

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: Temporary Hours: M-F 9AM-12PM

Church Office Phone Number: 802-524-4555

Pastor Jessica's Office Hours: By Appointment

Monday is Pastor Jessica's Sabbath.

Email: [pastorjessica@firstcongregationalstalbans.org](mailto:pastorjessica@firstcongregationalstalbans.org)

For urgent pastoral matters call Pastor Jessica at 207-632-5544.

---

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



**"WE WELCOME YOU AND SERVE ALL THROUGH FAITH."**

**WORSHIP WITH US:**

**MAY 19, 2024**

**10 AM**

**REV. JESSICA MOORE, PASTOR**

**STEPHAN CONRADY, ORGANIST**

**DR. KEVIN DIRTH, CHOIR DIRECTOR**

**MONICA NEWTON, OFFICE MANAGER**

**27 CHURCH STREET, ST. ALBANS, VT 05478**

**802-524-4555**

**INFO@FIRSTCONGREGATIONALSTALBANS.ORG**

**WWW.FIRSTCONGREGATIONALSTALBANS.ORG**

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

CENTERING WORDS: "Until you are clear nothing will be. The moment you are clear everything will be."

— Rasheed Ogunlaru

❖ BEGINNING OF SERVICE ❖**THE PREPARATION**

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

PRELUDE      *Wir Glauben an den Einen Gott*      German Hymn

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Call To Worship

One: Within this community

**All: We experience God's unconditional love**

One: Within this community

**All: We rejoice in the risen Christ**

One: Within this community

**All: We awaken to the Holy Spirit**

One: Within this community

**All: We join together in worship**

Morning Prayer<sup>1</sup> (Unison)

Jesus, our sibling and friend, we thank you for your example, which guides us as we share the good news of God's love with a hurting world. Thank you for protecting us, teaching us, and equipping us to partner with you to work for love and justice. Help us share the joy we've found in our relationship with you. Empower us with the Holy Spirit, that we might testify to God's goodness. 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

<sup>1</sup>UCC, WORSHIP WAYS

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

## Announcements Continued:

### NOTICE OF INFORMATIONAL MEETING May 19, 2024

Notice is hereby given that an Informational Meeting of the First Congregational Church of St. Albans, Vermont, will be held on May 19, 2024, immediately following the Sunday service. This notice is given in accordance with the provisions of the by-laws requiring three Informational Meetings a year, one of which is to be held in May, and two-weeks' notice for such meetings.

The business for the Informational Meeting is to 1) inform the Congregation about the affairs of the church, 2) provide the opportunity to ask questions, and 3) to discuss any issues and concerns.

### 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 nonperishable food items.

Welcome Home has helped over 130 households since it began in July 2021!

#### Welcome Home (WH) needs your help!

We need people to help maintain WH stock, inventory items, and pack WH Baskets. Please see Rev. Jessica, Alice Drislane, or Mary Bpstwick.

### HYMN\*

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

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION<sup>1</sup> (UNISON)

**Spirit of God, our prayers often ask You to be present in our lives and in our world. But we confess that we are terrified that You might actually show up.**

**We remember the stories of You kindling the imagination of the prophets, and then each putting their lives on the line. We remember the stories of You sparking action within the early Church, compelling them all to embrace something completely foreign and new.**

**We confess, Dear Spirit, we are afraid You will call us to move outside our comfort zones.**

**We are afraid You will kindle a passion within us we will be unable to ignore.**

**We are afraid that You will rearrange our lives beyond recognition.**

**Forgive us for the fears that have been holding us back from inviting You truly into our lives...**

### PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

### THE MESSAGE

### TIME WITH CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

ANTHEM *You Walk along our Shoreline*

Sylvia Dunstan

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 2:1-21

### MORNING REFLECTION

Breaking In

HYMN\*

*“Every Time I Hear The Spirit”*

NCH 505

**THE THANKSGIVING**

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

*Hear Our Prayer, O lord*

D. Welpton

PASTOR'S PRAYER~

**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\*

*“Some Glad Morning”*

NCH 595

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Give Thanks arr. Conrady H. Smith

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

- ★ Jessica Pecor, Greg & Melissa Beeman, Park Newton, Paula Kane Thank You for cleaning up the church property last Saturday—it looks very nice!
- ★ Sue and Ray Brown Thank You for ALL you do for the church grounds, from planting flowers to raking leaves –your efforts make everything look beautiful!

**Annual Church Picnic – June 8, noon**

At the Brown's camp on the Lake in West Swanton. There is a sign-up sheet at Coffee Hour. Directions and carpooling info to follow.

**Ecumenical Pride Sunday Worship**

June 9 @ 10:30

Taylor Park

**YES 10:30****Music Notes:**

The composer of today's anthem, Sylvia Dunstan, was born in 1955 in Canada and died at the young age of 38. She was a parish minister for the United Church of Canada and a prison chaplain. She is remembered by those who knew her for her passion for those in need and her gift of writing.

**Zoom Bible Study**

Our next Bible Study will meet on May 22; 7-8PM

Text: John 3:1-17

Join us at any time, call Pastor Jessica.

**Wi-Fi:**Sanctuary  
sanctuary123