

Hymn Sing Sunday

August 10, 2025



first congregational
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
timeless worship + modern faith

Vision Statement:

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

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
August 10, 2025 10:00 am

*Sing and sing. And when you cannot raise a note of song,
the rocks will cry out. And when the echoing stones go still,
in the dangerous crevice that is your heart, if you lie still,
there remains an altar, a way to enter
a terrible holiness, a lush and delicate calm.
~ David Wright, from "A Liturgy for Stones"*

PRELUDE

Judy Widrig

WELCOME

Scott Ward

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

"God Welcomes All"

AMEN THEMBA

The image shows a musical score for a welcome song. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system of music has the lyrics: "God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;". The second system of music has the lyrics: "God's love is strong and it ne - ver ends.".

God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;

God's love is strong and it ne - ver ends.

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**Rise in body or spirit*

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Joyce Sweeney

*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 SING PART 1

Please shout out a hymn number; we'll try to get to as many hymns as possible.

COMMUNITY PRAYER

by Walter Brueggemann

Stacy Malone Miller

One Voice: We are people who must sing you,
for the sake of our very lives.

**All Voices: You are a God who must be sung by us,
for the sake of your majesty and honor.**

One Voice: And so we thank you,

**All Voices: for lyrics that push us past our reasons,
for melodies that break open our givens,
for cadences that locate us home,
beyond all our safe places,
for tones and tunes that open our lives beyond control
and our futures beyond despair.**

One Voice: We thank you for the long parade of parents
who have sung you deep and true;

**All Voices: We thank you for the good company
of artists, poets, musicians, cantors, and instruments
that sing for us and with us, toward you.**

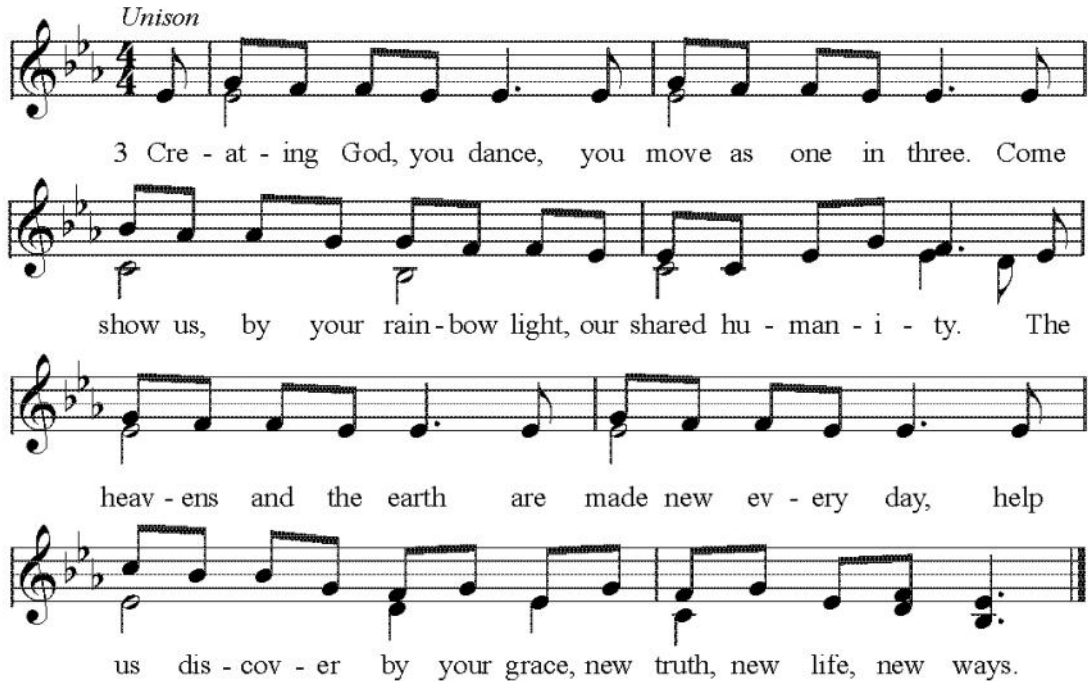
One Voice: We are witness to your mercy and splendor;

All Voices: we will not keep silent...ever again. Amen.

SUNG INVITATION TO PRAYER

"As Colors in the Sky"
(after the prayers, hum 1x through)

Unison



3 Cre - at - ing God, you dance, you move as one in three. Come
show us, by your rain-bow light, our shared hu - man - i - ty. The
heav - ens and the earth are made new ev - ery day, help
us dis - cov - er by your grace, new truth, new life, new ways.

WORDS and MUSIC: Daniel Charles Damon

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COLORS IN THE SKY

S.M.D.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Cheryl Smith

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

Psalm 100
The Inclusive Bible

Stacy Malone Miller

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Stacy Malone Miller

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.**

HYMN SING PART 2

Please shout out a hymn number; we'll try to get to as many hymns as possible.

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 below or on the back cover of the bulletin.



MUSICAL OFFERING

Judy Widrig

HYMN SING PART 3

Please shout out a hymn number; we'll try to get to as many hymns as possible.

*BENEDICTION

"Go Now in Peace"

GO IN PEACE

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in 2/2 time. It features three numbered measures: (1) 'Go now in peace, go now in peace, may the love of', (2) 'God sur-round you ev-ery-where, ev-ery-where you may go.', and (3) 'Fine'. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature of 2/2. The first measure is marked with a double bar line and a repeat sign. The second measure is marked with a double bar line and a repeat sign. The third measure is marked with a double bar line and a repeat sign. The score ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Keyboard, handbells,
and/or Orff instruments

Go now in peace, go now in peace, may the love of

God sur-round you ev-ery-where, ev-ery-where you may go.

Fine
(•)

May be sung as a canon

WORDS: Natalie Sleeth, 1976 (Lk. 2:29)

MUSIC: Natalie Sleeth, 1976

GO IN PEACE

Irr.

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PASSING THE PEACE

Diane Cooper Schick

One Voice: May the peace of Christ be with you

All Voices: And also with you!

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

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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 (scott@fccb.net)

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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