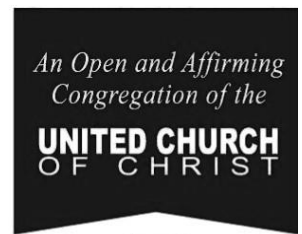




38 South Winooski Avenue  
Burlington, Vermont



firstchurchburlington.org

May 1, 2022  
Third Sunday of Easter

### Communion Sunday

If you are worshipping virtually via YouTube ~ please gather bread and cup – and a candle.

~~~

*On the street I saw a naked child hungry and shivering in the cold.*

*I became angry and said to God, "Why do you permit this?"*

*Why don't you do something?"*

*For a while God said nothing. That night he replied, quite suddenly,*

*"I certainly did something. I made you."*

*-Anthony DeMello, from Song of the Bird*

#### PRELUDE

*Prelude on The Day of Resurrection*

Callahan

#### WORDS OF WELCOME

The Rev. Elissa Johnk

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

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP AND INVOCATION

Jennifer Jorgenson

One: Peace be with you, in the name of Jesus the Christ  
who has conquered death and shows us how to live.

**All: We need the gift of peace for our harried days;  
and we need it for our troubled world.**

One: God gives us counsel and instruction  
and is always available at our right hand

**All: Our hearts are glad and our souls rejoice  
we shall not be moved.**

One: In hope and confidence we come to praise God  
for the challenges and opportunity given to us.

**All: We are full of gladness in the presence of Christ,  
whose ways we seek to follow.**

One: Let us pray:

#### \*OPENING HYMN

*I Come with Joy*

#349 NCH

#### SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 12:28-34

Faith Neil

#### TIME OF UNBURDENING

Susan Ellwood

**God of mercy and love, we know that sometimes we allow ourselves to be distracted  
by things that really don't matter all that much. We would rather pursue intellectual  
arguments than live the gospel. We would rather debate our equals than defend the  
vulnerable. We prefer to think about you instead of getting to know you. So help us,  
God. Help us to discern what does matter to you and to the vulnerable you call us to.  
Help us to open up our hearts, wide in love and grace, and so be living examples of  
your good news. In Christ we pray. Amen.**

#### WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

#### ANTHEM

*The Greatest Commandment*

arr. Zach

# Sanctuary Choir

SERMON

Michael Samara

\*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

*Christ Has No Body Now But Yours*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*This week's "Celebrations & Prayer's" list is available for you on the front page of our website – and among the links under the title of the YouTube live stream throughout this morning's live stream of the worship service.*

PASTORAL PRAYER

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.**

CALL TO THE OFFERING AND OFFERTORY *I Need Thee Every Hour*

arr. Hamilton

*You are invited to offer your monetary gifts online using this link: <https://bit.ly/fccbonlinegiving> (also under the video title on YouTube) 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

Cynthia McGeoch

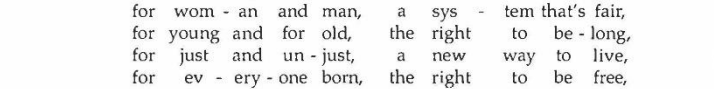
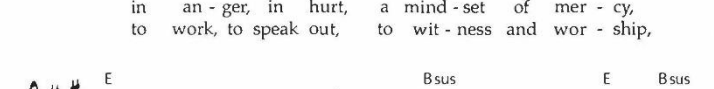
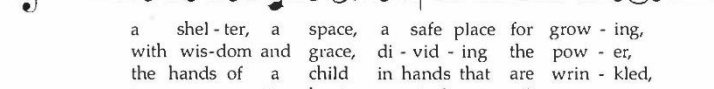
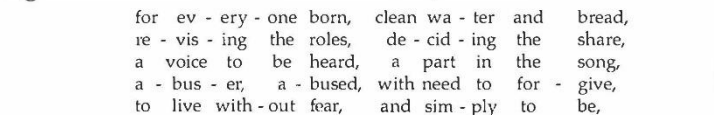
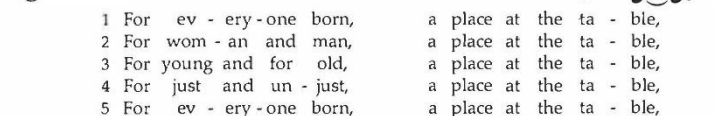
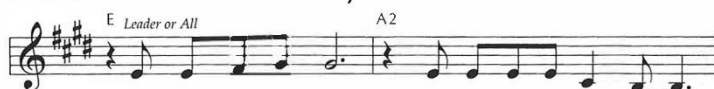
\*HYMN OF PREPARATION

*For Everyone Born*

Vv 1-3

JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

## 769 For Everyone Born



JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

Refrain  
and God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and  
joy, com - pas - sion and peace: yes,  
God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,  
jus-tice and joy!

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

Roddy Hamilton, adapted

Leader: On *that* day: **Response: it was Easter Day**

Leader: On *this* day: **Response: it is Easter Day**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF BLESSING AND SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

Holy Lord

arr. Harlan

We believe this is God's table, not ours, so all are welcome at this table, regardless of age or faith.

In the sanctuary the cup is unfermented grape juice, and gluten-free bread is available.

If you are worshipping virtually - please gather bread and cup where you are.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

\*CLOSING VERSE

For Everyone Born

Vv 4-5

JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

769 For Everyone Born



1 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,  
 2 For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble,  
 3 For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,  
 4 For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,  
 5 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,



for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,  
 re - vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share,  
 a voice to be heard, a part in the song,  
 a - bus - er, a - bused, with need to for - give,  
 to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,



a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,  
 with wis - dom and grace, di - vid - ing the pow - er,  
 the hands of a child in hands that are wrin - kled,  
 in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,  
 to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,



for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver - head,  
 for wom - an and man, a sys - tem that's fair,  
 for young and for old, the right to be - long,  
 for just and un - just, a new way to live,  
 for ev - ery - one born, the right to be free,

JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION



and God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and



joy, com - pas - sion and peace: yes,



God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,



jus-tice and joy!

\*BIDDING TO MISSION

Donal Dugan

One: Let us go forth into the world in hope and peace,  
 sharing the promise with all we meet

All: **We have been called anew to a living hope,  
 through Jesus, who is our peace.**

One: Blessed are we when we learn to trust without all the proofs in place.

All: **We have not seen and yet believe;  
 Jesus the Christ is God's special gift to the world.**

One: Blessed are we when we forgive  
 without knowing the offense will never be repeated.

All: **We dare to forgive because God pardons us  
 and summons us to be forgiving.**

One: Blessed are we when we welcome the Holy Spirit  
 not knowing where God will lead.

**All: We believe we are sent to continue the work started by Jesus of Nazareth long ago.**

One: May God give us peace, in the name of Jesus the Christ who has conquered death and shows us how to live.

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Voluntary on Easter Hymn*

Callahan

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

**Virtual Fellowship:** Worship is followed by Fellowship outside at First Church – and remotely on [ZOOM](https://bit.ly/sundayfellowship) - the link is: <https://bit.ly/sundayfellowship> OR- Phone in: 1-301-715-8592. When prompted, enter 591-074-317#

**Vision Gathering at 11:15am today – at First Church and on our YouTube Live Stream:**

- Today's virtual fellowship time will be brief as we hope all will gather – in the sanctuary at First Church or virtually via the YouTube live stream - for a Vision Process gathering hosted by our Vision Team.
- The live stream will be available by 11:15 at: [www.youtube.com/FirstChurchBTV](http://www.youtube.com/FirstChurchBTV) - don't see it? Refresh your browser with a click – or – close YouTube and then reopen it.

### 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!

**The flowers today are in honor of the life of Richard Remick.**

#### Staff Directory

Rev. Elissa Johnk, *Lead Minister*

Amy Shortt, *Director of Music*

Caroline Catlin, *Office & Nursery Administrator*

Lucy Samara, *Communications Coordinator*

Jennifer Coleman, *Bell Choir Director*

Ian Rock-Jones, *Security Staff*

Hannah Sachs, *Director of Creative Ministries and Youth Ministries, on parental leave*

Hilah Clarke, *Faith Formation Director*

Max Johnson, *A/V Coordinator*

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

Derik Breen, *Building & Grounds Staff*

Baki Nelson, *Head Usher*

Linda Elrick & Jennifer Jorgenson, *Welcomers*

Lou Rochford, *Digital Usher*

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

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