

All Saints/All Souls Sunday

Living Love

November 3, 2024



Vision Statement:

We Are a Nurturing, Beloved Community.
We Are Growing Authentic Christian Faith.
We Are Living Christ-Inspired Action.

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 3, 2024

10:00 am

Love takes off the masks that we fear we cannot live without and know we cannot live within.
-James Baldwin

*My heart cannot confront
this death without relief
My soul will not control
this leaking of my grief*

*And this is for Crazy Horse singing as he dies
And here is my song for the living
who must sing against the dying
sing to join the living
with the dead
-June Jordan*

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

*Rise in body or spirit

WE ARE A NURTURING, BELOVED COMMUNITY

WELCOME SONG

“Love Is Love, Love Is Love”

A



Love, love, love. All we need is love, love, love. All we need is

B



Love is love is love is love. Love is love is love is love.

Detailed description: The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). Staff A is a single line of music with lyrics underneath. Staff B starts with a measure rest labeled '5' and continues with lyrics underneath. Both staves end with a double bar line and repeat dots.

by Abbie Betinis. Used under CCS License #12615.

THE STORY

Sharon Benton

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Joyce Sweeney

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

*HYMN 499 (black hymnal)

“In All Our Living”
English verses

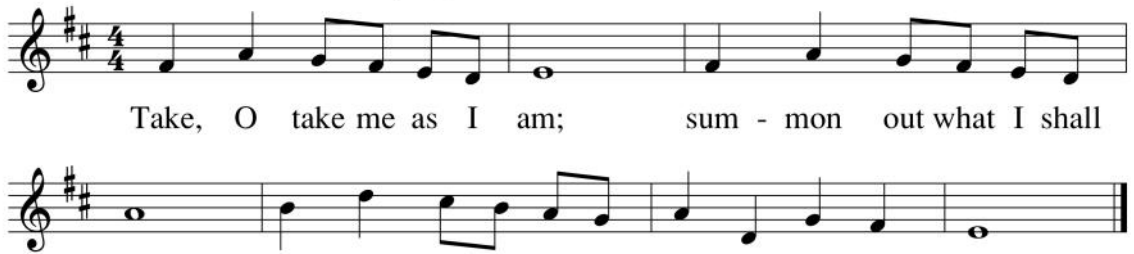
PUES SI VIVIMOS

COMMUNITY PRAYER

One Voice: Here in this place of worship, we are surrounded, O God:
All Voices: surrounded by a cloud of witnesses, our histories' saints,
One Voice: surrounded by the Holy Spirit's embrace,
All Voices: surrounded by prayers seeped into beams and stone,
One Voice: surrounded by people who care.
All Voices: Here in this place of worship,
we are surrounded by humanity and Holiness.
Thank you, God: we are not alone

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
© 1995, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Used under OneLicense.net #A-718199

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & REMEMBRANCE RITUAL

Sharon Benton

Today we will name those members and friends of First Congregational Church who have died since our All Saints Celebration 2023. We will then invite any of you who wish to speak a loved one's name who has died this year to come forward to the microphone (please note you'll be on the video feed) or write in the Facebook comments a name we may read aloud.

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 John 4:7-12

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

"Living Love"

Sharon Benton

A GIFT OF MUSIC

"Unclouded Day"
Arr. by Shawn Kirchner

One Accord

WE ARE LIVING CHRIST-INSPIRED ACTION.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Sung Invitation

Allison Thomas & Dallas Geil

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

Communion Music

Judy Widrig

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.



MUSICAL OFFERING

"A Beautiful Land"
by Benjamin David Knoedler

One Accord

*Hymn 299 (black hymnal)

"For All the Saints"
verses 1, 2, 4

SINE NOMINE

***BENEDICTION & PASSING THE PEACE**

Sharon Benton

POSTLUDE

Judy Widrig

The postlude will play as we share the peace of Christ

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

INTERIM MUSIC COORDINATOR:

Dallas Geil, he/him (music@fccb.net)

WORSHIP MEDIA COORDINATOR:

Georgia Drost, she/they

MODERATOR: Scott Ward, he/him

VICE MODERATOR:

Diane Cooper-Schick, she/her

PAST MODERATOR: Mark Schofield

CLERK: Janet Malley, she/her

TREASURER: Craig Jennings

OneLicense #A-718199

CCS #12615

