

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:

Tuesday -Friday 9am-2pm

Church Office Phone Number: 802-524-4555

Pastor Jessica's Office Hours: Friday 9:30am -12:30pm

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

ACOLYTES: Mykala Pryor & Ada Sanders



"WE WELCOME YOU AND SERVE ALL THROUGH FAITH."

WORSHIP WITH US:

FEBRUARY 2, 2025

10 AM

REV. JESSICA MOORE, PASTOR

BAILEY BROWN, MUSIC AND CHOIR DIRECTOR

STEPHAN CONRADY, ORGANIST

STEPHEN McLAUGHLIN, OFFICE MANAGER

27 CHURCH STREET, ST. ALBANS, VT 05478

802-524-4555

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WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Centering Words:

In the midst of chaos, there is also opportunity.

— Sun Tzu

❖ BEGINNING OF SERVICE ❖

THE PREPARATION

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

PRELUDE *Fractions*

S. Conrady

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNG CALL TO WORSHIP Come and Fill Our Hearts (Taizé)

***Come and fill our hearts with your peace,
You alone, O God, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace,
Al-le-lu--ia!***

Morning Prayer¹ (Unison)

Emmanuel, we welcome you in our midst. You amaze and inspire, challenge and convict, comfort and fortify. May we be open and receptive to your voice and presence among us. Let your words encourage us to be prophetic, passionate, and public in our ministry as we praise and honor your name. Amen.

HYMN*

***A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* (1,2,4) NCH 439**

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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ANNOUNCEMENTS:**A Special Note of Gratitude From the Pastor At FCC:**

- ★ Sandy Cristman, Chris & Rich Guzman, Louise Haynes, Nancy Holland, Stephen McLaughlin, Valerie Odrechowski, Alan Shannon, and Mara Vijups AKA **Super-Star Sunday Readers** thank you all for bringing your unique voices to the scripture readings!

Martha's Kitchen Collection for Feb. 9

- ★ Coffee
- ★ Ice Tea Mix
- ★ Sugar
- ★ Powdered Creamer

Congregational Information Meeting**February 9th**

Join us after church for our quarterly informational meeting. This is a great time to find out what is happening and to share ideas about the direction you would like to see FCC take. Everyone is welcome. YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE A MEMBER!

Zoom Bible Study: Companionship on the Road

Wednesdays 7:00-8:00pm

Feb. 5

Luke 5: 1-11

Contact Pastor Jessica for the link

Online Giving:**Wi-Fi:**

Fellowship Hall
fellowship123

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹ (UNISON)**

God Who Knows Us, we pray that you form and shape us anew. Remind us who we are and draw us back to you. Transform us in love, correct us with compassion, and lead us with clarity into the paths of righteousness, truth, and peace. Forgive us for when we reject your presence, your guidance, and your will. Redeem and restore us as your beloved creation and as active citizens of your kin-dom. In Jesus, we pray. Amen.

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION**WORDS OF ASSURANCE****PASSING OF THE PEACE****THE MESSAGE**

ANTHEM *I Still Have Joy*

Danny McCrimmon & Joseph Calvin Jackson
Arr. Peter Amidon.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 4:21-30

CONTEMPORARY READING

Alien by Steve Garnaas-Holmes

MORNING REFLECTION

As the Tide Turns

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

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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."

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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~

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*

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness (1, 2, 4) NCH 286

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Theme from Schindler's List

J. Williams

❖ END OF SERVICE ❖