

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: 8 AM to 11 AM weekdays.

Church Office Phone Number: 802-524-4555

Pastor Jessica's Office Hours: T-W-F, 9am-12pm

Email: pastorjessica@firstcongregationalstalbans.org

For urgent, pastoral matters outside of regular office hours, call Pastor Jessica at 207-632-5544.

OUR WORSHIP SERVICE IS BROADCAST OVER THE LOCAL PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNEL 1079 ON SUNDAYS AT 4 PM.

SCRIPTURE READER: Toni Gray



"WE WELCOME YOU AND SERVE ALL THROUGH FAITH."

WORSHIP WITH US:

NOVEMBER 20, 2022

10AM

REV. JESSICA MOORE, PASTOR

ERIN GRAINGER, MUSIC AND CHORAL DIRECTOR

STEPHAN CONRADY, ORGANIST

SUE POWERS, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

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:**

“Completeness is gathering the broken self and wholeness is gathering the complete self” — P.S. Jagadeesh Kumar

THE PREPARATION

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

Prelude *A Little Prelude* L. Schutte

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**CALL TO WORSHIP: TAIZÉ**

Let all who are thirst - y come, Let
all who wish re - ceive the wa - ter of life
free - ly. A - men, come Lord Je - sus. A -
men, come Lord Je - sus. Let

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).

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

*PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

¹UCC, WORSHIP WAYS

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED:

The Greening of the Church: You are invited to join in on Saturday, November 26 at 1 PM to decorate the church for the Advent and Christmas season.

Free Open Mic, Coffee House is scheduled here on **Saturday, December 17th, from 7 PM – 9 PM.** The theme is Happy Holidays. Burgers, dogs and snacks will be available. Music: instrumental, acapella, bands, sing alongs as well as spoken word, storytelling and skits.

Everyone is welcome: beginners, experts and everyone in between.

The performance space will be open for practice on **Thursday, Dec. 15, from 6 to 8 PM.**

For information and if you would like to sign up ahead of time call Greg at 802-324-0308.

Rides for Sunday service and other special events – If you are able to provide a ride for someone who no longer drives, please call Jessica or the church office (802-524-4555) to be put on the list.

MORNING PRAYER¹

Though many forces have scattered us in various ways, we invite you to bring us together within ourselves and all around us. Prepare our hearts, minds, and spirits, Gathering God, to be present and ready to receive exactly what we need from this time of worship. **Amen.**

HYMN*

“Great IS Your Faithfulness” (1, 3)

NCH 423

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹ **(Unison)**

It’s so easy for us to get caught up in our human-made divisions. Whether survival instincts or capitalistic drive, we separate ourselves from those who don’t look, think, or act like us. We unintentionally allow our differences to stain the beauty of your diversity. Our many different households, family structures, belief systems, and various identities become tools of divisiveness rather than gifts of the divine. Amen.

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE MESSAGE

TIME WITH CHILDREN

ANTHEM *A Thanksgiving Prayer*

D. Besig

SCRIPTURE READING

JEREMIAH 23:1-6

LUKE 23:33-43

MORNING REFLECTION: “Standing By”

HYMN*

“Lift High the Cross”

(1, 3, 5) NCH 198

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

THE DEPARTURE

HYMN*

“We Gather Together”

NCH 421

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Bist du bei mir*

G. H. Stölzel

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

- Paula Kane Thank You for leading the Annual Meeting. We had a good discussion.
- Thank you to everyone who attended the Annual Meeting!
- Park Newton Thank You for fixing the clock!

Music Notes: The third concert of the season will be DECEMBER 11th (not Nov 13).

Bible Study

Next meeting is Wednesday November 23th on Zoom – please let Pastor Jessica know if you’d like to join in!

Mitten Tree – We are currently collecting mittens and scarfs to be distributed to local organizations and schools, who will in turn distribute them to individuals for the upcoming cold weather. Knitting instruction are available on the bulletin tables in the sanctuary or by contacting the office. Purchased items are also being accepted.

Midday Meditation

Monday · Wednesday · Friday

12pm- 1pm

Please join us in the sanctuary for quiet reflection. We’ll have soothing music and meditation guides available.