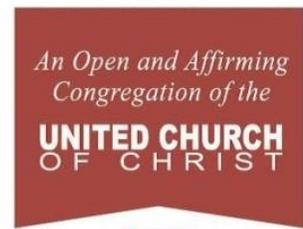




38 South Winooski Avenue  
Burlington, Vermont



firstchurchburlington.org

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

JULY 5, 2020

*Fifth Sunday after Pentecost*

*Communion Sunday*

### PRELUDE

*Liberty Bell March*  
Dr. David Neiweem, *Organ*

*Sousa*

### LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE AND WELCOME

Hannah Sachs

### CALL TO WORSHIP AND INVOCATION

Asa and Aven Jorgenson  
*Adapted, Gordon B. Mckeeman and E-L Belcher*

One: We are called to celebrate, not just by words spoken, but also by miracles recalled:

All: a baby's first cry, the petals of a flower  
mist-covered mountains, the restless tides of the seas,  
human love, human hope.

One: We respond with gratitude:

All: with joy, with wonder,  
at life's boundless possibilities.

One: Let us take a moment to settle into the silence.

Hear and feel your quiet breathing.

Hear and feel the quiet of this time  
and your space.

In this quiet hour may our spirits be renewed.

In this gathering of friends near and far,  
may we be ready to extend ourselves to those in need,  
and with trust to receive the hand that is offered.

In this time of celebration, may our minds be open to new truth,  
and our hearts be receptive to love,

as we give thanks for this life we are blessed to share. Amen.

\* OPENING HYMN *All Creatures of Our God and King*

CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PASSING THE PEACE

*During this time we are going to focus on taking a moment to recognize what peace there is in our lives,  
and how we can pass that to others, especially in a time of isolation.*

THE GIFT OF THE WORD

THE WORD *Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30* Amy Mellencamp

WORD OF GOD FOR ALL AGES Hilah Clarke

SPECIAL MUSIC *Vermont Friends  
Emma Barker & Ana Ruesink*

SERMON Rev. Elissa Johnk

\* HYMN OF THANKSGIVING *A Dream of Dignity*

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

CALL TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY *We Shall Overcome*

*You are invited to use this time to make your gifts and submit your pledges electronically.*

*Give online: <https://onrealm.org/FirstChurchBurlington/-/give/now>*

*Pledge online: [https://firstcongregationalchurch.formstack.com/forms/2020\\_pledge\\_form](https://firstcongregationalchurch.formstack.com/forms/2020_pledge_form)*

*Text FCCBUCC to 73256 to give a gift to FCCB using your text messaging.*

*Standard text message rates apply.*

*You can also write a check and mail it to 38 S. Winooski, Burlington, VT 05401*

\* DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above ye heavenly host;  
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THE GIFT OF THE MEAL

Jesus ate with common people; breaking laws he knew were built  
on the customs that excluded; on laws that engendered guilt.  
We are welcome at this table, by such laws his blood was spilt.

At this meal there's no exclusion; we may come, there's no demand;  
Jesus ate with his disciples; even Judas was not banned.  
We are welcome at this table, this is what was always planned.

## INVITATION

*by David Galston, adapted*

Elissa: Welcome to this banqueting table.  
This is a table of uncompromising hospitality,  
of sharing, and of celebration.

We break bread and pour wine  
because these are the gifts that strengthen  
our journey together.

**Deacon:** We remember and honor the loving imperative  
that is the biblical heritage:  
justice is not belief but action,  
not silence but voice,  
not tolerance but compassion.

**Deacon:** On this weekend of feasting, we remember that  
A banquet should remind us of our common humanity  
and our common need for just relationships.

**Deacon:** Jesus said, "If you love those who love you,  
what merit is there in that?  
An outlaw can do the same thing.  
and if you give only to those who give back to you,  
do you really expect congratulations?  
Rather, love your enemies, do good,  
and lend without expecting anything in return."

**Deacon:** The call to follow justice is easy to issue,  
but the resolve to follow justice is difficult to muster.

**Many deacon voices, one after another:** Together,

**Deacon:** let us be a community  
that not only issues the word  
but follows it.

**Deacon:** May our community be one that holds  
the strength of compassion and the resolve to act.  
May we be a people who unites  
our words with our deeds.

All (one after another): **For the dignity of life**

**All: (one after another): and the hope of humanity,**

**All: (together): may it be so.**

Elissa: We break bread as an act of solidarity.  
We pour wine as an act of sharing.  
Welcome to this banquet celebration.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND PRAYER OF BLESSING

### THE 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 debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

## SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

\* **SUNG PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** *We Are Welcome, V.3*

All are welcome at this table; every culture every race;  
We experience the Presence; of the Christ, Amazing Grace!  
We are always very welcome; and held fast in God's embrace.

## SPECIAL MUSIC

*Pray for America*

*Old Crow Medicine Show*

*Used with express permission of the author*

## BIDDING TO MISSION AND SENDING FORTH

\* **BENEDICTION**

\*\*\*\*\*

\* *Please rise as you are able, in body or in spirit.*