

# Unraveling Our Voices

## Hymn Sing

### July 26, 2026



#### **Vision Statement:**

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

**NINETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
July 26, 2026 10:00 am

**PRELUDE**

Judy Widrig

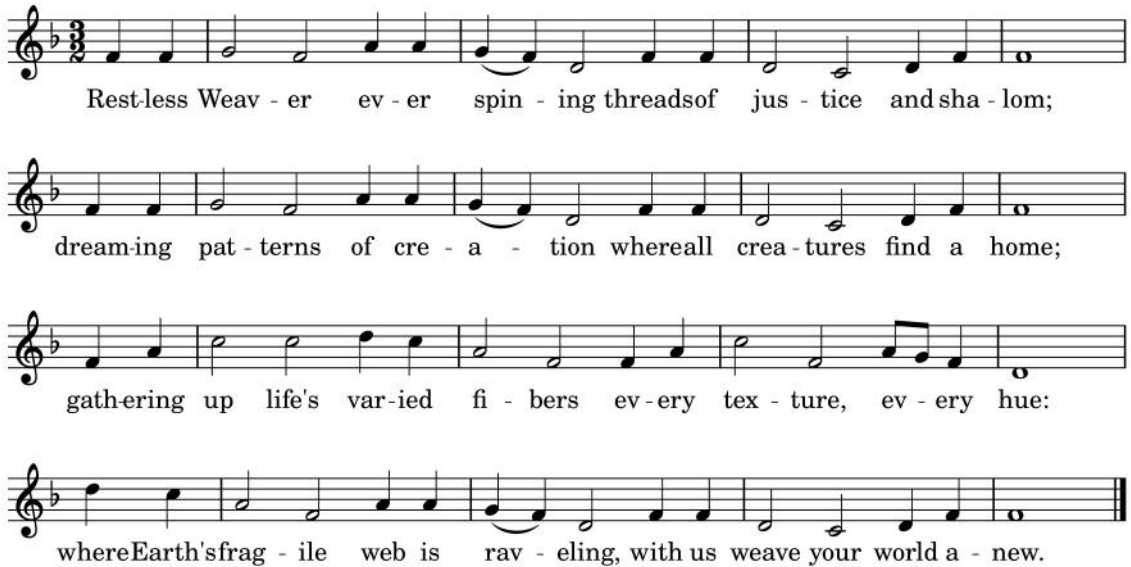
**RINGING THE BELL**

**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;  
dream-ing pat - terns of cre - a - tion where all crea - tures find a home;  
gather-ing 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.

**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**

Joyce Sweeney

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

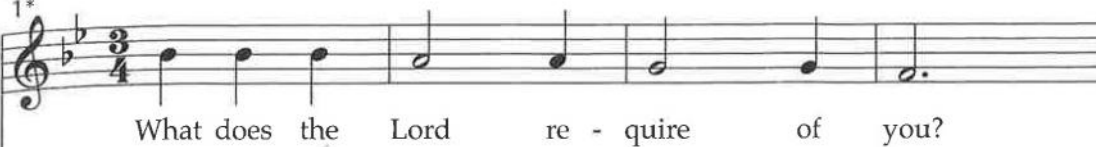
*\*Rise in body or spirit*

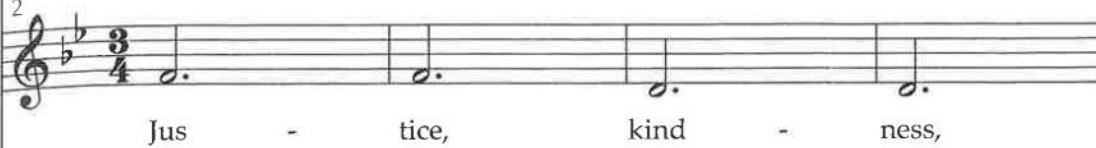
# HYMN SING PART I

## "What Does the Lord Require"

MOON

We'll open with Dallas' hymn choice,  
then you may choose a song from the New Century Hymnal and give us the number.

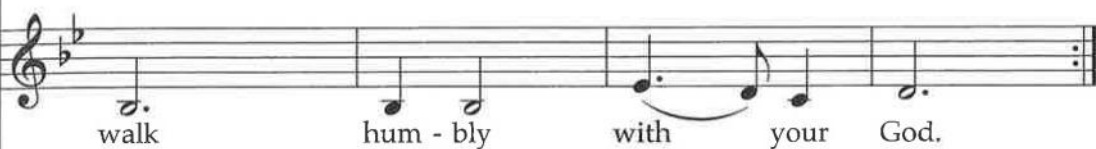
1\* 

2 

3 

*Repeat as desired*







\*The three melodic phrases may be sung consecutively, as a canon, or in any combination. One model for assigning parts is basses on line 1, altos and tenors on line 2, and sopranos on line 3.

Text: based on Micah 6:8; Jim Strathdee (USA)  
Music: Jim Strathdee  
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## COMMUNITY PRAYER

One Voice: Some of us have been told we sing like birds, like angels, like a pro.

**All Voices: Some of us have been told to keep quiet, we can't carry a tune.**

One Voice: The Eternal invites all our voices to rise into the rafters —  
whatever sounds emerge, it is a gift.

**All Voices: God cherishes our voices and calls us to make an offering.**

One Voice: These songs are for you, Holy One.

**All Voices: We will make a joyful noise,  
joining the whole earth in this blessing. Amen.**

## SUNG PRAYER

### "Spirit of Life"

Spir - it of Life, come un - to me. Sing in my heart all the  
stir - rings of com - pas - sion. Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;  
move in my hand, giv-ing life the shape of jus - tice. Roots hold me close;  
wings set me free; Spir - it of Life, come to me, come to me.

by Carolyn McDade © 1981 Surtsey Publishing, renewed © 1993 Carolyn McDade.  
Harmonized by Grace Lewis-McLaren (alt.) © 1992 Unitarian Universalist Association.  
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## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharon Benton

### 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/](http://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

*An Inclusive Version*

### SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

**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 II

*Choose a song from the New Century Hymnal and give us the number.*

**WE ARE LIVING CHRIST-INSPIRED ACTION.**

**TESTIMONY**

Dallas Geil

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING**

*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 HYMN 438** (black hymnal) “When Peace Like a River”

VILLE DU HAVRE

*verses 1 & 4*

*Today’s final hymn is Dallas’ choice.*

**BLESSING OF RELEASE**

**\*BENEDICTION & PASSING THE PEACE**

Sharon Benton

**POSTLUDE**

Judy Widrig



# UNRAVELED

SEEKING GOD WHEN OUR PLANS FALL APART

**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](mailto:sharon@fccb.net)  
Charlene      [chaplain@fccb.net](mailto:chaplain@fccb.net)

You can also email our Office Manager  
Cydne at [office@fccb.net](mailto: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](mailto:office@fccb.net) • [www.fccb.net](http://www.fccb.net)

Facebook: [facebook.com/fccbucc](https://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](mailto:scott@fccb.net))

**CHAPLAIN: Charlene Epp, she/her**

**ORGANIST: Judy Widrig, she/her**

**MUSIC COORDINATOR:**

**Dallas Geil, he/him** ([music@fccb.net](mailto: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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