

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-2:30pm and by Appointment

Email: pastorjessica@firstcongregationalstalbans.org

For urgent, pastoral matters outside of regular office hours, call Pastor Jessica at 207-632-5544.

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



“WE WELCOME YOU AND SERVE ALL THROUGH FAITH.”

WORSHIP WITH US:

JULY 27, 2025

10 A.M.

REV. JESSICA MOORE, PASTOR

BAILEY BROWN, MUSIC AND CHORAL DIRECTOR

STEPHAN CONRADY, ORGANIST

STEPHEN McLAUGHLIN, 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:

[Kids] don't remember what you try to teach them. They remember what you are. — Jim Henson

❖ BEGINNING OF SERVICE ❖**THE PREPARATION**

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

PRELUDE *Summertime* arr. Conrady

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENT

SUNG CALL TO WORSHIP *Bless the Lord, My Soul* (Taizé)

**Bless the Lord, my soul
and Bless God's Holy name
Bless the Lord, my soul
who leads me into life.**

MORNING PRAYER¹ (UNISON)

One Who Is Holy, make us like new, show us your way, teach us to pray with our hearts and our hands. Give us the word today that we need to know you. Give us hope today to be a beacon in a world full of lost and confused. Give us joy today to make your name known. Give us peace today to respond with courage, fortitude, and conviction. Give us love today to love as you have loved us. 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).

THIS SERVICE IS MADE POSSIBLE WITH THE GENEROUS PARTICIPATION OF:

GREETERS: Dianne and Peter Kaseoru

SCRIPTURE READER: Sandy Cristman

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS:

ACOLYTES: Sophia Gagnon, Kaia Newton, Mykala Pryor, and Ada Sanders

**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

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
- ❖ St. Luke's Episcopal Church, St. Albans
- ❖ Sheldon Interfaith Food Shelf
- ❖ Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Swanton
- ❖ Congregational Church of So. Hero
- ❖ St. Martins of Tours Inclusive Catholic Community
- ❖ Our local Girl Scout Troop

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*

The Church's One Foundation (1,2,4) NCH 386

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE¹ (Unison)

God Who Reigns in Glory and meets us in need, we seek your forgiveness and restoration. We drown in a system of debt rather than generosity and common good. May our obligations not burden us, and may we not burden others when compassion is abundantly available. We struggle not to encroach on our neighbor's territory when boundaries are arbitrary and limiting rather than purposeful and expansive. Help us turn from sin and temptation as well as guilt and shame when we struggle to live fully in your kin-dom.

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE MESSAGE

TIME WITH CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

SPECIAL MUSIC *Bridge over Troubled Water* P. Simon

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 11:1-13

CONTEMPORARY READING

MORNING REFLECTION

Heart-to-Heart

HYMN*

Sweet Hour of Prayer NCH 505

THE THANKSGIVING

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE ~

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

w;

Praise God above, all heavenly hosts:

Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

THE DEPARTURE

*HYMN**

Some Glad Morning

NCH 595

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

On Eagles' Wings

M. Joncas

❖ END OF SERVICE ❖

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

- ❖ Nancy Newton - Thank You for keeping FCC's Library full of interesting books, even while you're laid up!
- ❖ Everyone who helped yesterday at the Church Street Celebration or Open-Mic - Thank You!

Democracy Rising

Sunday, July 27; 2-5pm

FCC Fellowship Hall

We have seen far too many examples from the current administration of what we DON'T want our country and our democracy to be. Join fellow resisters and advocates to discuss and explore what we DO want to see going forward. What does a just society look like? How can we mobilize to make it happen?

Sponsored by Franklin County Vermont Women for Democracy and Third Act Franklin County.

Mindful Awareness with Jonathan:

Thursday mornings 8-9am

Free

Explore present-centered awareness and insight through acceptance and letting go. Everyone is welcome.

Bible Study:

On holiday for the summer.

Wifi:

Sanctuary
sanctuary123

