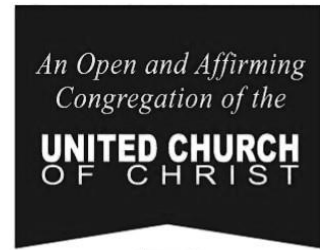




38 South Winooski Avenue  
Burlington, Vermont



firstchurchburlington.org

**May 22, 2022**  
*Sixth Sunday of Easter*

*"I am not sure exactly what heaven will be like, but I know that when we die and it comes time for God to judge us, He will not ask, 'How many good things have you done in your life?' rather He will ask, 'How much love did you put into what you did?'"*

— Mother Teresa

**PRELUDE**

*First Touch of Dawn*  
Amy Shortt

*Edward Broughton*

**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."*

**INTROIT**

*What Does the Lord Require?*  
Sanctuary Choir

**CALL TO WORSHIP AND INVOCATION**

The Newman-O'Shea Family

*By Rev. Michael Anthony Howard and Sara Campbell*

One: Let the Creator be home among us  
In our hearts, may God be welcome

**Many: May God's love shape our every thought**

One: May our actions lead to God's justice

**Many: May our words be words of life**

One: May God's Spirit lead us

**Many: May God's peace dwell within us**

One: Let us pray:

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*Shall We Gather at the River*

#597 NCH

**READING**

From Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

**TIME OF UNBURDENING** *by Thom Schuman*

**Because you dwell in our hearts, Eternal God,**

**you know how the anger, the pain,**

**the bitterness of our lives try to crowd you out.**

**The noise of the world deafens us to that Word which can heal us.**

**We want our children to be good, kind, and gentle to others,**

**and then they hear us call others names,**

**and speak of them with demeaning words.**

**Our desire for revenge towards those who have hurt us or others**

**shows that your peace, indeed, is not within us.**

**You promise a new heaven and a new earth,**

**so create new spirits and lives within us, O God.**

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

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

Hilah Clarke

**ANTHEM**

*Come to Zion*

*arr. Kevin Siegfried*

**GOSPEL READING**

From John 5

**SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING**

*Creator God, Creating Still*

#278 NCH

**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**

**OFFERTORY**

*I've Got Peace Like a River*

*Traditional*

*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**

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

*Go Forth, O People of God*

#614 NCH

**\*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

*Roger Wilson*

*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.*

**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!

### 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*

Paul Hobbs, *Head Usher*

Amy Mellencamp & Elise Polli, *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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