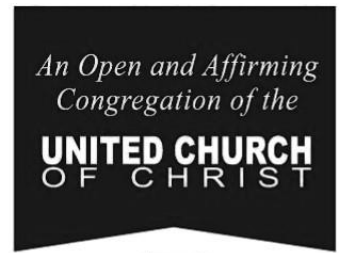




38 South Winooski Avenue  
Burlington, Vermont



firstchurchburlington.org

October 31, 2021  
10 a.m.

*Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost*

**PRELUDE**

*Passacaglia in c minor*  
Fred DeHaven, organ

J.S. Bach

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

Ann Vivian

**CALL TO WORSHIP AND INVOCATION**

The Rev. Gary Lewis

One: May we remember

**All: That God created.**

One: May we remember

**All: That God liberated.**

One: May we remember

**All: That God fed.**

One: May we remember

**All: That God is *still* creating,  
God is *still* liberating,  
And God is *still* feeding us.**

One: Let this be our story.

**All: Let this be where we begin.**

One: Let us worship holy God.

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*From All That Dwell below the Skies*

#27 NCH

**TIME OF UNBURDENING**

Hannah Sachs

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*Remote worshippers are invited to submit prayer requests via YouTube chat –  
prayer requests received prior to the sermon will be shared during “Prayers of the People.”*

**WORD OF GOD FOR (SM)ALL AGES**

Hilah Clarke

**RITE OF HOLY BAPTISM**

INVITATION

WELCOME

One: Members and friends in Christ, we gather now to celebrate the gift of grace in the sacrament of baptism.

**Many: There is one body and one Spirit. There is one hope in God’s call to us all.**

One: They were bringing children to Jesus that Jesus might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant, and said to them,

**Many: “Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the realm of God.”**

One: And Jesus took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

QUESTIONS OF THE PARENTS • QUESTION OF THE SPONSORS • QUESTIONS OF THE CONGREGATION

**Response: We, as the church, promise our love, support and care for Wheeler.**

PRAYER OF BAPTISM • ACT OF BAPTISM • PRAYER OF BLESSING

**All: Give to Wheeler strength for life’s journey, courage in time of suffering, the joy of faith, the freedom to love, and the hope of new life, through Jesus Christ, who makes us one.  
Amen.**

**SUNG THANKSGIVING**

Little Wheeler, Welcome

#323 NCH

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Ruth 1:1-18 p.231

**SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING**

*Love is the Touch of Intangible Joy*  
(see insert – linked on website)

Vv 1, 3, 4

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*Please remember our congregation includes those who are worshipping digitally, and share concerns appropriately – with permission and using first names only.*

**SILENT PRAYER • 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.**

**STEWARDSHIP WITNESSES & VIDEO**

Dawn Plante

**CALL TO THE OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

*Adagio*

Felix Mendelssohn

*During this time you are invited to offer your monetary gifts.*

*You can give online using this link*

*which is also under the video title on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/fccbonlinegiving>*

*or by texting FCCBUCC to 73256*

*or mail a check payable to:*

*First Congregational Church at 38 South Winooski Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401*

**\*DOXOLOGY**

#780 NCH

*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**

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

*Be Still, My Soul*

#488 NCH

**\*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Fugue in c minor*

J.S. Bach

*Those who are observing physical distancing are encouraged to leave immediately following the benediction. Those who are not are encouraged to stay for a portion of the postlude to facilitate their departure.*

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

**FELLOWSHIP ON ZOOM:** All worshipping remotely are invited to a virtual time in fellowship – on Zoom – following worship. The link is in the YouTube description for this morning's live stream and on the front page of the First Church website: [www.firstchurchburlington.org](http://www.firstchurchburlington.org)

### **NOTES ON TODAY'S SERVICE**

Many thanks to our lay readers and musicians this morning including, the Rev. Gary Lewis, Fred DeHaven, Nolwenn Madden, Ann Vivian, and Dawn Plante.

### **WELCOME VISITORS!**

Welcome to First Congregational Church in Burlington. Our faith is over 2,000 years old, but our thinking is not! First Church opens its doors to the Greater Burlington area, to seekers, to tourists from near and far, to those in need, to an array of building users, and to a congregation (of members, friends, and family—both curious and the committed) who call our faith community their church home.

We celebrate the sacred worth of all persons as unique individuals made in the image of God. Whatever your age, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, or physical, cognitive, or emotional ability, we invite you to find a safe and nurturing spiritual home with us. All are welcome to participate, fully and without reservation, in the life, leadership, ministry and mission of this church as we seek to grow together in a community of faith.

The First Congregational Church of Burlington is an Open & Affirming Church of the United Church of Christ. This means everyone – **everyone** – is welcome. Including YOU!

Sunday flowers are offered by Martha and Glen Burroughs in loving memory of their parents and family near and far in our hearts forever.

### Staff Directory

Rev. Elissa Johnk, *Lead Minister*

Caroline Catlin, *Office & Nursery Administrator*

Lucy Samara, *Communications Coordinator*

Max Johnson, *A/V Coordinator*

Jennifer Coleman, *Bell Choir Director*

Laura Elder-Connors, *Children's Choir Director*

Derik Breen, *Building & Grounds Staff*

Hannah Sachs, *Director of Creative Ministries  
and Youth Ministries*

Hilah Clarke, *Faith Formation Director*




Ana Ruesink, *Youth Choir Director*

Ann Vivian, *Fall Music Coordinator*

Ian Rock-Jones, *Security Staff*

Baki and Laurie Nelson, *Ushers* • Patty Thomas, Bob Wolf,  
and Caroline Crawford, *Welcomers* • Eric Davis, *Digital Usher*

Many thanks to all our lay musicians who are helping out  
while are in search for our new Music Director

 [www.firstchurchburlington.org](http://www.firstchurchburlington.org)  [info@firstchurchburlington.org](mailto:info@firstchurchburlington.org)  802.862.5010

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