

Resurrection Reactions: Cleopas

April 27, 2025



Vision Statement:

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

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EASTER
April 27, 2025 10:00 am

*Sometimes we don't see well the people who walk alongside us.
Sometimes we miss the deepest, truest parts of them.
Sometimes our companions surprise us, giving us a glimpse of what we might have seen,
had we been listening, looking, feeling beyond our assumptions, expectations, or fears...*

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

WE ARE A NURTURING, BELOVED COMMUNITY

WELCOME SONG

"Halle, Halle, Halle"

Caribbean Folk Song



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HALLE, HALLE
Irregular

THE STORY

Sharon Benton

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Joyce Sweeney

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

***HYMN 359** (black hymnal)

"O God, Who Teaches Us to Live"
verses 1,2,3,5

ST. ANNE

COMMUNITY PRAYER

by Rev. Teri Peterson

Connie Buckley

One Voice: Slow us down today, Living God—

**All Voices: for we are tempted to rush,
to get over it, move on,
take the next step.**

One Voice: Slow us down today
and re-settle us in your story,

**All Voices: that we may see ourselves in your word,
that scripture and life might intertwine
and show us your presence. Amen.**

SUNG INVITATION TO PRAYER

"Alleluia"

brightly

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Music by Norah Duncan IV © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc.

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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 24:13-33

Connie Buckley

Common English Bible

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

"Hallelujah"

Palestinian Traditional

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu.

5 Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu. Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu. Hal - le - lu - jah,

10 hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu.

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A GIFT OF MUSIC

Music by Leonard Cohen Lyrics by First Congregational Church's Poetry Group:

Amelia Bacon, Carletta Vanderbilt, Diane Bateman, John S Green,

Linda Conroy, Randy Flowers, Susan Huffman.

Verses sung by Scott Ward, Kay Marsh, Jeanne Quinn, Nancy Fayram,

Tom Schneider, & Leslee Probasco

Guitar: Craig Jennings & David Fayram. Cello: Darlene Mathias

Please sing along on the chorus.

*Here's a place for you and me
from bell to base, a century
of growing faith and finding strength within
you.*

*We come from near, we come from far
We bring ourselves just as we are,
with doubt, despair and questions, hallelujah.*

Chorus: *Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah,
hallelujah*

*Wherever we are on the road of life
in times of joy, in times of strife
our roots and stories we can share together.
Make place for children on the rug
we share our peace with each glad hug,
creating a communal hallelujah.*

Chorus

*Sometimes we've been called to feed,
and other times to plant a seed
we're learning as we listen to each other
Addressing inequality,
we'll build a strong community
in faith and peace, compassion, hallelujah.*

Chorus

*We need to look at where we'll go
to help restore this earth and so
responding to Your call we listen to You.
We'll work for justice, and we'll stride
stepping out to march with PRIDE.
Spirits rise and voices soar with hallelujah.*

Chorus

*We'll stand before the lord with song
and words that show us we belong
together as we live the life we're called to.
Bathed in the font of endless love,
we give our souls to God above
forever in this place of hallelujah.*

Chorus

WE ARE LIVING CHRIST-INSPIRED ACTION.

MOMENT OF APPRECIATION FOR 20+ YEARS OF MINISTRY

Judy Widrig

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

Judy Widrig

***HYMN 253** (black hymnal) “Yours Is the Glory, Resurrected One” JUDAS MACCABEUS
all English verses

***BENEDICTION & PASSING THE PEACE**

Sharon Benton

POSTLUDE

Judy Widrig

*Please join us in the Social Hall as we say farewell to
Josh Marchand, our Church School Coordinator.*

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

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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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