

How Can We Know the Way?

May 10, 2026



Vision Statement:

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

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 10, 2026

10:00 am

The apostles remembered what many modern Christians tend to forget – that what makes the gospel offensive isn't who it keeps out but who it lets in.

~ Rachel Held Evans

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

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

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

2008 June Christine Goudey and John Glenn Paton

*Rise in body or spirit

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

Cheryl Smith

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

***HYMN 331** (black hymnal)

“Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life ”

THE CALL

COMMUNITY PRAYERfrom *Die ernsthafte Christenpflicht*

One Voice: Compassionate Christ,
if you are my light,

All Voices: shine in me.

One Voice: If you are my life,

All Voices: live in me.

One Voice: If you are my jewel,

All Voices: adorn me with beauty.

One Voice: If you are my joy,

All Voices: rejoice in me.

One Voice: If I am your dwelling place,

All Voices: inhabit me.

One Voice: May I fully be your instrument,

that my body, my soul, and spirit may be holy.

All Voices: Eternal Way, lead me!

Eternal Truth, teach me!

Eternal Life, revive me!

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.

by Jerry Sinclair. Used under OneLicense #A-718199.

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 14:1-7

New Revised Standard Version updated edition

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

“Alleluia”

LASST UNS ERFREUEN



Tune by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1901) Public domain.

SERMON

“How Can We Know the Way?”

Sharon Benton

GIFT OF MUSIC

“Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled”
by Stephen DeCesare

One Accord

WE ARE LIVING CHRIST-INSPIRED ACTION.

TESTIMONY

Cathy Belben

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

"O Love"

One Accord

by Elaine Hagenberg

***HYMN 318** (red hymnal)

"Christ Is Alive"

TRURO

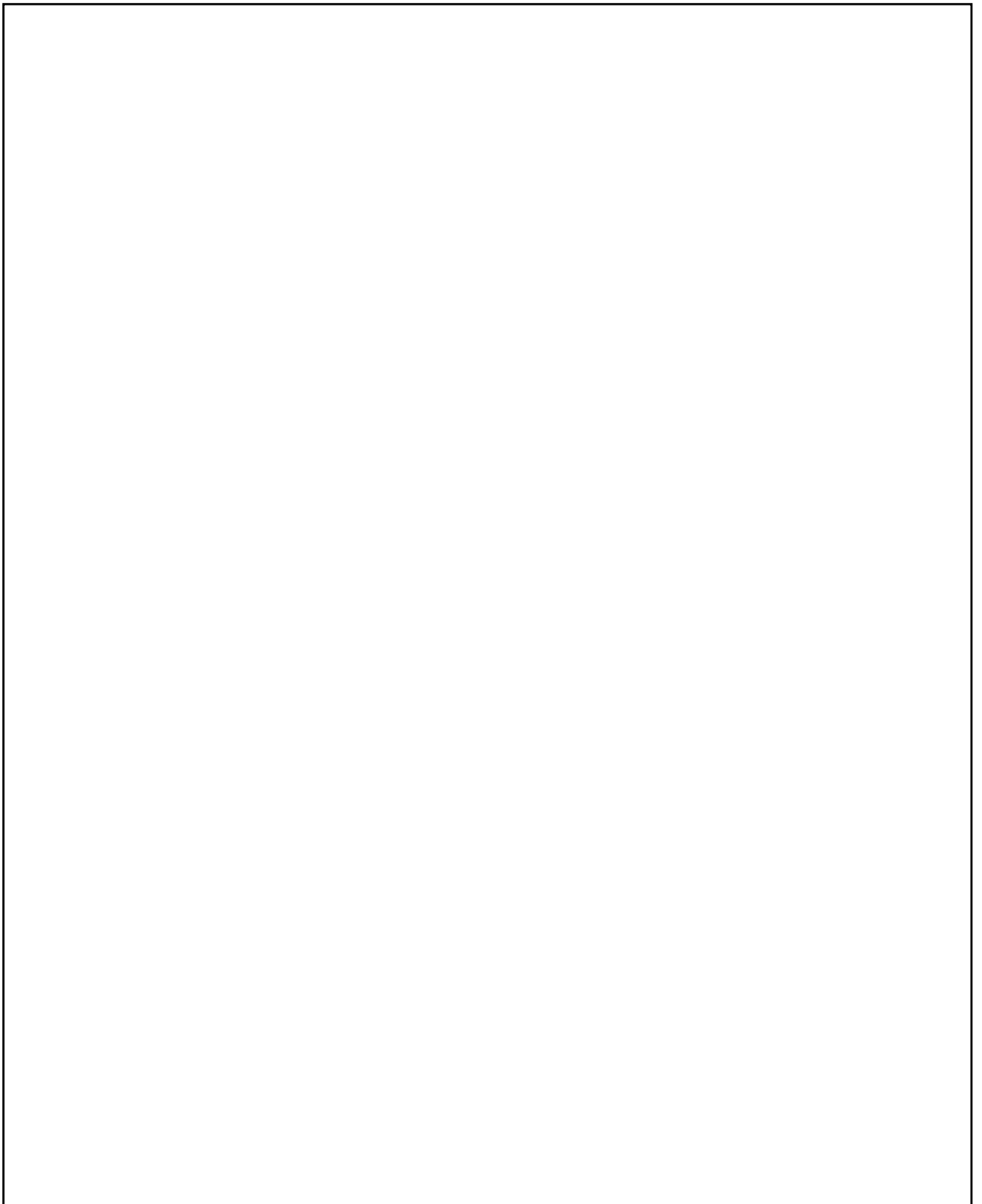
verses 1, 3, 4, 5

***BENEDICTION & PASSING THE PEACE**

Sharon Benton

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

office@fccb.net • www.fccb.net

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

OneLicense #A-71

CCS License #12615

