

The Life of a Faithful Failure

May 3, 2026



Vision Statement:

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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 3, 2026

10:00 am

PRELUDE

Judy Widrig

RINGING THE BELL

WE ARE A NURTURING, BELOVED COMMUNITY

WELCOME SONG

“Love & Justice”

Love and jus - tice, peace and pow'r show us how to live each hour, raise us
neigh - bors; tell your friends, here's a place hope nev - er ends. Love and

6 up and set us free, show us how to live and be... Tell your
jus - tice, peace and pow'r! God is with us in this hour! God is

11 with us in this hour! God is with us in this hour!_____

2008 June Christine Goudey and John Glenn Paton

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 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.*

THE STORY

Sharon Benton

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Maya McEachern

After Time with Children, children may go with Maya to church school in the social hall or remain in the sanctuary as they choose.

*Rise in body or spirit



1 Seek - ing warmth from char - coal blaz - ing, Pe - ter fought the
 2 Bread and fish, a fire - side break - fast for a wea - ry
 3 Ques - tions asked and an - swers giv - en, time - less fac - es



chill night air. Some - one spoke, "I saw you with him." Pe - ter
 fish - ing crew. Je - sus que - ried, "Do you love me?" Pe - ter
 warmed by flame; bit - ter night of love's de - ni - al, with the



said, "Not me. I swear." Two more times was Pe - ter ques - tioned,
 said, "You know I do." Two more times his mas - ter ques - tioned,
 dawn re - demp - tion came. We still hear these an - cient voic - es



two more times he an - swered "No!" Then from deep with - in the
 two more times did Pe - ter vow. "Feed my lambs," was Je - sus'
 and the les - son that they give. "Do you love me?" is the



shad - ows came the prom - ised roost - er crow.
 bid - ding. "Tend my sheep; they need you now."
 ques - tion meant to guide us as we live.

COMMUNITY PRAYER

by the Wild Goose Worship Group

Janet Ott

One Voice: Not... "Do you promise to be good, Peter?"

All Voices: Not... "Will you never let me down, Mary?"

One Voice: Not... "Do you understand everything, Gordon?"

All Voices: Not... "Will you never make a mistake, Sandra?"

One Voice: Not even... "Can I trust you, Peter?"

but... "Do you love me?"

All Voices: and "Do you love me?"

and "Do you love me?"

One Voice: And to us... whether we are long-time disciples,

... or just curious,

you come with the same question.

**All Voices: Because love is the rock
on which you build your church;
there is nothing stronger.**

One Voice: So, Jesus,

let us, with Peter, say,

All Voices: "Yes, Teacher, you know that I love you,"

One Voice: and then, with Peter,

follow you

**All Voices: today
and tomorrow
and for ever. Amen.**

SUNG PRAYER

"Alleluia"

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharon Benton

Anyone may share a brief joy or concern

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

John 21:15-19

Janet Ott

New Revised Standard Version updated edition

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

“Alleluia”

LASST UNS ERFREUEN



Tune by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1901) Public domain.

SERMON

“The Life of a Faithful Failure”

Sharon Benton

GIFT OF MUSIC

“A Simple Song”

Joyce Parry-Moore

by Leonard Bernstein & Steven Lawrence Schwartz

WE ARE LIVING CHRIST-INSPIRED ACTION.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Communion Song

Come, Let Us Bring

By Billema Kwillia & Marty Haugen

*Come let us bring our gifts to God in praise,
So that we might minister in countless ways.
Come, let us bring the warm and fragrant bread,
Broken here so all God's people might be fed.
Come, let us bring the sweet, abundant wine.
In this cup, we taste the joy of grace divine.*

The Words of Institution & Prayer of Consecration

Sharing the Elements

You may come forward to receive communion or if you wish to remain seated, someone will come around to you in your seat. Raise a hand or indicate that you would like communion as they come around. If you come forward you will be on the video stream.

*You may either dip your bread in the communal cup
or take a single-serving of juice from the center server.*

*If you're worshipping at home, gather something to eat and drink:
the risen Christ will meet you right where you are.*

Communion Music

Judy Widrig

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INVITATION TO OFFERING

Scott Ward

*Your generosity allows us to serve God in this place and beyond.
There are several ways to give: 1) Go to: fcb.net/giving. 2) Make a check out to FCCB.
3) Use the Breeze app, if you're connected. 4) Text a dollar amount to (360) 205-1297.
5) Scan the QR code on the back cover of this bulletin.
6) Place cash or check in the offering plate.
Thank you!*

MUSICAL OFFERING

Judy Widrig

***HYMN**

"Would I Have Answered When You Called?"

KINGSFOLD

***BENEDICTION & PASSING THE PEACE**

Sharon Benton

POSTLUDE

Judy Widrig

Would I Have Answered when You Called



1. Would I have an - swered when you called, "Come,
 2. Would I have fol - lowed where you led Through
 3. Would I have matched my step with yours When
 4. O Christ, I can - not search my heart Through



fol - low, fol - low me!?" Would I at once have
 an - cient Gal - i - lee, On roads un - known, by
 crowds cried, "Cru - ci - fy!", When on a rock - y
 all its tan - gled ways, Nor can I with a



left be - hind Both work and fam - i - ly? Or
 ways un - tried, Be - yond se - cu - ri - ty? Or
 hill I saw A cross a - gainst the sky? Or
 cer - tain mind My stead - fast - ness ap - praise. I



would the old, fa - mil - iar round Have
 would I soon have hur - ried back Where
 would I too have slipped a - way And
 on - ly pray that when you call, "Come,



held me by its claim And kept the spark with -
 home and com - fort drew, Where truth you taught would
 left you there a - lone, A dy - ing king with
 fol - low, fol - low me!"; You'll give me strength be -



in my heart From burst - ing in - to flame?
 not dis - turb The or - dered world I knew?
 crown of thorns Up - on a ter - r'ble throne?
 yond my own To fol - low faith - ful - ly.

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

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24/7 Emergency Pastoral Care: 360-733-4255

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Facebook: facebook.com/fccbucc

Office Hours:

M, Th, F 9:00 am-5:00 pm;

T, 2:00-5:00 pm; W 9:00 am-1:00 pm

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
MUSIC COORDINATOR:

Dallas Geil, he/him (music@fccb.net)
**CHURCH SCHOOL/YOUTH
COORDINATOR:**

Maya McEachern, she/they
WORSHIP MEDIA COORDINATOR:

Moxxy Rogers, she/her
OFFICE MANAGER: Cydne Cochran, she/her
CUSTODIAN: Aidan Crane

BOOKKEEPER: Eric Bowen, he/him
MODERATOR: Jordan Sandoval, she/they
VICE MODERATOR: Kate Destler
PAST MODERATOR:

Diane Cooper-Schick, she/her
CLERK: Leigh Hjelmseth
TREASURER: Darlene Mathias

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