ic cho - rus: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"



Heal - ing leaves of grace a - bound - ing bring a taste of love un - known.
 Je - sus is our strong com - pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.
 God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na ev - ery - one!

In commenting on this late 20th-century text, the author has stressed his intention to affirm the social implications of an Easter faith: "Christian peace and justice action finds its wellspring, not in moral zeal or guilty conscience, but in the resurrection."

***BENEDICTION**

Sharon Benton

One Voice: Go out and tell the world:
All Voices: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
One Voice: Don't be afraid to shout it out.
All Voices: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
One Voice: Whatever fears are holding you back—
All Voices: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
One Voice: New life always emerges!
All Voices: Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen, indeed!

POSTLUDE

"Halleluia Chorus"
by G.F. Handel, arr. James Koerts

Alia Kerr & Lucy Bledig

*Join in the Easter Egg Hunt after worship for children 5th grade and younger
at the Cornwall Tot Lot next to the church.*

happy
EASTER

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-4:30 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, he/him

WORSHIP MEDIA COORDINATOR:

Georgia Drost, she/they

MODERATOR: Scott Ward, he/him

PAST MODERATOR: Mark Schofield

CLERK: Janet Malley, she/her

TREASURER: Craig Jennings

OneLicense #A-718199

CCS #12615

