

Amazed by Faith

February 9, 2025



first congregational
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
timeless worship + modern faith

Vision Statement:

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

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
February 9, 2025 10:00 am

PRELUDE

Judy Widrig

WELCOME

Davi Weasley

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

WE ARE A NURTURING, BELOVED COMMUNITY

WELCOME SONG

“You Are Welcome Here”
by Gerard DeMan

G D G A D G/D D G A
You are wel - come here, no mat-ter who you are,
6 G D D G D C G A D
no mat-ter where you are, on life's jour - ney, you are wel-come here.

Used with permission.

*Rise in body or spirit

THE STORY

Davi Weasley

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Sharon Benton

After Time with Children, children may go with Josh to church school in the social hall or remain in the sanctuary as they choose.

***HYMN 20**(black hymnal)

“God of Abraham & Sarah”

CONSTANTINE

COMMUNITY PRAYER: *written for BibleWorm by Rev. Teri Peterson, alt.*

Kris Johnson

One Voice: Power and vulnerability

All Voices: Asking and advocating

One Voice: Mutual friendship and useful networks

All Voices: Compassion and action

One Voice: All of these come together in you, Jesus, to bring life

All Voices: All of these come together in your call to us. Amen.

SUNG PRAYER

“Gather Us, O God”

by Monica Brown

♩ = 62

Gath-er us, O God, Bod-y, spir - it, soul and mind. Gath-er

8 us, O God one in un - ion now with you.

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

Luke 7:1-10

Kris Johnson

Common English Bible

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Kris Johnson

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

"Amazed by Faith"

Sharon Benton

A GIFT OF MUSIC

"The Times, They Are a Changin'"
by Bob Dylan, arr. Adam Todd

One Accord

WE ARE LIVING CHRIST-INSPIRED ACTION.

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://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.

MUSICAL OFFERING

“We Are Not Alone”
by Pepper Choplin

One Accord

ENDING AN AUTHORIZED MINISTRY

from the UCC Book of Worship

Past Moderator: On March 1, 2017, this local church called the Rev. Davi Weasley to serve as our Pastor.

Pastor Davi: I thank First Congregational Church of Bellingham, United Church of Christ, its members and friends, for the love, kindness, and support shown me these last 8 years. I ask forgiveness for the mistakes I have made. I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been accepted. As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.

People: We receive your thankfulness, offer our forgiveness, and accept that you now leave to minister elsewhere.

We express our gratitude for your time among us.

We ask your forgiveness for our mistakes.

Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave us at your departure.

Pastor Davi: I forgive you and accept your gratitude, trusting that our time together and our parting are pleasing to God.

Past Moderator: Do you, the members and friends of First Congregational Church of Bellingham, United Church of Christ release Davi Weasley from the duties of Pastor?

People: **We do, with the help of God.**

Past Moderator: *Do you offer your encouragement for their ministry soon to begin as Pastor of Everett United Church of Christ?*

People: **We do, with the help of God.**

Past Moderator: *Do you, Davi, release this local church from turning to you and depending on you?*

Pastor Davi: I do, with the help of God.

Past Moderator: *Do you offer your encouragement for the continued ministry here?*

Pastor Davi: I do, with the help of God.

(Any members of Church Council come forward)

PNCUCC: On behalf of the Pacific Northwest Conference and the United Church of Christ, I witness to the words spoken: words of thankfulness, forgiveness, and release. The member churches of our conference hold each of you in prayer. We pledge our support in the transitions signified in this service.

Council: *Thanks be to God.*

Pastor Sharon: Let us pray. O God, we give thanks for remembered times when we, together, have shared the life of faith. We thank you for the moments we have shared with Davi in worship in learning, in service. We pray that Davi will be aware of your Spirit's guidance as they begin ministry in a new place. In your many names we pray:

All: **Amen.**

***HYMN 286** (black hymnal)

"Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

SPIRIT

***BENEDICTION & PASSING THE PEACE**

Sharon Benton

POSTLUDE

Judy Widrig



HAPPY EPIPHANY.

First Congregational Church
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
JUSTICE. KINDNESS. HUMILITY
Worship 10:00 AM **WWW.FCCB.NET** Church School 10:00 AM



HAPPY EPIPHANY.

**EVERYBODY'S A STAR AT
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
BELLINGHAM.**

FACEBOOK.COM/FCCBUCC

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

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