

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:

M: 10-12, **Tu:** 9-2, **W:** 10-12, **Th:** 9-12 & 1-5, **F:** 10-12

Church Office Phone Number: 802-524-4555

Pastor Jessica's Office Hours: By Appointment

Monday is Pastor Jessica's Sabbath.

Email: 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.

READER: Stephen McLaughlin



"WE WELCOME YOU AND SERVE ALL THROUGH FAITH."

WORSHIP WITH US:

JUNE 16, 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

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WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Centering Words:

"A seed neither fears light nor darkness, but uses both to grow." — Matshona Dhliwayo

❖ BEGINNING OF SERVICE ❖**THE PREPARATION**

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

PRELUDE *How Precious O Lord* Kevin Dirth

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 worshipMorning Prayer¹ (Unison)

Oh God, creator of heaven and earth, who grants us life, may the seeds of wisdom from the ancient sacred texts grow within us so that we may bear good fruit that nourishes a hungry world. May the Holy Spirit of Pentecost descend upon us this day as we give thanks to you Holy One, in Jesus's most precious name we pray. 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

¹UCC, WORSHIP WAYS

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

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

★ Thank you to everyone in this loving Congregation for your support and care during this very difficult time.
In God's Peace, Pastor Jessica

Music Notes:**On-Line Giving:****Wi-Fi:**

Sanctuary
sanctuary123



MORNING REFLECTION

Seed? Sower? Leader?

HYMN*

In the Bulb There Is a Flower* NCH 433*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*

***Let There Be Peace On Earth* BB 35**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

A CHORAL BENEDICTION

DON BESIG

❖ END OF SERVICE ❖

HYMN*

***O God Our Help in Ages Past* NCH 25**PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹ (UNISON)

God of life, the creator of all things based on love. You created us in your image of love and there have been times we have fallen short of that love, not only to you but to each other and all of creation. I ask for your forgiveness and from you, present today, my siblings, sisters and brothers in Christ. I thank you for the comforting strength and compassion of the Holy Spirit to do better in bringing love and grace and all I do. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PREPARATION & RECEPTION OF A NEW MEMBER**ANOINTING:** Jessica Pecor

One: Friends in Christ . . .

Questions to the Candidate(s)

Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciples, to follow in the way Jesus showed us, to resist oppression, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work of Jesus Christ as best you are able?

Candidate(s): **I promise, with the help of God.**

One: Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow in Christian faith and to be a faithful member of the Church, celebrating Christ's presence and furthering Christ's mission in all the world?

Candidate(s): **I promise, with the help of God.**

One: Do you promise to participate in the life and mission of this family of God's people, sharing regularly in the worship of God and enlisting in the work of the First Congregational Church of St. Albans, as it serves the community and the world?

Candidate(s): **I promise, with the help of God.**

One: Do you, the members of First Congregational Church, offer your love, support, and guidance as they become a part of this congregation?

Congregation: **We promise, with the help of God.**

Deacon: Let us, the members of the First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, of St. Albans Vermont, express our welcome and affirm our common ministry in Christ.

Congregation: **We welcome you with joy into the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and our prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love, and be witnesses of our risen Savior.**

Deacon: As an affirmation of our common ministry in Jesus Christ, let us read together the covenant of this congregation:

All: **Acknowledging Jesus Christ to be our Savior, and relying for wisdom upon the teachings of the Bible and communion with God in prayer, we do now, in the sight of God, solemnly covenant and agree with each other to associate ourselves to be a church of Jesus Christ.**

We will endeavor to follow the example of Jesus and strive to do God's will in all things. We agree to walk together and serve one another in Christian love, submitting ourselves to the orderly administration of the affairs of this church. And we promise to labor together for the coming of God's Kingdom of righteousness and peace and love through the whole earth.

Deacon: In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of the First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, of St. Albans, we extend to you the hand of Christian love, welcoming you into the covenant membership of the church.

Presentation of Membership Certificates

Closing Prayer

Deacon: Eternal God, we praise you for calling us to faith and for gathering us into the body of Christ. We thank you for your people gathered as this church, and we rejoice in those who have joined as new members this morning. Together may we live in the Spirit, building up one another in love, sharing in the life and worship of the church, and serving the world as faithful disciples of our Friend and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

GREETING OF JESSICA

THE MESSAGE

TIME WITH CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

ANTHEM

Invention for two-manual piano fr. Phantastereien S. Conrady

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13 & Mark 4:26-34