

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](mailto: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:** Nancy Holland

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



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

**WORSHIP WITH US:**

**JULY 6, 2025**

**10 AM**

REVEREND 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

[INFO@FIRSTCONGREGATIONALSTALBANS.ORG](mailto:INFO@FIRSTCONGREGATIONALSTALBANS.ORG)

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

**WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

## CENTERING WORDS

*To my mind, the life of a lamb is no less precious than that of a human being.* – Mahatma Gandhi

**THE PREPARATION**

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

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 Prayer<sup>1</sup> (unison)

**God our Good Shepherd, we come to worship you, to tell of the story of your marvelous deeds, to lament the horrors and suffering in the world, to find strength to be your witnesses, and to remind ourselves of the truth of what is possible. May our prayers rise to your heart, and your heart infiltrate our prayers. May we sing songs that move you with delight and compassion. May we recognize and ponder the wisdom you impart to us. And, may peace rest upon us as we gather in your name. Amen.**

## HYMN\*

***For the Beauty of the Earth*** NCH 28

**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>WORSHIP WAYS

MUSIC, COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS: CCLI #4799426 AND SJMP #14586

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

- ★ Paula Kane Thank You for all your work behind the scenes keeping FCC legally functioning as an organization.
- ★ B.J. Flagg Thank You for sharing your design for the new FCC web-site at the Deacons/Trustees meeting on Tuesday . . . it is beautiful, modern, professional, and really communicates who we are!

**Mindful Awareness with Jonathan:****Thursday mornings 8-9am****Free**

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

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:****July 26**

**Church Street Festival:** ice cream scoopers, tour guides, friendly faces, chit-chatters and more – we need you!

Let's show FCC off to the community with all our love and humor!

See Paula or Sandy

**SAVE THE DATE:****Sunday, July 20 @ 3:30pm****Highgate Manor**

La Bella Incgnita

Vivaldi \* Purcell \* Corelli

Donations accepted and will go to the "Raise the Floor" fund for St. John's Church in Highgate

**Bible Study: On holiday for the summer.**

Online Giving:

Wi-Fi (Sanctuary):

Sanctuary123

**PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE<sup>1</sup>**

Righteous God, forgive us for praying for the harvest without planting seeds. Forgive us for praying for the harvest without preparing the soil. Forgive us for praying for the harvest without tending the land, discerning weeds, and ensuring an adequate supply of water. Transform us for the work of the harvest. Transform us into cultivators of hope and joy. Transform us to plant seeds of justice and love. God of the harvest, equip us for the labor of stewarding the roots of new life you offer. Amen.

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

**THE MESSAGE**

SPECIAL MUSIC

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20

CONTEMPORARY READING

*Hope in the Dark*

Rebecca Solnit

MORNING REFLECTION

*Toothless*

HYMN\*

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

## THE COMMUNION

MOMENT OF SILENCE

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

One: Host of the open and expanding table  
we come to give up

**All: our appetites for power  
our thirst for revenge  
our addictions to despair  
our shame about suffering  
we come empty handed  
hands out to receive you**

One: Host of the open and expanding table

**All: we come to partake of the bread of Life.**

**We come to drink from the cup of Blessing**

One: This is your love, given for us

One: God of today and tomorrow  
we live between memory and hope  
for your beloved kin-dom

**All: Feed us  
Rekindle your light in us  
Meet us in our humanity**

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**

**BLESSING OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

**DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD AND CUP:** Please hold your bread and juice until all are served, so that we may eat and drink together.

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

We give thanks to you, Source of all life, that you have refreshed and renewed us with this memorial of sacrificial love. May this shared act strengthen our faith in you and increase our love toward one another.

## 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\*

***Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing***

NCH 77

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

❖ END OF SERVICE ❖