

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: 8-12 Tuesday, 8-10 Wednesday,
8-12 Thursday and 9-12 Friday.

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: NANCY HOLLAND



"WE WELCOME YOU AND SERVE ALL THROUGH FAITH."

WORSHIP WITH US:

JUNE 4, 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:

"But it doesn't take a thousand men to open a door, my lord."
"It might to keep it open." — Ursula K. Le Guin"

THE PREPARATION

Prelude: *Song of Ruth* H. Higashi

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.

MORNING PRAYER (UNISON)

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.
Where there is hatred let us sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is discord, union;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy.
Amen

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

¹ UCC WORSHIP WAYS

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

Mission Highlight

The Welcome Home Initiative:

First Congregational Church of St. Albans is a founding member of the Welcome Home Initiative (WH). WH provides people transitioning from homelessness to permanent housing in Franklin and Grand Isle Counties of Vermont with new- home essentials (mop, broom, dishes, cleaners, trash can, pots & pans, etc.), personal items (shampoo, deodorant, etc.), and a full pantry, fridge, and freezer stock of food.

The Welcome Home Initiative is a collaboration among:

- Franklin/Grand Isle CVOEO- Community Action
- First Congregational Church of St Albans
- Grace Episcopal Church, Sheldon
- Sheldon Methodist Food Shelf
- Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Swanton
- Our local Girl Scout Troop
- As well as other churches and businesses that have donated to the Initiative.

WH works with local housing case workers from:

- F/GI Community Action
- Voices Against Violence
- Samaritan House
- Restorative Justice Center
- Pathways

First Congregational Church functions as the fiscal agent, collection center and pick-up hub for the program. WH serves on average 6-7 individuals/families to be housed a month.

HYMN*

“Praise with Joy the World’s Creator” NCH 273

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹ (UNISON)

Loving God, often in our quest to do the work that we are called to do we miss the mark. At times we doubt even as we worship. At times we forget that the peace, love, hope, and joy of the Divine extends beyond the walls of our churches and the hearts of those who identify as Christians. Help us to move past our selfishness and fear of “other people.” Help us to truly love our neighbors as ourselves—all of our neighbors. Please change our hearts and minds. Please show us how to love all. Amen

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE MESSAGE

ANTHEM God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian Hyfrydol

SCRIPTURE READING

2 CORINTHIANS 13:11-13

MATTHEW 28:16-20

MORNING REFLECTION: “It Takes All Kinds”

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

PASTORAL PRAYER ~

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*

"Holy, Holy, Holy" (1, 2, 4)

NCH 277

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Koyaanisqatsi* arr. Conrady P. Glass

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

- Nancy Holland Thank You for volunteering in the office on Mondays!
- Thank you to everyone who attended and participated in the Congregational Meeting on May 21st, open communication and mutual care like this is vital to the health of the community!

June 10

1pm

Picnic at the Brown's Camp in Swanton on the lake.

Bring a folding lawn chair and your favorite picnic dish to share. Sign-up during Coffee Hour, directions available; car-pooling encouraged!

Bible Study

Our next Bible Study will meet on June 7

6:45 - 8:00 pm

Stories of Luke with Kent Gramm

We are meeting IN PERSON, in the Fellowship Hall

Worship Time Change

We are switching over to a 9am worship time starting June 25.

Music Notes:

This familiar tune has new words by Carl Daw for Trinity Sunday! The Welsh tune name is Hyfrydol, which means "delightful, agreeable, pleasing, pleasant, beautiful, fair, fine". It was composed by Rowland Prichard before he reached the age of 20, and first published in the children's songbook Cyfaill y Cantorion ("The Singers' Friend") in 1844.