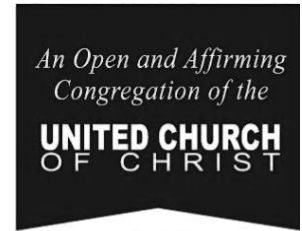




38 South Winooski Avenue
Burlington, Vermont



firstchurchburlington.org

November 6, 2022

*Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost
Celebration of All Saints*

*“And now that you don't have to be perfect, you can be good.”
-John Steinbeck*

*Today, the first Sunday of the month, is a Communion Sunday.
All ages, every person, is welcome to the Communion Table at First Congregational Church.
Before worship, gather a candle and elements to participate in Communion –
any form of juice and bread that you have readily available.*

PRELUDE

Variation on SINE NOMINE

*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.”*

***CALL TO WORSHIP AND INVOCATION** *by Kenneth Patton*

The Grace Family

One: This safe and sacred place welcomes us this day.

Let us trust enough to open our ears and hearts.

**All: We have heard of God's deeds in other times;
our ancestors have kept the story alive for us.**

One: Let us listen to God's word for today.

**All: We long for a faith that makes sense today.
We want to keep the story alive for new generations.**

One: God's story is for all people.

All: It is ours to receive and share.

One: Let us pray:

***OPENING HYMN**

Forward through the Ages

#377 NCH

WORDS OF WELCOME

The Rev. Elissa Johnk

READING

TIME OF UNBURDENING

One: Through Moses, God said,

All: “Let my people go.” (Ex.9:1)

One: In scripture, the law declares:

All: “In the seventh year, you must cancel all debts.” (Deut.15:1)

One: With grace, Jesus said:

All: “Give one coat away.” (Luke 3:11)

One: With honesty, Jesus taught:

All: “Sell what you have, give that money to the poor.” (Matt. 19:21)

One: Faith has always involved letting go, releasing, setting free,
Dropping our nets, giving to others, and following.

All: But we have not always found this easy.

One: In this time of silence, let us admit what we clutch too tightly, that we might be
released from what binds us. [Silent Prayer]

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM

Change Sings
Children's Choir

Amanda Gorman

GOSPEL READING

Luke 21:1-4

WORD OF GOD FOR (SM) ALL AGES

SERMON

***HYMN OF THANKSGIVING** *I Sing a Song of the Saints of God*

#295 NCH

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.

STEWARDSHIP WITNESS

Caroline Crawford

CALL TO THE OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

A flower remembered

John Rutter

You are invited to offer your monetary gifts and/or to complete the offering card found in your pew. Online, you can use the link under the video title, or text FCCBUCC to 73256.

***SONG OF PRAISE**

#563 NCH

*We cannot own the sunlit sky, the moon, the wildflowers growing,
for we are part of all that is within life's river flowing.
With open hand receive and share the gifts of God's creation,
That all may have abundant life in every earthly nation.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

SERVICE OF COMMUNION

*We believe this is God's table, not ours, so all are welcome at this table, regardless of age or faith.
The cup is unfermented grape juice, and gluten-free bread is available.*

INVITATION

by Rex A.E. Hunt, adapted

One: Our tradition says at a Last Supper, Jesus, sharing bread and wine, invited the disciples to share his journey. Here today, through bread and wine,

All: we renew our journey with Jesus and his disciples.

One: Here today, through bread and cup

**All: we renew our unity with one another,
and with all those who have gone before us in this place.**

One: Here today, through bread and cup,
we renew our communion with the earth

All: and our interwovenness with the broken ones of the world.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND COMMUNION PRAYER

SHARING THE ELEMENTS AND ANTHEM

Pie Jesu

Andrew Lloyd Webber

Sanctuary Choir, Bellana Driscoll, and Lily Merchant, *soloists*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*CLOSING HYMN

For All the Saints

#299 Vv 1-4 NCH

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Variation on SINE NOMINE

Those who are observing physical distancing are encouraged to leave immediately before the benediction.

**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>

NOTES ON TODAY'S SERVICE:

Special thanks to Laura Elder-Connors, Maggie Elder-Connors, Bellana Driscoll, a Bio-Chemistry major and Music minor at UVM, and Lily Merchant, an English major and Music minor at UVM for sharing their musical gifts this morning!

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 given by Barbara Carter.

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*

Amy Shortt, *Director of Music*

Hilah Clarke, *Faith Formation Director*

Max Johnson, *A/V Coordinator*

Jason Vanderlaan, *Youth Ministries*

Ian Rock-Jones, *Security Staff*

Jesse O'Gorman, *Security Staff*

Baki Nelson, *Head Usher*

Jennifer Jorgenson and Amy Mellencamp, *Welcomers*

Lou Rochford, *Digital Usher*

www.firstchurchburlington.org info@firstchurchburlington.org 802.862.5010

Follow us @firstchurchbtv