

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.

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:

MAY 10, 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

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WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

CENTERING WORDS:

Abiding does not mean sitting idly by. It means resting in the work, resting in the moment, resting in the truth, resting in the confidence that God is your provision. — Robin Bertram

❖ BEGINNING OF SERVICE ❖**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 ¹ (UNISON)

Holy and Present God, hear the sound of praise as we share this space and time gathered among you. May our hearts be opened and our minds engaged. Let the Spirit of Truth live in our songs of adoration, prayers of intercession, and words of pondering. In your name, glory and honor. Amen.

HYMN*

From All That Dwell below the Skies NCH 27

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: Doug Klette

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS: Bonnie Bosley and Valerie Odrechowski

**After the service please join us for fellowship,
conversation, coffee, and refreshments.**

*PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

¹UCC, WORSHIP WAYS

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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:

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 ¹ (UNISON)

Gracious and Eternal One, we proclaim that you breathe life into us and know us fully. Yet, sometimes, you remain unknown to us. Sometimes we search for you and sometimes we fumble about for you. We rest in the assurance that when we seek you, we will find you. But, there are times when we refuse to seek, refuse to search, refuse to fumble. There are times when we rather keep you in compartments so that you will not fully impact our lives. There are moments when we close ourselves off from your revealing word, guiding hand, and nudging Spirit. Forgive us, O God, for not coming to you as you come to us—fully, persistently, and constantly—and give us strength to fumble and reach toward you in all seasons and at all times. Amen.

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE MESSAGE

TIME WITH CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

ANTHEM *Peace I Leave with You, My Friends* R. Rapp

SCRIPTURE READING JOHN 14:15-21

CONTEMPORARY READING

Blessing for a Mother J. O'Donohue

REFLECTION *The Advocate*

HYMN*

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (1,2,4) NCH 479

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* *Go Now In Peace* BB 14

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A Special Note of Gratitude from All of Us at FCC:

- ★ Spring Cleaners - Thank You for raking, bagging, and generally helping to spruce things up at FCC!

Open-Mic and Community Pot-Luck

May 16, 7-9pm

Sing- Play- Read- Recite- Tell a story- or just sit back, relax, and enjoy!

Informational Meeting on May 17 after church. Everyone is welcome; no need for membership.

Martha's Kitchen collection for May 17

Shopping List: ground coffee, dry creamer, hot-chocolate packets, sugar, iced-tea mix, lemonade mix.

All-Church Picnic at Hadley and Alan Shannon's.

June 6, Noon - 3pm.

Sign-up and directions available at coffee-hour.

The Art Studio at FCC:

Thursdays at Noon

Looking for a creative outlet? Join us. Instruction, materials, and good cheer available. No experience necessary. Donations welcome.

Mindful Awareness with Jonathan:

Thursday mornings 8-9am - Free

Explore present-centered awareness and insight through acceptance and letting go. All are welcome.

ZOOM Bible Study:

Wednesdays 7pm,

May 13: John 17:1-11

Wifi:

Sanctuary: sanctuary123

