

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

For urgent pastoral matters call Pastor Jessica at 207-632-5544.

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:

SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

10 AM

REV. JESSICA MOORE, PASTOR

STEPHAN CONRADY, ORGANIST

STEPHEN McLAUGHLIN, OFFICE MANAGER

27 CHURCH STREET, ST. ALBANS, VT 05478

802-524-4555

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WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Centering Words:

All that I have ever seen teaches me to trust the Creator for all that I have not seen.

– Ralph Waldo Emerson

THE PREPARATION

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

PRELUDE *Meditation, Part 1 (from Ten Ephesian Rites)*

S. Conrady

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

Stillness

Bonnie Bosley

MOMENT OF REFLECTIVE SILENCE

HYMN*

For the Beauty of the Earth NCH 28

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE (UNISON)

Holy One, every creature great and small, you made and cherish. We confess that too often we have exploited and ignored rather than loved your good earth. Our actions are selfish and shortsighted; we have little regard for the air and

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:

DEACON OF THE MONTH: Jessica Pecor**TRUSTEE OF THE MONTH:** Park Newton**GREETERS:** Doug and Carol Klette**READER:** Valerie Odrechowski**COFFEE-HOUR HOST:**

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

*PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

^B REV J. MARY LUTI

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

- ★ Maria Barresi - Thank You for providing hospitality and goodies for the "Going Deeper" Saturday mornings!
- ★ Bonnie Bosley - Thank You for sharing your beautiful poem with us this morning!
- ★ Park Newton - Thank You for replacing and updating the lights in the sanctuary!

Walking The Walk with Doug Klette**Sept. 12 and 19; 10:15am - 12:15pm**

The Walking the Walk program started in 2023 and is designed to help us, as Christians, live by our COVENANT, seeking to build healthy, authentic relationships through effective interpersonal skills.

Breakfast Church**September 13 - in Fellowship Hall**

Pot-Luck! We will pray, sing, and praise around the table over a shared meal.

Informational Meeting**September 13th**

After church. Join us as we plot the course of the church together! You DO NOT need to be an official member of the church.

Organ Concert**Sept. 20 @ 3pm****Mindful Awareness with Jonathan:****In the Sanctuary on Thursday mornings 8-9am - Free****The AHA Art Club: Thursdays at Noon****ZOOM Bible Study:****On break for the summer****Online Giving: QR Code**

Wi-Fi
Sanctuary
sanctuary 123



(PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE CONT'D.)

sea, the dirt beneath our feet and all the living beings who share the earth with us. Help us remember that the earth and all that is in it, is yours, O God and it is holy.

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION * WORDS OF ASSURANCE * PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE MESSAGESPECIAL MUSIC *Ted's Song* S. Conrady

SCRIPTURE READING Romans 13:8-10 & Matthew 18:15-20

CONTEMPORARY READING

Selections from Wendell Berry

MORNING REFLECTION *Lots to Learn***THE COMMUNION****Invitation^B**

Once upon a time, God made a garden, and every creature lived in it happily with God.

We took long walks with God in the cool of the evening, humans and snails, kangaroos and spiders, kitties and larks. And when we all sat down with God to eat, the curling vines gave up their fruit, the tall gold wheat gave up its grain, and we ate delicious bread and drank from a cup of blessing, singing songs under stars 'till morning. And the grateful creation was at peace.

Ever since, whenever we honor the earth by eating and drinking with heartfelt thanks, God walks with us again. God sits with us and eats. Our tables become the garden, the whole creation sighs with peace, and we see again how life was meant to be.

And here we are - guests at God's table where no one is turned away and all are fed.

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 in small groups. If you would prefer to be served at your seat please notify the Usher.

COMMUNION MUSIC

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

PASTOR'S PRAYER~

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

DEPARTURE

HYMN*

Go Now in Peace BB

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Meditation, Part 2 (from Ten Ephesian Rites)*
S. Conrady