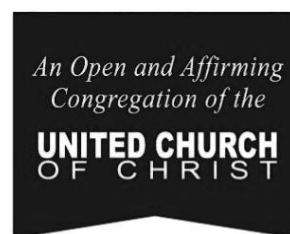




38 South Winooski Avenue
Burlington, Vermont



firstchurchburlington.org

July 10, 2022

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

We arise today in the name of Silence. Womb of the Word. In the name of Stillness. Home of Belonging. In the name of the Solitude of the soul and the earth. We arise today blessed by all things. Wings of breath. Delight of Eyes. Wonder of whisper. Intimacy of touch. Eternity of soul. Urgency of thought. Miracle of health. Embrace of God. May we live this day compassionate of heart, clear in word, gracious in awareness, courageous in thought and generous in love.

—John O'Donohue. To Bless the Space Between Us

PRELUDE

Give Thanks Unto the Lord Our God

Franklin Ritter

WORDS OF WELCOME

The Rev. Joan O’Gorman

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**

Hannah Sachs

One: Before we get out of bed in the morning, before each day begins,

All: God is waiting for us, to welcome us with grace.

One: When we are unsure of what to do; when we falter before the next step,

All: We come to listen to God’s voice, to learn from the One who teaches us with compassion.

One: When we are surrounded by cruelty and injustice; when fears and anxieties crush our souls,

All: God delivers us with steadfast love; we are set free, claimed as God’s own children—brothers and sisters in the promise of grace.

***OPENING HYMN**

Give Thanks for Life

#297 NCH

TIME FOR UNBURDENING *Rosemary Bray McNatt, adapted*

In this moment of worship we call to mind those times of failure and regret common to all of us. We remember first, in silence, those times when we have failed to do all that we meant to do, or through our actions failed to be all we were meant to be. (Silence)

We now recall our moments of integrity, those times we have lived into our deepest values, and acted as the human beings we always dreamed of being. (Silence)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

WORD OF GOD FOR SM(ALL) AGES

Hilah Clarke

SCRIPTURE READING

Colossians 1:1-14

MESSAGE

The Four Things that Matter Most:

Reflections of a Hospice Chaplain:

Thank you. I love you. Please forgive me. I forgive you.

Based on the book by Dr. Ira Byock

***HYMN OF THANKSGIVING**

Help Us Accept Each Other

#388 NCH

TIMES OF PASSAGE

Nellie Stidham

Rev. Joan O’Gorman
Andy Barker
Amy Shortt

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

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

arr. Jane Holstein

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**

I’ve Got Peace Like a River

#478 NCH

***BIDDING TO MISSION AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

Fantasia in A

Georg Philip Telemann

**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#

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 on the pulpit this morning are from Dawn Plante's garden.

Staff Directory

Rev. Joan O'Gorman, *Parental Leave Pastor*

Rev. Elissa Johnk, *Lead Minister, on parental leave*

Caroline Catlin, *Office & Nursery Administrator*

Lucy Samara, *Communications Coordinator*

Jennifer Coleman, *Bell Choir Director*

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

Derik Breen, *Building & Grounds*

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

Amy Shortt, *Director of Music*

Hilah Clarke, *Faith Formation Director*




Max Johnson, *A/V Coordinator*

Ian Rock-Jones, *Security Staff*

Baki Nelson, *Head Usher*

Dawn Plante & Sara Wilcoxson, *Welcomers*

Lou Rochford, *Digital Usher*

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