

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

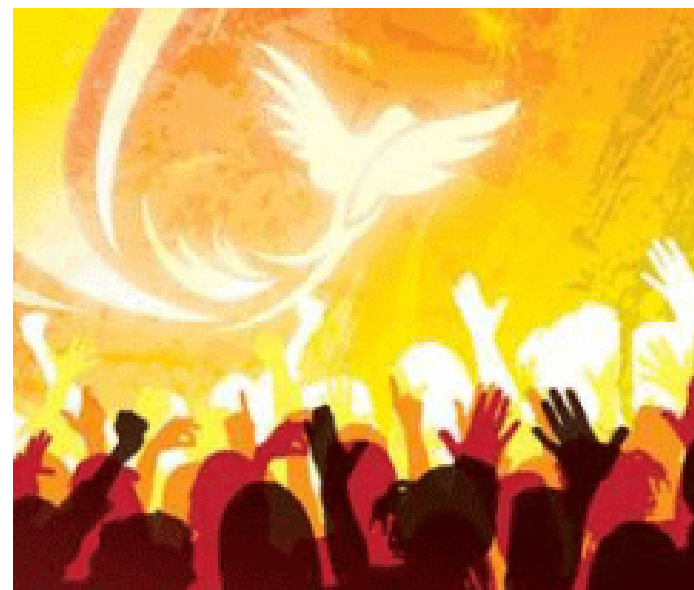
Email: [pastorjessica@firstcongregationalstalbans.org](mailto:pastorjessica@firstcongregationalstalbans.org)

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:**

**MAY 24, 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**

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

**WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

## CENTERING WORDS:

Until you are clear nothing will be. The moment you are clear everything will be.

— Rasheed Ogunlaru

❖ BEGINNING OF SERVICE ❖**THE PREPARATION**

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

PRELUDE      *Hymn for Freedom*      O. Peterson

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNG CALL TO WORSHIP      *Here in This Place*

**Holy One, may your presence here open our minds.**

**May your Spirit among us help us to find**

**You are rising up now like a fountain of Grace**

**From the Holy Ground.**

**Here in this place. Here in this place.**

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

**Jesus, our sibling and friend, we thank you for your example, which guides us as we share the good news of God's love with a hurting world. Thank you for protecting us, teaching us, and equipping us to partner with you to work for love and justice. Help us share the joy we've found in our relationship with you. Empower us with the Holy Spirit, that we might testify to God's goodness. Amen.**

## HYMN\*

*Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness* (1 & 2) NCH 286

**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:**

**SCRIPTURE READER:** Alan Shannon

**COFFEE HOUR HOSTS:** Alice Drislane and Carol Klette

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

\*PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

<sup>1</sup>UCC, 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 <sup>1</sup> (UNISON)**

**Spirit of God, our prayers often ask You to be present in our lives and in our world. But we confess that we are terrified that You might actually show up. We remember the stories of You kindling the imagination of the prophets, and then each putting their lives on the line. We remember the stories of You sparking action within the early Church, compelling them all to embrace something completely foreign and new. We confess, Dear Spirit, we are afraid You will call us to move outside our comfort zones. We are afraid You will kindle a passion within us we will be unable to ignore. We are afraid that You will rearrange our lives beyond recognition. Forgive us for the fears that have been holding us back from inviting You truly into our lives...**

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION \* ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

**THE MESSAGE**

TIME WITH CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

ANTHEM

SCRIPTURE READING *Acts 2:1-21*

CONTEMPORARY READING

*Human Family* Maya Angelou

REFLECTION *Touched by the Wind*

HYMN\*

*In the Midst of New Dimensions* NCH 391

**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\* *Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness* (3 & 4) NCH 286

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Tyler Place Memories* S. Conrady**ANNOUNCEMENTS:****A Special Note of Gratitude from All of Us at FCC:**

- ★ Alan and Hadley Shannon - Thank You for initiating the new garden ministry at FCC!
- ★ Eric Harper, Jonathan, Chauncey Scates, Ira Wilkens - Thank you for donning your gardening gloves and helping with the new garden!
- ★ Greg Beeman - Thank you for your continued Open-Mic ministry!

**Martha's Kitchen collection for May**

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.

**Ecumenical Pride Service****June 7 at 10:30 at St. Paul's Methodist Church.****AHA Art Club:****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 27 - Matthew 28:16-20

**Wifi:**

Sanctuary: sanctuary123

