

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:** Mara Vijups



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

**WORSHIP WITH US:**

**JULY 7, 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:

"The day the power of love overrules the love of power, the world will know peace." — Mahatma Gandhi

**❖ BEGINNING OF SERVICE ❖****THE PREPARATION**

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

PRELUDE     *Hymn for freedom*                      O. Peterson

**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)

**Powerful One, we come into this gathering humbled by your presence among us, grateful for the companionship of your people, and eager to worship your name. As we tell your story anew, we enter your story as the objects of your attention, love, and care. May we know you more deeply and clearly. May we be transformed and transfixed by the mystery of you. May we be inspired by your deeds of power**

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

- ★ To Alice and Bill and the entire Drislane Family Thank You for donating your family's beautiful baby grand piano to the church. As Stephan said, "It is a gift from God"
- ★ Chauncey Scates, Thank You for opening and managing an Instagram account for the church! It is so much fun!
- ★ Jonathan MacDonald and Jessica Pecor Thank You for volunteering to wash the sanctuary steps on a regular basis!

**July 13th**

Yard Sale for "Save the Clock Tower"

Beginning at 9am

Bring your stuff to sell and do a little shopping  
for more info see Sue Brown: (802)527-6336

**Clock Winders Wanted!**

There is a sign up 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

**Church Street Festival**

July 27

Volunteers needed!

**Online Giving:****Wi-Fi:**

Sanctuary  
sanctuary123



to be instruments of your reign in the world. Empower us, O Holy One. Amen.

HYMN\*

***"All the People on the Earth Do Dwell"*** NCH 7

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

Gracious and Loving God, have mercy on us. We confess our own forms of rebellion and stubbornness. We seek our own way and fail to wait for your counsel, wisdom, and insight. We hold fast to hopes and dreams that do not include your kin-dom or our neighbors. We choose comfort over holy confrontation, doctrine over faithful discipleship and position over spiritual power. Awaken in us hunger and thirst for righteousness. Amen.

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

**THE MESSAGE**

SPECIAL MUSIC      *John Brown's Song*      american folk song

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 6:1-13

MORNING REFLECTION

Sent Out

HYMN\*

***"Let Us Break Bread Together"*** NCH 330

**THE COMMUNION**

One: The invitation is simple: come and eat of the feast. Not a meal to nourish the body, but to feed the soul. We receive the bread and juice connected to the ages: to the saint of old who felt unworthy, to the seeker eager to know God, to the one who

wonders what it's all about, to the one who eats with unburdened faith. Woven into this time are the hopes and tears of generations. There is great joy here. No one is turned away for God is the host! May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Pause

**All: Loving God, recalling Christ's gracious life and death, and proclaiming the resurrection, we offer this bread and cup.**

**Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, that they may be for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, and being built up by this precious sacrament of grace, we may receive the gift of eternal life in the blessed and heavenly realm.**

One: We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, praying the prayer taught to the disciples:

***All: 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.***

One: Gathered with his friends, Jesus took bread, broke it and said, "This is my body, broken for you. Take and eat."

And Jesus took the juice and said, "This is my blood, spilled out for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

**Distribution of the Bread and Cup:** please hold your cup until we serve all, so that all may drink together.

One: Let us pray.

**All: Gracious God, we thank you for refreshing us at your table. May we who share Christ's bread live his risen life. May we who drink Christ's cup bring abundant life to others. May the Holy Spirit who lights the world also enlighten our lives. Strengthen in us the hope you set before us, so that we and all your children shall be free, and so that the whole earth may live to praise your name. Amen.**

## 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\* ***"O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"*** (1,3,4) PH 440

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

National Anthem