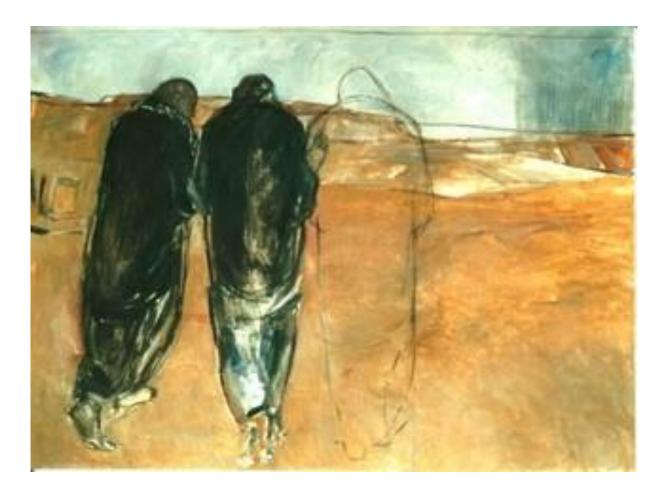
# Resurrection Reactions: Cleopas April 27, 2025





#### **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

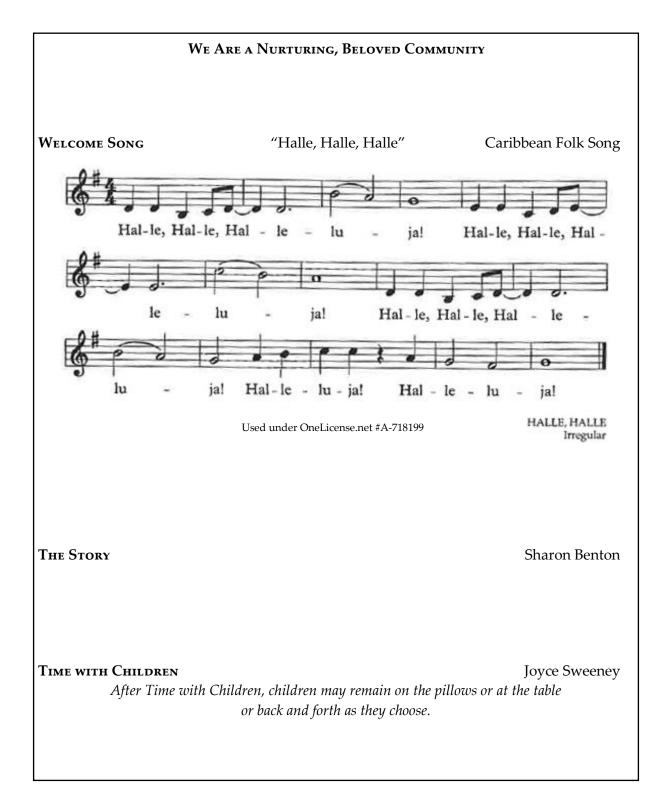
#### Welcome

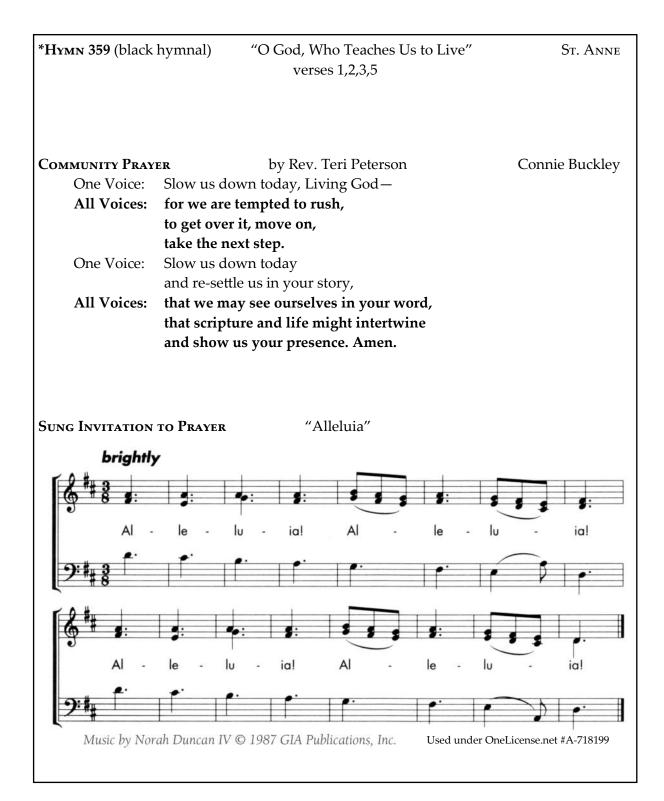
Sharon Benton

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** 

\*Rise in body or spirit





#### Sharon Benton

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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."

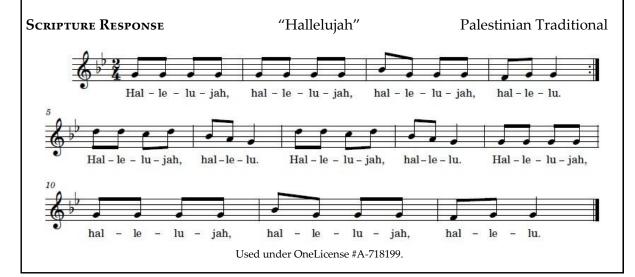
Our Creator who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, For thine is the kingdom, and the power, 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 Common English Bible **Connie Buckley** 



Sermon

## "Resurrection Reactions: Cleopas"

Sharon Benton

This sermon is used by permission of the author, Rev. Mark Havel

## 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 f	or 20+ Years of Ministry	Judy Widrig
<ul> <li>ANNOUNCEMENTS &amp; 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/. </li> <li>2) Mail checks to First Congregational Church, 2401 Cornwall Avenue, Bellingham, WA 98225.</li> <li>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.</li></ul>		
Musical Offering		Judy Widrig
<b>*Нүмм 253</b> (black hymnal)	"Yours Is the Glory, Resurrected One" all English verses	Judas Maccabeus
*Benediction & Passing th	e 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 office@fccb.net • www.fccb.net 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 OneLicense #A-718199, CCS #12615

