

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 Tues. & Thurs.

9am-12pm Wed. & Fri.

Church Office Phone Number: 802-524-4555

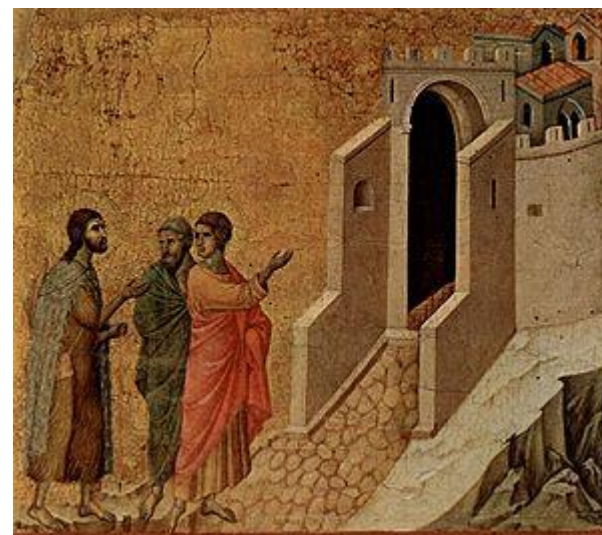
Pastor Jessica's Office Hours: T-W-F, 9am-12pm

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:

APRIL 23, 2023

10AM

REV. JESSICA MOORE, PASTOR

ERIN GRAINGER, MUSIC AND CHORAL DIRECTOR

STEPHAN CONRADY, ORGANIST

MONICA NEWTON, OFFICE MANAGER

27 CHURCH STREET, ST. ALBANS, VT 05478

802-524-4555

INFO@FIRSTCONGREGATIONALSTALBANS.ORG

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WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

CENTERING WORDS “He could tell by the way animals walked that they were keeping time to some kind of music. Maybe it was the song in their own hearts that they walked to.”

— Laura Adams Armer

THE PREPARATION

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

PRELUDE *Nocturnal Rainbows* S. Conrady

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNG CALL TO WORSHIP

You are welcome here, **You are welcome here.**
 No matter who you are, **No matter who you are.**
 No matter where you are, **No matter where you are**
 on life’s journey, **on life’s journey.**

You are welcome here, **You are welcome here.**
 No matter who you are, **No matter who you are.**
 Come and join with us, **Come and join with us,**
 We’re united in the church of Christ. **We’re united in the church of Christ.**

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

¹FROM UCC WORSHIP WAYS

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

MUSIC MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT:



The *Church Street Sounds of the Season* series grew out of plans developed simultaneously, but independently, by the music directors at each host church.

As co-artistic directors, Donna Costes (St. Luke's) & Erin Grainger (First Congregational) cooperate to present fall and spring series to our communities. Our goal is multifold: to bring a variety of high quality music performances across the genres of classical, chamber, choral, and folk music; to provide a performance venue in the northwest corner of Vermont to our excellent musicians in the region; to share our beautiful church spaces with the public; and to allow these performances to be financially accessible to the public.

Locations

Spring performances are held at **St. Luke's Episcopal Church** in St. Albans VT, the church on the south end of the park with the red door (8 Bishop St, St. Albans VT).
Stay Tuned for Spring Concert Information!

Fall performances are held at the **First Congregational Church** in St. Albans VT, the church on the north end of the park with the clock tower (27 Church St, St. Albans VT).

MORNING PRAYER¹ (UNISON)

Holy One, God of many names,

Be with us while we walk our Road to Emmaus...

Be with us as we share a simple ordinary meal with you.

Rejoice with us as we recognize you more clearly with each tasty mouthful of familiar food...that you are alive and real in our midst!

May we open our hearts along with our eyes...to the resurrected Jesus during this hour of worship and beyond...that we become your Easter People of today...embracing all colors, nations, and races. Amen!

HYMN*

"In The Bulb There Is a Flower"

NCH 433

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹ (UNISON)

O God, in mystery and silence you are present in our lives, bringing new life out of destruction, hope out of despair, growth out of difficulty, peace out of conflict. We thank you that you do not leave us alone but labor to make us whole. Help us to perceive your unseen hand in the unfolding of our lives. Guide and sustain us all the days of our lives. Amen.

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE MESSAGE

TIME WITH CHILDREN

ANTHEM Spring Carol

Robert Lehman

SCRIPTURE READING

PSALM 116:1-4; 12-19

LUKE 24:13-35

MORNING REFLECTION: **ON THE ROAD AGAIN**

HYMN*

“For the Beauty of The Earth” (1,2,3) NCH 28

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

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY

***Praise God from whom all blessing flow
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, all heavenly hosts:
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

OFFERTORY PRAYER

THE DEPARTURE

HYMN*

“The Church’s One Foundation” (1,2,4) NCH 386

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE WHEN STEPHEN, FULL OF POWER AND GRACE G. WARRACK

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

- Greg Beeman and Joel Magnuson Thank You for another successful, joy-filled Open Mic Night!

Edith Steinhorst’s Memorial Service

May 7th at 1pm

Edith’s family invite all friends and members of FCC to celebrate Edith’s life.

**Are you able to help with refreshments after Edith’s service? If so, please sign-up during Coffee Hour.

Save the Date:

Green-Up Day May 6th

Stay tuned for details!

No matter where we go to help with Green-Up Day—please remember that ticks will be out and to take the appropriate precautions.

Bible Study

Our next Bible Study will meet on April 19

Fellowship 6:45pm; Bible Study 7:00- 8:00pm

Text: Psalm 23

You can join us at any time, call Pastor Jessica for the Zoom link.

Music Notes: This medieval-sounding anthem is derived from the Piae Cantiones, (1582), but newly arranged. In observation of Earth Day, the text sings of the interconnection of Earth and God: *God is in the midst of her, God commands her duty; Earth does but reflect his light, mirrors back his beauty; God's the fount whence all things flow, great and small, above, below, God's their only maker.*