

# ✝ FPC BELLINGHAM

*sharing a living faith across generations*

December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023



*Elizabeth's Song, Gini Bunnell*

## stay connected this week

Visit [fpcbellingham.org/calendar](https://fpcbellingham.org/calendar) for more of this week's regular meetings or email [info@fpcbellingham.org](mailto:info@fpcbellingham.org) for links and further information.

**TODAY—ADVENT SKILL SHARE + LUNCH:** just after the service  
Join us for a chili lunch, make Advent crafts, sing carols, learn something new!

**FPC STORY HOUR:** Mondays on Zoom | 7—8pm  
Join us as we continue we Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone. Reading, discussion... always a great hour of the day.

**COMMONS OPEN STUDIO TUESDAYS:** Every Tuesday morning | 9am—noon  
Bring anything you want to work on and share community time and space with other creative folks.

### **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES:**

Tuesdays on Zoom | 9:45—11:15am | Studying Hosea with the help of Lifeguide's Bible study—*Hosea: God's Persistent Love* by Dale Larsen and Sandy Larsen.

Wednesdays at FPC | 9:15—11:15am *Everyday Faith* Childcare available.

**PASTOR DOUG'S EVERY-BODY-IS-WELCOME BIBLE STUDY:** Wednesdays on Zoom | 4:30pm | Discussion, dialogue and deep interaction with God's Word. Join us as we study The Life and Times of Moses.

# worship guide

Welcome & Zechariah's Song

Special Music | *Benedictus* Rob and Eshinee Veith

Lighting the Advent Candle | *The Berard Family*

Memory Verse and Intergenerational Question

*Luke 1:78-79* | What do you imagine the dawn from on high will look like?

Worship in Song | *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus, What Child is This?*

*Children through 5th grade are dismissed for Godly Play + The Link*

Confession and Pardon

Passing of the Peace

Worship in Song | *O Come All Ye Faithful*

Offering, Special Music | *Theo Lewis*

Scripture Reading | *Luke 1:39-45*

Meditation | *Song of Elizabeth*

Visio Divina

Special Music | *Song of Elizabeth* Rob and Eshinee Veith

The Apostles' Creed

Communion + Prayer Candle Lighting

Worship in Song | *O Come All Ye Faithful*

Invitations

Charge and Blessing

*Tammy Rutgers, Organ • Todd Fisher, Music*  
*Addie Ward, Liturgist • Doug Bunnell, Preacher*

# discussion questions

Luke 1:26-45

Elizabeth strengthens Mary's faith as she sings out her joy, praise, and blessing.

- What do you think it was like when these two pregnant women met?
- How do you think Elizabeth felt when John leapt?
- What does Elizabeth say to Mary?
- What are the two blessings she offers? What does it mean that her greeting is bookended in blessing?
- How do you think it will affect Mary's faith? Elizabeth's faith?

# Sunday info

## COMMUNION

The sacrament (mystery) of communion is celebrated at FPC every Sunday. The table is open to all followers of Jesus of any age or stage. Once the table is opened, you are invited to come forward and receive communion from a server. Please raise your hand if you would like to be served at your seat. The cup is grape juice; the intinction bread is gluten-free. Please put the disposable cups in the lobby trash can after the service. During communion, you're invited to light a candle in lament or hope.

## CAFÉ PRES

Join us each Sunday after the service for some community time, coffee and treats.

*If you'd like to host Café Pres, sign up downstairs or email [jocelyn@fpcbellingham.org](mailto:jocelyn@fpcbellingham.org)*

## PEW CARDS

Fill out a card and place in the offering plate or in the box in the foyer.

**CONNECT** | get involved, update your contact information

**CARE** | request prayer, visitation, sign up for Prayer Vine emails

**GIVE** | ways to give of your time, talents and treasure

*\*Safety note: Once the service begins, the downstairs door will be locked for security during children's programs. Please enter through Garden St. doors after 10am.*

## CHILDREN ON SUNDAYS

An unstaffed, equipped nursery, Room 2, is available downstairs for parents to change diapers, settle babies and watch the service livestream.

### Godly Play Prep: Toddlers —3-Year-Olds

Toddlers through 3 years old are welcome in Godly Play Prep. Rooms 3 & 4. (Please enter through the door for Room 3.) Godly Play Prep is open to receive toddlers through 3-year-olds five minutes before (9:55am) or anytime during the service.

### Godly Play: Preschool—3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

Godly Play Mentors are excited to welcome your children to Godly Play!

Children ages preschool - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will be blessed from congregational worship to sing, wonder about God's story, respond through art and play, and care for one another.

We treasure your children! Thank you for trusting them with us for Godly Play!

### The Link: 4<sup>th</sup> + 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Sunday School

Meets in Room 1 in the Fellowship Hall and is dismissed from worship with Godly Play. The Link will be dismissed to connect with parents at Café Pres.

## YOUTH (MIDDLE SCHOOL + HIGH SCHOOL)

Save the date for our middle + high school Christmas party on December 17!

Small Groups meet every other week on Sunday. If you'd like to get involved, email [youth@fpcbellingham.org](mailto:youth@fpcbellingham.org) for details. There's a group for everyone!

# upcoming events + invitations

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The nominating Committee is beginning to search for Elders and Deacons to start in July 2024. Elders meet monthly to discuss church leadership decisions and work with the staff to care for our ministries. Deacons meet monthly and attend to the practical and spiritual needs in our community. If you can think of anyone you think would be a great Elder or Deacon, please give the name to Doug or send the name to Alissa: [info@fpcbellingham.org](mailto:info@fpcbellingham.org)

## CHRISTMAS EVE AT FPC

No Sunday morning service.

### 4pm | Family Service

In person | Children are welcome to come in costumes; stable animals, angels, etc!

### 7pm | Traditional Service

In person and livestreamed | Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols



What do you  
imagine the dawn  
from on high will  
look like?

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

1031 N. Garden St. Bellingham, WA 98225  
360.734.5510 | [fpcbellingham.org](http://fpcbellingham.org)

*Phone messages are checked throughout the week. 360.734.5510*

**Doug Bunnell** | Pastor  
[dougb@fpcbellingham.org](mailto:dougb@fpcbellingham.org)

**Kerrie Bauer** | Commissioned Pastor  
[kerrieb@fpcbellingham.org](mailto:kerrieb@fpcbellingham.org)

**Alissa McSharry** | Connections  
[info@fpcbellingham.org](mailto:info@fpcbellingham.org)

**Rob Veith** | Commons  
[commons@fpcbellingham.org](mailto:commons@fpcbellingham.org)

**Rachel Buri** | Children  
[childrens@fpcbellingham.org](mailto:childrens@fpcbellingham.org)

**Emily Bajema** | Creative  
[creative@fpcbellingham.org](mailto:creative@fpcbellingham.org)

**Jocelyn Meyer** | Admin & Worship  
[jocelyn@fpcbellingham.org](mailto:jocelyn@fpcbellingham.org)

**Alison Witwer** | Youth  
[youth@fpcbellingham.org](mailto:youth@fpcbellingham.org)

**Casey Enderlin** | Facilities  
[facilities@fpcbellingham.org](mailto:facilities@fpcbellingham.org)