

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: Louise Haynes

ACOLYTES: Mykala Pryor & Ada Sanders



"WE WELCOME YOU AND SERVE ALL THROUGH FAITH."

WORSHIP WITH US:

SEPTEMBER 22, 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

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WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Centering Words:

You may write me down in history
 With your bitter, twisted lies,
 You may trod me in the very dirt
 But still, like dust, I'll rise.
 From, I Rise by Maya Angelo

❖ BEGINNING OF SERVICE ❖**THE PREPARATION**

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

PRELUDE

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 Prayer¹ (Unison)

**Good God, make yourself known among us. We lift our
 voices in song, our hearts in prayer, our minds in
 consideration, our lives in adoration toward you.**

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

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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
- ➔ St. Luke's Episcopal Church, St. Albans
- ➔ 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.

We acknowledge that your Spirit leads, comforts, and challenges us as we follow you. Amen.

HYMN*

“Praise to the Living God” (1,2,4) NCH 8

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION ¹ (UNISON)

Holy Love, we confess that too often we become fixated with our position in the world. We love the exercise of our own power and exert it over others rather for the benefit of the common good and your kin-dom. Transform our hearts to crave you as the source of our power and love the only good and fulfilling demonstration of it. Make us your instruments of peace, joy, and hope in the world and agents of new life. Amen.

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE MESSAGE

TIME WITH CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

SPECIAL MUSIC

Equinox from "Ten Ephesian Rites"

S. Conrady

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 9:30-37

MORNING REFLECTION

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*

"In the Midst of New Dimensions" (1,2,4) NCH 391

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Ludus Tonalis* S. CONRADY

❖ END OF SERVICE ❖

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

- ★ Sue Brown Thank You for organizing the monthly Breakfast Club. We appreciate your willingness to "herd cats"!

Tent Drive:

Community Action and Samaritan House recently lost funding for camping supplies—can you help? Donations can be brought to the church. They need:

NEW 3-5 person tents.

New or Gently Used:

- Sleeping bags
- Blankets
- Tarps
- Ground Cloths

Cash or check

Church Street Community Worship:

Blessing of the Pets!

October 6, 10am

Taylor Park

This will take the place of our regular Sunday service. Please bring a donation of pet food or kitty litter for Franklin County Animal Rescue.

Walking the Walk

Sept. 28 & Oct. 5 10am - noon

With Doug Klette

When the going gets tough.
The tough get loving!

Online Giving:

Wi-Fi:

Sanctuary
sanctuary123

