

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: Alan Shannon



“WE WELCOME YOU AND SERVE ALL THROUGH FAITH.”

WORSHIP WITH US:

NOVEMBER 6, 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

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WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

CENTERING WORDS:

“Our chief want is someone who will inspire us to be what we know we could be.” — Ralph Waldo Emerson

THE PREPARATION

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

PRELUDE *Bread of Heaven, on Thee We Feed* J. S. Bach

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

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Announcements Continued

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?

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

Reminder: there is no concert in November, but it is rescheduled to December 11 at 3pm

MORNING PRAYER¹

God of every age and time, inspire us today with memories of saints whose energy still lingers, hovering around and within as encouragement and strength. Wrap us anew with a felt sense of your persistent presence, granting a new energy to offer You everything of our hearts, minds and souls. Yes, Love of Life, root us and ground us in this. And let it be more than enough for today, as we gather in the name of Jesus. Amen.

HYMN*

“God Is Here! As We Your People” (1, 2, 4) NCH 70

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹ (UNISON)*

Loving God, Grant me grace to release everything too much or too little into your transforming fire of refinement. Sear in me the strength of your saints – generous and gentle, focused and fierce – just enough to answer every devilish temptation distracting or denying Your Holy hope for my re-formation. Yes, Love, form me anew from the inside out, centering others ahead of every selfishness that dares me to choose anything less than You. Release me from the burdens and brokenness of my own making, that I may be readied to meet You in every ordinary saint whose path crosses mine in the gift of this day. Amen.

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE MESSAGE

Invitation to Candle Lighting

ANTHEM *Blest are the pure in heart* Antony Baldwin

SCRIPTURE READING

LUKE 20:27-39

MORNING REFLECTION

“It’s a Mystery”

HYMN*

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

NCH 330

THE COMMUNION

BLUE BINDER

THE THANKSGIVING

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER:

HEAR OUR PRAYER, O LORD D. WELPTON

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE ~

CHORAL RESPONSE TO PRAYER

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

THE DEPARTURE

HYMN*

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

NCH 394

Benediction*

POSTLUDE

The Day Thou Gavest

J. Scholefield

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

- Thank You Mary Bostwick, Sandy Cristman, Alice Drislane, and JoAnn Chambers for getting in the spirit, and handing out candy to all the little witches, ghosts, and ghouls on Spooky Saturday!
- Stephan Conrady, Thank You for playing Spooky Music for Spooky Saturday!

Bible Study

There will be **no** Bible Study on November 9th.

Bible Study returns November 16th.

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.

What is TAIZÉ?

Created by and named after the Taizé (taa-ZAY) monastic community in France, which began in the 1940’s; Taizé is a contemporary, repetitive, sung prayer set to simple music. The use of repetitive prayers has a long history in Christian spirituality (as well as many other faith traditions). Taizé prayers are unique in that they are fully ecumenical—they are adapted from core biblical texts and can be sung in various languages. The song should have no pre-determined length or number of repetitions—the intension is for the congregation to immerse itself in the simple harmonies leading to a contemplative state.

Music Notes: Today's anthem is written by a living British composer who is currently Director of Music at the American Church of London. The text is from Matthew 5:8, the sixth Beatitude.