

Becoming Church: Arguing Daily

May 5, 2024



FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

May 5, 2024

10:00 am

"There is no such thing as a solo dream." ~ adrienne maree brown

PRELUDE

Judy Widrig

WELCOME

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 or in the Narthex.

Their movements back and forth are a joy for us.

RINGING THE BELL

WELCOME SONG

"Be Not Afraid"

Find a rhythm with an egg shaker!

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of two systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are: "Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!". The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand. The vocal line has a simple melody with some notes circled in the original image. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Text: Taizé Community
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
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**Rise in body or spirit*

THE STORY

Davi Weasley

TIME WITH CHILDREN

John Mark Slagle

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

***HYMN 408 (red hymnal)**

“Gift of Love”

GIFT OF LOVE

WE ARE A NURTURING, BELOVED COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Dick Porter

One Voice: We don't want to inconvenience our neighbors,

All Voices: And so we don't meet our neighbors.

One Voice: We don't want to trouble those in power,

All Voices: And so power goes untroubled.

One Voice: We don't want to burden our friends,

All Voices: And so we carry our loads alone.

One Voice: We're afraid we might say it wrong,

All Voices: So we keep beauty to ourselves.

One Voice: Teach us, God, to speak, with love

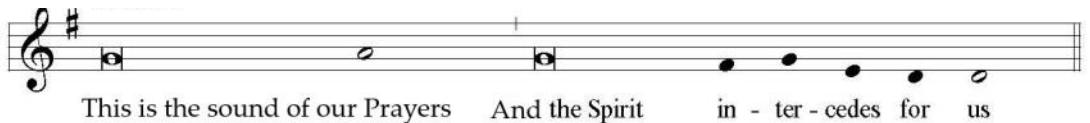
All Voices: Teach us, God, to speak with love.

SUNG PRAYER

“With Sighs Too Deep for Words”

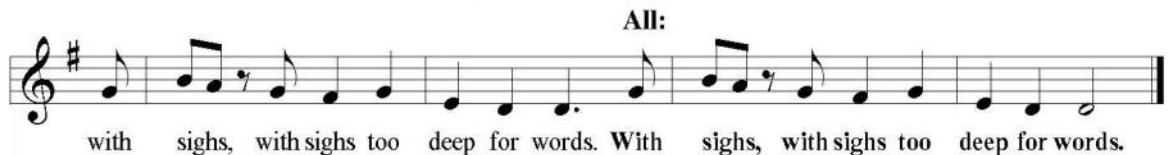
Davi Weasley

by Anne Krentz Organ. Used with permission.



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.fccb.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

Acts 17:16-32

Dick Porter

New Revised Standard Version

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Dick Porter

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

“Becoming Church: Arguing Daily”

Davi Weasley

MUSICAL MEDITATION

“Many Gifts, One Spirit”
by Allen Pote

Chancel Choir

WE ARE LIVING CHRIST-INSPIRED ACTION.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Sung Invitation

Come, Let Us Bring

By Billema Kwillia & Marty Haugen

*Come let us bring our gifts to God in praise,
So that we might minister in countless ways.
Come, let us bring the warm and fragrant bread,
Broken here so all God's people might be fed.
Come, let us bring the sweet, abundant wine.
In this cup, we taste the joy of grace divine.*

Sharing the Elements

You may come forward to receive communion or if you wish to remain seated, someone will come around to you in your seat. Raise a hand or indicate that you would like communion as they come around. If you come forward you will be on the video stream.

*You may either dip your bread in the communal cup
or take a single-serving of juice from the center server.*

*If you're worshipping at home, gather something to eat and drink:
the risen Christ will meet you right where you are.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING

Davi Weasley

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://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 on the back cover of the bulletin.

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

Judy Widrig



1. Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sound a bold and
 2. Sing a new world in - to be - ing Where each gen - der,
 3. Sing a new world in - to be - ing Where the home - less
 4. Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Join the an - cient



hope - ful theme. Find a tune for si - lent yearn - ings.
 class, and race Brings its rain - bow gifts and col - ors
 find a home, Where no chil - dren ev - er hun - ger
 proph - ets' cry For a time of health and plen - ty



Lend your voice and dare to dream: Dream a church where
 To God's lim - it - less em - brace; Where the lines that
 But are filled in God's sha - lom; Where all peo - ple
 When all tears have been wiped dry; When com - pas - sion



all who wor - ship Find their lives and loves be - long.
 once di - vid - ed Form in - stead the ties that bind.
 work for jus - tice, Where all hate and venge - ance cease.
 flows like wa - ters, Pour - ing balm for all who grieve.



Sing a new world in - to be - ing.
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing:
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing:
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing:



Sing as Christ in - spires your song!
 Risk trans - form - ing heart and mind!
 Raise the har - mo - nies of peace.
 Live the prom - ise you be - lieve!

***BENEDICTION**

Davi Weasley

POSTLUDE

Judy Widrig

COMMUNION ELEMENT INGREDIENTS:

*Communion loaf— whole wheat flour, molasses, yeast, salt. Juice— grape juice, vitamin C.
Gluten free bread—sorghum, tapioca, millet & rice flours; sea salt, honey, canola oil, water, ginger ale, egg.*

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

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