

First Congregational Church of St. Albans (FCC) is a welcoming community of spiritual seekers, believers, and doubters.

Please know that no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH VISION STATEMENT

To create an open and loving community that encourages a joyous exploration with God.

To work together to care for and nurture the wider community.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission as a community resource church is to provide a safe place for spiritual exploration and personal growth. To affirm the value of each person and to meet them where they are.

To connect to the community through personal service, giving, and pastoral care.

Please feel free to contact us:

Administrative Office: 8 AM to 11 AM weekdays.

Church Office Phone Number: 802-524-4555

Pastor Jessica's Office Hours: T-W-F, 9am-12pm

Email: pastorjessica@firstcongregationalstalbans.org

For urgent, pastoral matters outside of regular office hours, call Pastor Jessica at 207-632-5544.

OUR WORSHIP SERVICE IS BROADCAST OVER THE LOCAL PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNEL 1079 ON SUNDAYS AT 4 PM.

SCRIPTURE READER: JEAN VANSLETTE



“WE WELCOME YOU AND SERVE ALL THROUGH FAITH.”

WORSHIP WITH US:

OCTOBER 30, 2022

10AM

REV. JESSICA MOORE, PASTOR

ERIN GRAINGER, MUSIC AND CHORAL DIRECTOR

STEPHAN CONRADY, ORGANIST

SUE POWERS, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

27 CHURCH STREET, ST. ALBANS, VT 05478

802-524-4555

[INFO@FIRSTCONGREGATIONALSTALBANS.ORG](mailto:info@firstcongregationalstalbans.org)

[WWW.FIRSTCONGREGATIONALSTALBANS.ORG](http://www.firstcongregationalstalbans.org)

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

CENTERING WORDS:

"Grace is one-way love. Grace doesn't make demands. It just gives. — Preston Sprinkle

THE PREPARATION

The beginning of the prelude is a call to enter into the spirit of prayer and community.

Prelude *Praise Our God Above* confucian temple chant

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP: TAIZÉ

Let all who are thirst - y come, Let

all who wish re - ceive the wa - ter of life

free - ly. A - men, come Lord Je - sus. A -

men, come Lord Je - sus. Let

Welcome to all visitors: We are delighted that you chose to worship with us today and are strengthened by your participation in our service!

If you are new to First Congregational Church of St. Albans, please sign the guest book in the narthex (main entrance of the church).

If you would like more information about our church and its programs or would like to receive our Morning Reflections, and weekly e-newsletter, "From the Manse," please fill out a Welcome Card and place it in the Offering tray (be sure to include your email address).

After the service please join us for fellowship, conversation, coffee, and refreshments.

*PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

¹UCC, WORSHIP WAYS

MUSIC, COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS: CCLI #4799426 AND SJMP #14586

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED:

Music Notes: The composer of this morning's anthem has been writing music for forty years. Born in Grand Rapids, MI, he was blind at birth. He first worked as a music therapist, but since the 1970's has focused solely on his independent recording, publishing, and performance-booking company.

Bible Study

Next meeting is Wednesday November 2nd on Zoom – please let Pastor Jessica know if you'd like to join in!

Mitten Tree – We are currently collecting mittens and scarfs to be distributed to local organizations and schools, who will in turn distribute them to individuals for the upcoming cold weather. Knitting instruction are available on the bulletin tables in the sanctuary or by contacting the office. Purchased items are also being accepted.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING NOVEMBER 13, 2022

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the First Congregational Church of St. Albans, Vermont will be held on November 13, 2022 immediately following the Sunday service. This notice is given in accordance with the provisions of Article V, section 2 providing for an Annual Meeting to be held on the second Sunday in November, and section 5A providing for two-week's notice for such meeting provided by the By-Laws of the congregation.

The business for the Informational Meeting is to 1) For officers, boards, and committees to report on the previous year; 2) to elect officers, board and committee members 3) to review and approve a budget and 4) to hold discussion, provide information and consider other business as deemed desirable at the meeting.

Dated at St. Albans this 26th day of October, 2022.

Judy Miller, Clerk

MORNING PRAYER¹

Welcome us, loving Jesus, as we now welcome you into our hearts, minds, and worship. Let us transform and be transformed by each other so that we might perceive your presence among us ever more clearly. **Amen.**

HYMN*

"To You, O God, All Creatures Sing" (1, 2, 4) NCH 17

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹ (Unison)

We crowd each other out, clamoring for glimpses of and glances from Jesus. We get caught up in the hype, buzzing with the energy of and adrenaline from the crowds. Who wouldn't? However, in so doing, we neglect the quiet opportunities to welcome Jesus into our homes and lives. Amen

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE MESSAGE

TIME WITH CHILDREN

ANTHEM *COME BUILD A CHURCH*

KEN MEDEMA

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 1:10-18

Luke 19:1-10

MORNING REFLECTION

“Up A Tree”

HYMN*

“Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior” (1, 2, 4) NCH 551

THE THANKSGIVING

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER:

HEAR OUR PRAYER, O LORD D. WELPTON

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE ~

LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever, Amen

CHORAL RESPONSE TO PRAYER

*“THOU WILT KEEP HIM IN PERFECT PEACE, WHOSE MIND IS STAYED
ON THEE.”* SCOTTISH PSALTER, 1615

THE DEPARTURE

HYMN*

“Blessed Be The Tie That Binds” NCH 393

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *BREAK FORTH O BEAUTEOUS HEAVENLY LIGHT*
J. SCHOP (1595-1664)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A Special Note of Gratitude From All of Us At FCC:

- Alan Shannon, FCC Treasurer, THANK YOU for all the hours and evenings you spend keeping our finances in order.

Walking the Walk Fall Session

The Importance of Sabbath: It's all about rest!

November 5th, 12th, and 19th 10 AM to noon.

Here at First Congregational Church Join Pastors Jessica, Janet, and Darcy for our fall session of Walking the Walk! Our focus is on Sabbath and the Biblical imperative for rest-- from the final day of Creation to Jubilee to Jesus' need for alone time to pray. The Bible is clear, we need rest-- so why is it so difficult for us to take the time?

Space is limited-- please register with Pastor Jessica.

A Night of Peaceful Protest Music!

Saturday November 5 from 7-9pm

Open Mic - Coffee House. Sing along to your favorite protest and peace music. We'll have burgers, dogs, and snacks! Call Greg Beeman to sign up ahead of time or for more information: 324-0308

Midday Meditation

Monday · Wednesday · Friday

12pm- 1pm

Please join us in the sanctuary for quiet reflection. We'll have soothing music and meditation guides available.