

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

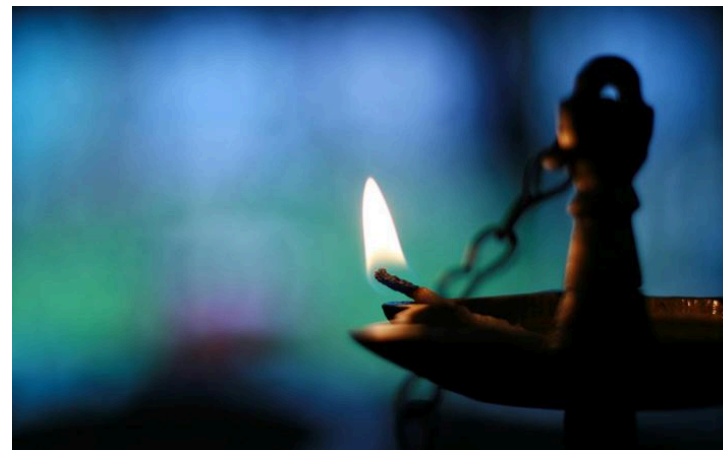
Email: [pastorjessica@firstcongregationalstalbans.org](mailto:pastorjessica@firstcongregationalstalbans.org)

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

Please note that Monday is Pastor Jessica's day off.

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**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:***

***AUGUST 10, 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*

*WWW.FIRSTCONGREGATIONALSTALBANS.ORG*

**WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

CENTERING WORDS:

These things will destroy the human race: politics without principle, progress without compassion, wealth without work, learning without silence, religion without fearlessness, and worship without awareness.

— Anthony de Mello

**❖ BEGINNING OF SERVICE ❖**

**THE PREPARATION**

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

PRELUDE            *Amazing Grace*

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

**Wonderful God, set your kin-dom before us anew. Dwell with us as we bring our songs and prayers, our hopes and hesitations, our faith and our disbelief before you. Demonstrate your kin-dom to us and through our time of gathering so that we may be firm and steadfast in love and action to make your way known. Reveal the path you trail before us so that we may follow you clearly with distraction or detour. May your Spirit enliven, challenge, and guide us in all things and for all days. 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:** B.J. Flagg, Jonathan

**SCRIPTURE READER:** Chris Guzman

**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

<sup>1</sup>UCC 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\*

*O God Our Help In Ages Past* (1,3,4) NCH 25

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE<sup>1</sup> (Unison)

**O God, our hands are full and stained with the fruit of devastation and despair. We lament a world filled with genocide and war even as we acknowledge our complicity and inaction with rampant evil in the world. Too often, we benefit from our neighbor's suffering and remain complacent and compliant when the cost of loving our neighbor seems to address illusions of safety and security. Move us to action. Arm us with hearts bursting with love. Equip us as agents of the kin-dom's peace. Assure us that when we seek forgiveness through our actions as well as our words, your grace will meet us. Amen.**

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

## THE MESSAGE

TIME WITH CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

SPECIAL MUSIC

*Snow in August* #3 Nagasaki S. Conrady

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 12: 32-40

CONTEMPORARY READING

MORNING REFLECTION

HYMN\*

*In Christ There Is No East or West* NCH 394

## 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;  
Praise God above, all heavenly hosts:  
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

OFFERTORY PRAYER

## THE DEPARTURE

***HYMN\****

***Go Light Your World***

Insert

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*O God Beyond All Praising*

G. Holst

❖ END OF SERVICE ❖

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

- ❖ Greg and Melissa Beeman, Thank You for hosting the Pasta Pot-Luck at your beautiful home!
- ❖ Sue Brown, Thank You for your continued Breakfast Club ministry – we love getting together! Even if we are like herding cats!

### Open Mic: Under the Apple Tree!

**August 16; 3-5pm**

We loved being outside in JULY so much that we thought we'd do it again. Please join in the fun!

### Nature's Bible with Kent Gramm

**Sept. 6 and 13th**

**10- noon**

The two sessions will use Nature's Bible: The Old Testament through the Eyes of Creation to look at some biblical passages from a different perspective. How might some of our fellow creatures react to such stories as the Great Flood, the Exodus from Egypt, and to selected psalms and prophecies? What would a bear think about the tale of Elijah and the disrespectful children? These stories raise issues concerning biblical inspiration and historical accuracy.

### 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

