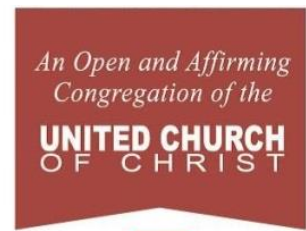


38 South Winooski Avenue  
Burlington, Vermont



firstchurchburlington.org

FEBRUARY 7, 2021

10:00AM

Annual Meeting Sunday

5th Sunday after Epiphany

*For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.*

*– The Apostle Paul, 1 Corinthians*

### THE GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC

*Communion*

*Theodore DuBois*

*Dr. David Neiweem*

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE AND WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Elissa Johnk

CALL TO WORSHIP AND INVOCATION

The Macdonald & Browne Family

One: We give thanks for the unfolding of matter,  
mind,  
intelligence,  
and life  
that has brought us to this moment in time.

**All: We celebrate our common origin with everything that exists.**

One: We celebrate the mystery we experience and address as God.  
ground and sustainer of everything that exists,  
in whom we live and move and have our being.  
And we acknowledge this mystery embodied  
in every human person,  
aware that each one of us gives the image of God

unique and personal expression.

**All: God is everywhere present.**

**In grace-filled moments of sharing.**

**In carefully created communities of loving solidarity.**

One: We are one with everything, living and nonliving, on this planet.

Connected.

Interrelated.

Interdependent.

**All: In this time of silence may we move  
from busy-ness  
to quietness...**

One: Let us pray:

God of life

God of peace

God of wonders that will not cease...

Be present with us now, in this stillness,

And in this act of gathering,

That we might know you go with us,

in all we say and do. Amen.

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*Alleluia! Gracious Jesus!*

NCH 257

**TIME OF UNBURDENING**

Hannah Sachs

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

## **THE GIFT OF THE WORD**

**THE WORD**

Mark 1:21-28

Linda Elrick

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*This Little Light of Mine*

First Church Choir

**SERMON**

The State of the Church

Rev. Elissa Johnk

**\*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING**

*We Limit Not the Truth of God*

NCH 316

## OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

COMMISSIONING OF BOARDS AND TEAMS

HONORING OF NEW, GOLDEN, AND DECEASED MEMBERS

CALL TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY AND PRAYER CONCERNS

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

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

*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**

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.

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

## SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

**INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

Welcome to this banqueting table.

This is a table of hospitality, of sharing, and of celebration.

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

That strengthen our relationships with one another.  
Even when distant.

The call to follow is easy to issue,  
but the resolve to follow is difficult to muster.

Together, let us be a community  
that not only issues the word  
but follows the dictate.

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 in love and faith.

**All: For the dignity of life and the hope of humanity, may it be so.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, PRAYER OF BLESSING AND 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 THE ELEMENTS

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## BIDDING TO MISSION AND SENDING FORTH

\*CLOSING VERSE

*Blessed Be the Tide that Binds*

NCH 393

\*BENEDICTION

Rev. Elissa Johnk

POSTLUDE

*God Be With You*

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