

Awe Before Excellence: Pentecost

May 19, 2024



first  **congregational**
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
timeless worship + modern faith

PENTECOST SUNDAY

May 19, 2024

10:00 am

Concepts create idols, only wonder comprehends anything.
~ Gregory of Nyssa

Presence trumps performance every single time.
-Tim Soerens

PRELUDE

"Come, Holy Spirit, Come"

One Accord

Words by Don Besig and Nancy Price, Music by Don Besig.

WELCOME

Davi Weasley

We love children in worship—their noises and wiggles are welcome, too. There are pillows in the front where they can see the instruments and participate fully, or the coloring, book, and play area is available in the corner near the windows or in the Narthex.
Their movements back and forth are a joy for us.

RINGING THE BELL

**Rise in body or spirit*

WELCOME SONG

"Windy God" by Rachael Weasley

Windy God, take the fi-re of my tongue and let it sing for you! Windy
God, take the fi-re of my tongue and let it sing for you! Win-dy
God, take the fi-re of my tongue, Windy God, take the fi-re of my tongue and Windy
God, take the fi-re of my tongue and let it sing for you!

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THE STORY

Jim Hollander, Beth Tyne, Sharon Camblin

Where do you sense the Spirit encouraging you toward awe in this season?

Is there something new the Spirit is making a way for in your life?

Something that may never be perfect, but will help your spirit grow?

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Jen Sandoval

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

*HYMN 261 (black hymnal)

"Let Every Christian Pray"

LAUDES DOMINI

WE ARE A NURTURING, BELOVED COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY PRAYER

by Rev. M. Jade Kaiser, enfleshed

Janet Ott

One Voice: As the earth groans for restoration,
the Spirit comes to rouse your people, O God.

**All Voices: Her chaos births new worlds. Her fires spark movements.
She comforts those troubled by evil and agitates the apathetic.**

One Voice: Come and disturb our complacency. Come and inspire our courage.
Come and enliven all the lifeless places, tired with grief,
frustrated with struggle.

**All Voices: In community, make us a passionate people
with a wild and unruly practice of hope. Amen.**

SUNG PRAYER

“With Sighs Too Deep for Words”

Sharon Benton

by Anne Krentz Organ. Used with permission.



This is the sound of our Prayers And the Spirit in - ter - cedes for us

All:



with sighs, with sighs too deep for words. With sighs, with sighs too deep for words.

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

Acts 2:1-4

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.

SPIRIT SONG

“Circle Singing”

Christopher Giffen

SPIRIT SONG

"Windy God"

with Bridge 141



Windy God, take the fi-re of my tongue and let it sing for you! Windy

God, take the fi-re of my tongue and let it sing for you! Win-dy

God, take the fi-re of my tongue, Windy God, take the fi-re of my tongue and Windy

God, take the fi-re of my tongue and let it sing for you!

WE ARE LIVING CHRIST-INSPIRED ACTION.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING

Strengthen the Church

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://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 below or on the back cover of the bulletin.



MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION “Vox Spiritus (The Voice of the Spirit)”
Words by Joseph M. Martin, Music by Brad Nix.

One Accord

***HYMN 272** (black hymnal)

“On Pentecost They Gathered”

MUNICH

***BENEDICTION**

Sharon Benton

POSTLUDE & SHARING

Judy Widrig

*After the postlude we encourage you to share with someone
your response to today's questions:*

Where do you sense the Spirit encouraging you toward awe in this season?

Is there something new the Spirit is making a way for in your life?

Something that may never be perfect, but will help your spirit grow?

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**

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

MINISTER OF MUSIC: Lucy Bledig, she/her

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

PAST MODERATOR: Mark Schofield

CLERK: Janet Malley, she/her

TREASURER: Craig Jennings

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