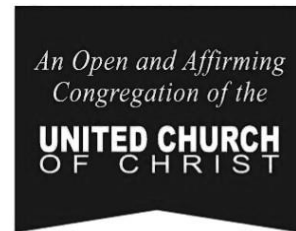




38 South Winooski Avenue
Burlington, Vermont



firstchurchburlington.org

September 18, 2022
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

Come Down, O Love Divine

arr. Helvey

*Online worshipers (live stream) are invited to greet the congregation
by writing your name in the YouTube chat.*

*Please also submit any prayer requests via the YouTube chat –
prayer requests received prior to the sermon will be shared during "Prayers of the People."*

INTROIT

The Greatest Commandment
Sanctuary Choir

The Porter's Gate

***CALL TO WORSHIP AND INVOCATION**

The Grace Family

One: From the dust of the earth, the Holy One breathed us into life.

All: Through the breath of God we are all connected.

One: Shaped in her image, God formed us with a purpose:

All: To create

To serve

To tend

To protect

To love

One: That life may flourish in all its forms,

All: May the Spirit of the Living God be manifest in us!

One: Let us pray:

***OPENING HYMN** *My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout* Vv 1-3 (See Insert)
(Canticle of the Turning)

WORDS OF WELCOME

The Rev. Elissa Johnk

SCRIPTURE READING

from Genesis 1

TIME OF UNBURDENING

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PASSING THE PEACE

One: Beloveds, God does not abandon us to the systems that destroy.

All: God does not bind us to our regrets.

One: Or forever hold us to what we once believed.

All: God says, come and follow!

One: Know forgiveness and sin no more.

All: Love abounds. And Justice shall be manifest!

One: Wherever new life is desired,
may the peace of Christ be welcomed among us.

All: Thanks be to God who leads us on paths of resurrection.

One: Let us greet one another with a sign of peace.

WORD OF GOD FOR (SM) ALL AGES *A Church for All, by Gayle E. Pitman*

Hilah Clarke

ANTHEM

Love Has Broken Down the Wall

arr. Mark Miller

GOSPEL READING

from John 1

SERMON

***HYMN OF THANKSGIVING**

Love Is the Touch of Intangible Joy

Vv 1,3,4

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

This week's "Celebrations & Prayer's" list is available for you on the front page of our website – <https://firstchurchburlington.org/> - 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

arr.

Gaspard\

You are invited to offer 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**

They'll Know We are Christians by our Love

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;
And we pray that our unity will one day be restored.

Refrain: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand.
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.

Refrain

We will work with each other, we will work side by side
We will work with each other, we will work side by side
And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride

Refrain

All praise to Creator, from whom all things come;
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son.
And all praise to the Spirit who makes us one.

Refrain

***BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Fugue in C

Pachelbel

**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](#) - the link is: <https://bit.ly/sundayfellowship>

NOTES ON TODAY'S SERVICE:

Portions of today's liturgy come from the Enfleshed liturgy collection and the UCC's Worship Ways.

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 this morning are given by Susan Saunders in memory of her brothers, Stephen Oatman Saunders (9/11/50-5/28/16) and Douglas Davis Saunders (9/4/54-3/28/91).

Staff Directory

Elissa Johnk, *Lead Minister*

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*

Amy Shortt, *Director of Music*

Hilah Clarke, *Faith Formation Director*

Max Johnson, *A/V Coordinator*

Ian Rock-Jones, *Security Staff*

Jason Vanderlaan, *Youth Ministries Leader*

Donal Dugan, *Head Usher*

Jennifer Jorgenson and Amy Mellencamp, *Welcomers*

Eric Davis, *Digital Usher*

www.firstchurchburlington.org info@firstchurchburlington.org 802.862.5010

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