

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.

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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:**

**MARCH 1, 2026**

**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**

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**WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

## Centering Words:

When we enter love, we find ourselves caught up in its power.  
Love lifts us beyond our quest for survival. Love enables us to  
transcend our limits. Love frees us to give ourselves away.

– John Shelby Spong

**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> (Litany)

**All: Tell me something good!**

One: God loves you more than you could imagine.

**All: Tell me something good!**

One: God loves all of creation more than you could imagine.

**All: Tell me something good!**

One: God's love meets us in this service of worship. We are  
not alone.

**All: This is good news indeed!**

Let us worship our compassionate God.

HYMN\* ***Be Now My Vision*** (1,2,3) NCH 451

**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:**

**READER:** Stephen McLaughlin

**COFFEE HOUR HOSTS:** Paula Kane and Sabrina Perron

**ACOLYTES:** 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> SANCTIFIED ARTS

LENTEN ARTWORK (BULLETIN COVERS) BY B.J. FLAGG

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

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

- ★ Rich Guzman Thank You for setting-up the new media cart for the new TV!
- ★ Rich and Chris Guzman Thank You for donating the new smart-TV! We can't wait to start watching movies. . . *Jesus Christ Superstar* - anyone?

**Breakfast Club March 14****Maple City Diner 9am**

rsvp Sue Brown or the office

**Sanctuary Discussion March 14****Fellowship Hall, 1:30-4:30pm**

What would you like to see happening in this beautiful and sacred space?

Everyone is encouraged and welcome to join the discussion!

**March 15: One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)** is a vital special mission offering of the United Church of Christ. It connects you to disaster relief, refugee assistance, and development efforts around the globe. When disasters strike, or when individuals are displaced due to violence or poverty, OGHS ensures immediate response and ongoing recovery. Thank you for your gifts!

**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: Wednesdays 7pm****Via Zoom****Next: March 4, Mark 6:32-44****Online Giving: QR Code**

Wi-Fi

Fellowship Hall

fellowship123

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE<sup>1</sup> (UNISON)**Merciful God,**

did we see you hungry and give you something to eat?

Did we see you thirsty and give you something to drink?

Did we see you alone and offer you compassion?

Or did we cross the street? Did we avert our eyes?

Did we come up with every excuse in the book?

God, we long to be people who love our neighbors

with the same overwhelming love that you have for them.

But we must admit, we have a long way to go.

Forgive us for the times when we let bias, scarcity, or fear get in the way of love. Wash us clean and give us the

courage to try again.

With hope for a better tomorrow we pray, amen.

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION &amp; WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

**THE MESSAGE**ANTHEM *Love Call Me Home* P. Seeger (arr. P. Amidon)

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 7: 36-50; Matthew 25: 35-40

*Precious Belonging* Gregory BoyleMORNING REFLECTION *Love Wastefully***THE COMMUNION**

This is the Table of Good News! Around this Table our voices ring out in joy and love and mercy and justice, because God loves us *wastefully* and has invited us here. God invites us in shouts and whispers that speak directly to our hearts, by-passing the news updates, our endless distractions, our anger, and our fear. This is God's Table. Do you hear God's Voice? This is the Table of Good News!

One: 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 Christ Jesus, 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, poured out for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

**Distribution of the Bread and Cup:** An Usher will invite you forward to be served Communion at the Table. If you would prefer to be served at your seat please notify the Usher.

COMMUNION TAIZÉ:

**Let all who are thirsty come, let all who wish receive the water of life freely.**

**Amen, come Lord Jesus, amen, come Lord Jesus.**

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

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER:

*Hear Our Prayer, O Lord.* D. Welpton

PASTOR'S PRAYER~

CHORAL RESPONSE TO PRAYER

*Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace,  
Whose mind is stayed on thee.*

Scottish Psalter, 1615

## THE DEPARTURE

HYMN\*

***Go Now in Peace***

BB 14

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Four Years*

S. Conrady

Молитва за Україну - Prayer for Ukraine