




Summer Hymn Sing
August 18, 2024

FAITH 
is the bird
that feels the **LIGHT** 
and **sings**  when the
dawn is still **dark.**

-Rabindranath Tagore

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 18, 2024

10:00 am

"Music can change the world because it can change people."

~ Bono

The song of rejoicing softens hard hearts. It makes tears of godly sorrow flow from them.

Singing summons the Holy Spirit. Happy praises offered in simplicity and love

lead the faithful to complete harmony, without discord. Don't stop singing."

~ Hildegard von Bingen

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

*We are going / Heaven knows where we are going / But we know within
And we'll get there / Heaven knows how we will get there / But we know we will*

*It will be hard we know / And the road will be muddy and rough
But we'll get there / Heaven knows how we will get there / But we know we will*

*Rise in body or spirit

THE STORY

Sharon Benton

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Davi Weasley

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.

HYMNS

Please shout out a hymn number.

WE ARE A NURTURING, BELOVED COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY PRAYER

from "Improv on Psalm 150"

Janet Ott

by Maren Tirabassi

One Voice: Praise God in the sanctuary ...

All Voices: OK. Let's get real!

One Voice: Praise God with the choice of music –

All Voices: with music that challenges

One Voice: and the sweet familiar fall-back

when all the tenors have flu,

All Voices: and the kind response to the ninety-five year old who wants to hear "Brother James' Air."

One Voice: Praise God, of course, with praise band

and dance choir, Sign and bells,

children's choirs, clavinova and U2charist ...

All Voices: but also praise God mostly with my heart open to somebody else's playlist.

One Voice: Let everyone who has breath praise God.

All Voices: Let everyone who has breath make music to praise God.

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.

Text: John L. Bell, b.1949
Tune: John L. Bell, b.1949
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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharon Benton

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

Isaiah 55:12

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.

HYMNS

Please shout out a hymn number.

WE ARE LIVING CHRIST-INSPIRED ACTION.

TESTIMONY

Darlene Mathias

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://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 on the back cover of the bulletin.

MUSICAL OFFERING

Judy Widrig

HYMNS

Please shout out a hymn number.

***BENEDICTION & PASSING THE PEACE**

Davi Weasley

POSTLUDE

Judy Widrig

Many thanks to Judy Widrig for all the sight-reading of hymns this morning!

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 (easy, paved, all welcome)

Church Council: **4th Mondays, 7:00 pm**, Mt. Baker Room

Poetry Group: **1st & 3rd Mondays 7:00 pm**, Zoom (a theme is posed each time)

Tuesday

Pilgrim Circle: **2nd Tuesdays, 12:00 noon**, Narthex (women's gathering to learn about and support local programs)

Green Team: **2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 7:00 pm**, Zoom and/or Mt. Baker Room (caring for the earth)

Wednesday

Glee Club: weekly, **5:00 pm**, Narthex (all levels singing American folk favorites)

Thursday

Men's Breakfast Group, **1st Thursday, 9:00 am**, Country Club. (men's conversation)

Thursday Book Group: **2nd & 4th Thursdays, 5:00 pm**, Fireplace Room (timely nonfiction)

20-Somethings Peer Philosophy Group: weekly, **7:00 pm**, Fireplace Room (conversation for 20s)

Friday

Game Night: **3rd Fridays, 6:00-9:00 pm**, Room 32 (all ages)

Saturday

Centering Prayer Group: **Saturdays, 11:00 am**, Chapel (silence together, all welcome)

*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**

Davi's office hours will be on
Sunday, Monday, & Tuesday

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

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

VICE MODERATOR: Diane Cooper-Schick

PAST MODERATOR: Mark Schofield

CLERK: Janet Malley, she/her

TREASURER: Craig Jennings

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