

Bridge 141

July 14, 2024

What's Going
On?

Church Is
Changing
(Like Usual)

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 14, 2024

10:00 am

Without community, there is no liberation, only the most vulnerable and temporary armistice between an individual and her oppression. ~ Audre Lorde

*There are two questions that you must ask yourself.
The first is "Where am I going?" and the second is "Who will go with me?"
If you ever get these questions in the wrong order, you are in trouble.
~ Howard Thurman*

PRELUDE

Judy Widrig

WELCOME

Sharon Benton

We love children in worship—their noises and wiggles are welcome, too. There are pillows and a coloring, book, and play area in the front and in the corner near the windows. Younger kids may enjoy the Narthex play area. Their movements back and forth are a joy for us as they participate fully.

RINGING THE BELL

WELCOME SONG

"Woyaya/We Are Going"
by Osibisa

*Rise in body or spirit

During the summer, children are welcome to move about, sharing in the activities in the children's corner or moving to the tables and pillows in the front.

*HYMN 177 (black hymnal)

"God of Change & Glory"

KATHERINE

WE ARE A NURTURING, BELOVED COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY PRAYER

*from **enfleshed***

One Voice: We gather in the presence of God to encounter Love that sets free.

All Voices: We do not come seeking crumbs of justice but a way of life that liberates.

One Voice: Together, we practice courage in resisting evil and rejecting the temptations of complicity and complacency.

All Voices: The Spirit leads us in power and truth.

One Voice: Our faith is placed in Love Eternal that lifts broken spirits and brings new life from places of ruin.

All Voices: With hope that is neither narrow nor fragile, we come to follow Christ.

SUNG PRAYER

"Take, O Take Me As I Am"



Take, O take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall



be; set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.

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

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Common English Bible

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

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

Reflections from Bridge 141 Conversations
**Bridge 141 is the title of our work seeking to bridge
the 141-year-old history of First Congregational
UCC with our future as a thriving ministry within
the wider Bellingham community.*

Sharon Benton
Randy Flowers
Jill York
Joy Brown

MUSICAL REFLECTION

“You Are Welcome Here”

Linda Allen

by Linda Allen. Used with permission.
*No matter who you are, where you've traveled
If all you've known has come unraveled
Are you tired? Too tired to bear it?
We will walk with you, we will share it*

*You are welcome here, welcome here
You are welcome here.*

*No matter who you are, what name you choose
The miles you walked In someone else's shoes
Who you are, the work you do,
Does not define our care for you*

*You are welcome here, welcome here.
You are welcome here.*

*If you feel loved, and long to share it
If you feel lonely, we'll help you bear it.
If you are strong, strong as an oak tree
If you're a river seeking mystery*

*You are welcome here, welcome here.
You are welcome here.*

WE ARE LIVING CHRIST-INSPIRED ACTION.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Eero True Huffman

Pastor: And do you who witness and celebrate this sacrament make your covenant with Eero?

People: We joyfully welcome you, Eero, as you are baptized into our covenant community. We offer ourselves to be your siblings, uncles and aunts, grandparents, and cousins in Christ. We join in the covenant that your family acknowledges this day. We offer our understanding and support as you explore your faith, and we enfold you in our love and the love of God as we know it.

Prayer: God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference. Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING

Page

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.



MUSICAL OFFERING

“Song for Rachel”

Linda Allen

by Linda Allen. Used with permission.

*HYMN 391 (black hymnal)

“In the Midst of New Dimensions”
verses 1, 3, 5

NEW DIMENSIONS

*BENEDICTION & PASSING THE PEACE

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POSTLUDE

Judy Widrig

*Judy will play quietly underneath our connecting with one another.
May you go out in peace and justice!*

Please remain in the Sanctuary after worship for our Midyear Congregational Meeting

This meeting will be an in-person time of creative idea sharing, dreaming,
and collaboration. It will be lively, full, and messy!

We are asking “What does it mean to live into our Vision?”

Our Vision:

*We are a nurturing beloved community,
growing authentic Christian faith, living Christ-inspired action.*

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**

Page **page@fccb.net**

Davi: **on parental leave**

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
(on parental leave)**

INTERIM PASTOR: Page, she/they
CHURCH SCHOOL COORDINATOR:

Josh Marchand, they/them

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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