

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](mailto:pastorjessica@firstcongregationalstalbans.org)

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

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

**READER:** Valerie Walden

**ACOLYTES:** Mykala Pryor & Ada Sanders



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

**WORSHIP WITH US:**

**JULY 14, 2024**

**10 AM**

REV. JESSICA MOORE, PASTOR

STEPHAN CONRADY, ORGANIST

MONICA NEWTON, OFFICE MANAGER

27 CHURCH STREET, ST. ALBANS, VT 05478

802-524-4555

[INFO@FIRSTCONGREGATIONALSTALBANS.ORG](mailto:info@firstcongregationalstalbans.org)

[WWW.FIRSTCONGREGATIONALSTALBANS.ORG](http://WWW.FIRSTCONGREGATIONALSTALBANS.ORG)

**WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

Centering Words:

“No one is ever holy without suffering.” — Evelyn Waugh

**❖ BEGINNING OF SERVICE ❖****THE PREPARATION***The beginning of the prelude is a call to enter into the spirit of prayer and community.*PRELUDE     *Like a Child*     D. Damon**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)**God Among Us, your ways are perfect and your laws are just.****We gather today in your name and for your kin-dom. May it come wherever and whenever two or more gather in your name. May our hearts open and our understanding expand with the vision of righteousness. May our worship please you, transform us, and bear witness to your love. 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

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## 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.

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
- ➔ Congregational Church of So. Hero
- ➔ 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
- Reach-Up
- Spectrum Youth and Family Services

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\*

***“O God Our Help in Ages Past”*** (1,3,4) NCH 25

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

**Righteous God, you have created us in your image to reflect your holiness. You have affirmed the goodness within us. We struggle to be the people you call us to be. You have given us the guidance of the Law and the wisdom of the Prophets and the gift of your Presence. Still, we struggle against the pull to go our own direction without your counsel. We fail to extend the grace and compassion you give to us. Be merciful in your judgment while holding us accountable for your justice as we strive to live the fullness of life in you. Amen.**

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

## THE MESSAGE

SPECIAL MUSIC

*Take Five*

arr. Conrady

D. Brubeck

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 6:14-29

MORNING REFLECTION

Not So Fast, Pal

HYMN\*

***“Blessed Assurance”*** (1,2) NCH 473

## THE THANKSGIVING

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

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.**

## 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

*Toccata in F*

S. Conrady

❖ END OF SERVICE ❖

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

- ★ Sue and Ray Brown Thank You for organizing the multi-day yard sale for "Save the Clock Tower"
- ★ Greg Beeman Thank You for installing a handrail for the stairs and a bathtub grab bar in the Manse.

#### Altar Flowers

The altar flowers today are in memory and in honor of Doris Hughes.

#### July 27

The Church Street Festival

We will be doing tours of the church, scooping ice cream, selling t-shirts and raffle tickets for the DeLorean. We need LOTS of help! Sign-up sheet in Coffee Hour

#### Clock Winders Wanted!

There is a signup sheet on the door to the Bridal entrance. This sign up sheet is for clock winding volunteers. If you are interested but have never wound the clock before, please talk to Park Newton or Greg Beeman for more information.

#### July 27

2pm- Special Open Mic during the Church Street Festival

#### July 20

The Klassic Car Show

The DeLorean will be there and we will be selling raffle tickets to help "Save the Clock Tower" We need sales help!!

There is a sign-up sheet in Coffee Hour

#### July 29 - August 12

Pastor Jessica's Vacation

#### Online Giving:

#### Wi-Fi:

Sanctuary  
sanctuary123

