

# Our Truths Unraveled

## Pride Sunday

### July 12, 2026



#### **Vision Statement:**

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

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
July 12, 2026 10:00 am

*Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better.*  
~ Maya Angelou

PRELUDE

Judy Widrig

RINGING THE BELL

WE ARE A NURTURING, BELOVED COMMUNITY.

WELCOME SONG

"Restless Weaver"

BEACH SPRING

Rest-less Weav - er ev - er spin - ing threads of jus - tice and sha - lom;  
dreaming pat - terns of cre - a - tion where all crea - tures find a home;  
gathering up life's var - ied fi - bers ev - ery tex - ture, ev - ery hue:  
where Earth's frag - ile web is rav - eling, with us weave your world a - new.

Words: O. I. Cricket Harrison, Music: B. F. White. Used under OneLicense #A-718199.

*\*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.*

## TIME WITH CHILDREN

Sharon Benton

*After the commissioning, children may go with Maya and their adults to march in the parade or remain in the sanctuary with their adults.*

## COMMISSIONING PRIDE MARCHERS

Sharon Benton

**One Voice:** We all have gifts and passions given to us by the Spirit. Today we commission those marching in Bellingham's Pride Parade. I present to you these persons, marchers on behalf of our congregation, absent from us in worship, but carrying the love of God to all with whom they may interact on the parade route.

**All Voices:** **We stand among this incredible cloud of witnesses and today proclaim:**

**Where hatred roars, we will sing of love.**

**Where fear stalks, we will stand with courage.**

**Where bigotry rages, we will call for justice.**

**Where pain overwhelms, we will extend kind comfort.**

**Where systems oppress, we will work for change.**

**Now and ever, now and ever, now and evermore. Amen.**

**One Voice:** Go with courage and grace, sowing God's message of love with all, especially, today, the LGBTQ+ community of Whatcom County. Amen.

*Marchers go out together.*

\*HYMN

"Siyahamba"

SIYAHAMBA



We are march - ing in the light of God, we are  
Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-khos', si - ya -



march-ing in the light of God. We are march-ing in the  
hamb' e - ku - kha-nyen' kwen-khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -



light of God. We are march-ing, march-ing, we are  
the light of God. Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya -  
nyen' kwen - khos', kha - nyen' kwen-khos',

*Last time, end*



march-ing, Oo, march-ing, we are march-ing in the light of God.  
ham - ba, Oo, ham - ba, si - ya - hamb' e - ku-kha-nyen' kwen-khos'.

**WE ARE GROWING AUTHENTIC CHRISTIAN FAITH.**

**A READING FROM SCRIPTURE**

Acts 9:1-20

Deanna Murray

*Common English Bible*

**SCRIPTURE RESPONSE**

Deanna Murray

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.**

REFLECTION

“Our Truths Unraveled”

Sharon Benton

GIFT OF MUSIC

“Love Is Love Is Love”

Dallas Geil

by Abbie Betinis

Love is love is love is love. Love is love is love is love.

Love, love, love. All we need is love, love, love. All we need is

Last Time

rit.

Love, love, love. All we need is love, love, love. All we need is love.

WE ARE LIVING CHRIST-INSPIRED ACTION.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Iyla Sue Davenport

Congregational Covenant: We joyfully welcome you, Iyla, as you are baptized in our covenant community. We offer ourselves to be your siblings, uncles and aunts, grandparents, and cousins in Christ. We join in the covenant that you acknowledge this day. We offer our understanding and support as you explore your faith life, and we enfold you in our love and the love of God as we know it.

**OFFERING**

Deanna Murray

*You may make an offering either in the plates or online.*

*Your generosity allows us together to 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

**CLOSING SONG**

“River of Grace”

by Tom Hunter

Tim Shepherd

*Please join in the refrain after the second verse*

**So pour out the water and let it roll down.**

**Sprinkle and splash it on the soul and the ground.**

**So God’s love will grow in the child we bring**

**With baptism’s water to welcome her in.**

**\*BENEDICTION & PASSING THE PEACE**

Sharon Benton

**POSTLUDE**

Judy Widrig

*Join the marchers or find a spot on the route to watch the parade together!*

## Sunday Announcements July 12, 2026

- **Yard Work Party - Sunday, July 19** -after worship. See Kendra Wagner
- **Applied Shadow Work** with Mason Ellis **Wednesdays August 5, 12, 19 and 26 6:00 pm**. Work through your shadow and discover inner wholeness. RSVP with Scott
- **Women's Breakfast - Saturday, July 18 at 9:30 am**, Greene's Corner - more information: Jen Green
- **Become part of the Community Life Team**. The Community Life Team meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Come share ideas about ways to engage and inspire the community - both inside and outside of the church. For more information: Scott



**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**

Pastoral staff are available by appointment virtually or in person. Contact them by email or call the pastoral care line, 360-733-4255.

Sharon     **sharon@fccb.net**  
Charlene     **chaplain@fccb.net**

You can also 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:*

*10:00 am-2:00 pm, M-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**

**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**

**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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