

It's Easter! What Now?!

April 20, 2025



Vision Statement:

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

EASTER SUNDAY

April 20, 2025

10:00 am

PRELUDE

Judy Widrig

INTROIT

"On That Great, Great Mornin'"
by Mary McDonald

One Accord

WELCOME

Sharon Benton

One Voice: Hallelujah—Christ is risen!

All Voices: **Christ is risen indeed—hallelujah!**

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

"Halle, Halle, Halle"

Caribbean Folk Song



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HALLE, HALLE
Irregular

**Rise in body or spirit*

THE STORY

by Iona Community The Women at the Tomb
Heather Anderson, Scout Mitchell, Beth Tyne

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Sharon Benton

*After Time with Children, children may remain on the pillows or at the table
or back and forth as they choose.*

***HYMN 233** (black hymnal) “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

EASTER HYMN

COMMUNITY PRAYER

by Iona Community, alt.

Scout Mitchell

One Voice: In life, in death,
 in life beyond death,

All Voices: Jesus Christ is Sovereign.

One Voice: Over powers and principalities,
 over all who determine, control,
 govern or finance the affairs of humankind,

All Voices: Jesus Christ is Sovereign.

One Voice: Of the poor, of the broken,
 of the sinned against and the sinner

All Voices: Jesus Christ is Sovereign.

One Voice: Above the Church,
 beyond our most excellent theologies
 and in the quiet corners of our hearts,

All Voices: Jesus Christ is Sovereign.

One Voice: Thanks be to God.

All Voices: Alleluia! Amen.

A GIFT OF MUSIC

"Happy Day"

by Tim Hughes

Lucas Wagner, Amber Wagner, Josh Marchand, Dallas Geil

*The greatest day in history
Death is beaten, You have
rescued me*

Sing it out Jesus is alive

*The empty cross, the empty
grave*

*Life eternal You have won the
day*

*Shout it out, Jesus is alive
He's alive*

*And oh happy day, happy day
You washed my sin away
Oh happy day, happy day
I'll never be the same
Forever I am changed*

*When I stand, in that place
Free at last, meeting face to
face*

*I am Yours Jesus, You are
mine*

*Endless joy, perfect peace
Earthly pain finally will cease
Celebrate, Jesus is alive
He's alive!*

*And oh happy day, happy day
You washed my sin away
Oh happy day, happy day
I'll never be the same*

*Oh what a glorious day
What a glorious way
That you have saved me!
And oh what a glorious day
What a glorious name*

*And oh happy day, happy day
You washed my sin away
Oh happy day, happy day
I'll never be the same, oh
Forever I am changed
What a glorious, glorious day
I'll never be the same*

WE ARE GROWING AUTHENTIC CHRISTIAN FAITH.

A READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Luke 24:1-12

Scout Mitchell

Common English Bible

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

"Hallelujah"

Palestinian Traditional



*HYMN

"Christ Is Alive"

TRURO



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 3 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where col - or,
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 this and ev - ery age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

In 1968 Easter fell ten days after the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., and this text was written to express an Easter hope while mindful of that terrible event. Buoyed by a triple-arched tune, it affirms the presence of a wounded, risen Christ with all who suffer.

TEXT: Brian Wren, 1968, rev. 1995

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TRURO

MUSIC: *Musica Sacra*, c. 1778

LM

Text © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company

WE ARE LIVING CHRIST-INSPIRED ACTION.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING

Sharon Benton

You may make an offering either in the plates 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

Vivaldi Trumpet Duet
Oscar Fegley, EJ Lin, Judy Widrig

***HYMN 245** (black hymnal)

“The Day of Resurrection”

LANCASHIRE

***BENEDICTION & PASSING THE PEACE**

Sharon Benton

POSTLUDE

Judy Widrig



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

Our pastor is available by appointment virtually or in person. Contact her by email or call the pastoral care line, 360-733-4255.

Sharon sharon@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

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24/7 Emergency Pastoral Care: 360-733-4255

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Facebook: facebook.com/fccbucc

Office Hours:

9 am-5 pm, M, T, F & 1:00-5:00 pm W, Th

PASTOR: Sharon Benton, she/her

CHAPLAIN: Charlene Epp, she/her

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

Moxxy Rogers, she/her

MODERATOR: Diane Cooper-Schick, she/her

VICE MODERATOR: Jordan Sandoval

PAST MODERATOR: Scott Ward, he/him

CLERK: Janet Malley, she/her

TREASURER: Craig Jennings

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