

Honoring Civil Rights & Juneteenth

June 15, 2025



Vision Statement:

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

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
June 15, 2025 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 (we) must ask (ourselves). 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

*Rise in body or spirit

WE ARE A NURTURING, BELOVED COMMUNITY

WELCOME SONG

“Fire of God, Undying Flame” NUM KOMM DER HEIDEN HEILAND



1 Fire of God, un - dy - ing Flame, Spir - it who in splen-dor came,
2 Breath of God, that swept in power in the Pen - te - cos - tal hour,



Let your heat my soul re - fine, till it glows with love di - vine.
Ho - ly Breath, be now in me source of vi - tal en - er - gy.

by Albert F. Bayly, © 1998 Oxford University Press. Tune NUN KOMM DER HEIDEN HEILAND by Johann Walter, harmonized by Melchior Vulpius. Used under OneLicense.net #A-718199

THE STORY

Luke 8:1

Sharon Benton

*[Jesus] went on through one town and village after another,
proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kin-dom of God.*

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Dallas Geil

*After Time with Children, children may remain on the pillows, sit with their adults,
or use the coloring tables in the front or by the windows.*

*HYMN

"Don't You Let Nobody Turn You 'Round"

With resolve (♩ = 88)

Leader

1. Ain't gon-na let no - bod - y turn me 'round, turn me 'round,

SA

Turn me 'round, turn me 'round,

B

turn me 'round. Ain't gon-na let no - bod - y turn me 'round, I'm gon-na keep on a - walk-in',

turn me 'round. Turn me 'round, keep on a - walk-in',

keep on, keep on a -

On repeat Last time

keep on a - talk - in', march-ing up to free-dom land. 2. Ain't gon-na

keep on a - talk - in', march-ing up to free-dom land.

walk-in', keep on a - march-ing up to free-dom land.

Lyric Suggestions: 2. Ain't gonna let **segregation** (turn me 'round...) (or make up your own) 3. Ain't gonna let **racism** (turn me 'round...) 4. Ain't gonna let **no hatred** (turn me 'round...) 5. Ain't gonna let **nobody** (turn me 'round...)

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COMMUNITY PRAYER

by LL Kroouze DuBreuil

Janet Ott

(found in A Child Laughs, ed. by Mankin & Tirabassi)

One Voice: God of justice and mercy,
Where there is bigotry,

All Voices: let us envision love.

One Voice: Where we hear cruelty,

All Voices: let us speak kindness.

One Voice: Where we see injustice,

All Voices: let us act with righteousness.

One Voice: Where we lose justice,

All Voices: let us find mercy.

One Voice: Facing the brokenness of this world,

All Voices: we ask for courage to seek your healing.

One Voice: When the money changers fill your temple,

All Voices: let our anger be righteous and directed toward building your realm.

One Voice: This morning—and every morning that we draw breath—
we ask for strength to be your voice

All Voices: as we speak truth to power

One Voice: as we envision compassion and equity

All Voices: as we seek your justice, your mercy, and your peace. Amen.

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.

TESTIMONIES

Beth Tyne & Janet Ott

A GIFT OF MUSIC

“Make Me An Instrument of Thy Peace”
by Mary McDonald

Pickup Choir
Directed by Dallas Geil

WE ARE LIVING CHRIST-INSPIRED ACTION.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING

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 on the back cover of the bulletin.

MUSICAL OFFERING

“When We Are Singing”
by Kevin Padworski

Pickup Choir

***HYMN 593** (black hymnal)

“Lift Every Voice and Sing”

LIFT EVERY VOICE

Generations of Black artists never received royalties for the use of their music.

Today we acknowledge that injustice with a special offering given to Racial Unity Now (RUN).

*Add RUN to the memo of your check or online click “give to other”
and indicate RUN in the comments. More info at racialunitynow.org.*

***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**

Our Chaplain is also available at
chaplain@fccb.net.

Or you can 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:

9:30 am-4:30 pm, M-Th. 10:00 am-2:00 pm, F.

PASTOR: Sharon Benton, she/her

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY LIFE:

Scott Ward, he/him

CHAPLAIN: Charlene Epp, she/her

ORGANIST: Judy Widrig, she/her

INTERIM MUSIC COORDINATOR:

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

CHURCH SCHOOL/YOUTH COORDINATOR

Maya McEachern

WORSHIP MEDIA COORDINATOR

Moxxy Rogers, she/her

OFFICE MANAGER: Cydne Cochran, she/her

CUSTODIAN/MAINTENANCE:

Kurt Aagard, he/him

BOOKKEEPER: Eric Bowen, he/him

MODERATOR: Diane Cooper-Schick, she/her

VICE MODERATOR: Jordan Sandoval

CLERK: Janet Malley, she/her

TREASURER: Craig Jennings

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