

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.

---

**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 8, 2026**

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

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

**WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

## CENTERING WORDS:

Love isn't about what we did yesterday; it's about what we do today and tomorrow and the day after.

— Grace Lee Boggs

❖ BEGINNING OF SERVICE ❖**THE PREPARATION**

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

PRELUDE      *Like a Motherless Child*

## 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>      (LITANY)

One: If you need good news, settle into this space.

**All: We have good news to share.**

One: If you need a word of hope, then trust us when we say,

**All: there is hope enough to go around.**

One: If you need a glimmer of joy, then you're in luck!

**All: We have resilient joy abounding.**

One: If you need to feel God's presence in your midst,

**All: then know that this is God's house.**

One: This is the good news of the gospel.

**All: God is here. Love is real. Joy is on the move. Amen**

## HYMN\*

***O God, Our Help in Ages Past***      (1-4) NCH 25

**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

**SCRIPTURE READER:** Mara Vijups

**COFFEE HOUR HOST:** Heather Miller and Jessica Pecor

**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, LENT 2026

ORIGINAL ART WORK BY B.J. FLAGG

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

**Mission Highlight****The Welcome Home Initiative (WH):**

First Congregational Church of St. Albans is a founding member of 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.)

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. Martin's 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
- ❖ NCSS

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.

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

**Holy God, with you the impossible is possible.**

**5,000 can be fed.**

**The blind can see.**

**The hopeless can find hope.**

**With you the impossible is possible,**

**but we are quick to forget that.**

**We look at our hurting world and tell ourselves that nothing can be done.**

**We forget that you empowered the disciples to feed the crowd.**

**We forget that you are always with us.**

**Forgive our small-minded ways.**

**Forgive us for doubting that change could ever come.**

**But even more so, forgive us when we refuse to be a part of it.**

**With hope for a better tomorrow we pray, amen.**

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

**THE MESSAGE**

TIME WITH CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

ANTHEM *World Wide Peace* arr. P. Amidon W. Ramsey

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 6:32-44; Ephesians 3:20-21

CONTEMPORARY READING

*Surely, This Must Be It*

Sarah Speed

REFLECTION

*Bread and Roses*

HYMN\*

*O for a World*

NCH 575

## THE THANKSGIVING

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER:

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

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.**

CHORAL RESPONSE TO PRAYER

*Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace,  
Whose mind is stayed on thee.*  
Scottish Psalter, 1615

## 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\***

***Put One Foot in Front of the Other*** (insert) M. DeMore

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Damien's Song* S. Conrady

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

- ★ Sandy Cristman Thank You for setting-up the new TV and connecting it to the world-wide web!
- ★ Alan Shannon Thank You for your continued ministry of being the FCC Treasurer- we appreciate all the hard work you do!

#### Breakfast Club March 14

Maple City Diner 9am

rsvp Sue Brown or the office

#### Sanctuary Discussion March 14

Sanctuary, 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.

**ZOOM Bible Study: Wednesdays 7pm**

**Next: March 11**

**Text: Matthew 19:13-15**

**Wifi:**

Fellowship Hall; fellowship123

