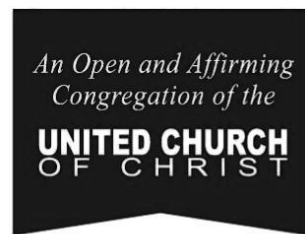




38 South Winooski Avenue
Burlington, Vermont



firstchurchburlington.org

May 14, 2023
Sixth Sunday of Easter

*Again the urge / to bring gauze / to the broken world—and medicine /
and a plaster cast. Again the urge / to fix things, / to heal them,
to make them right. / Again the chance / to do the work, / which is to look in,
to touch the pain / but not become it, / to see the world /
exactly as it is / and still write it / a love letter,
to meet what is cracked / with clarity,
to mirror and grow / whatever beauty / we find.*

– Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer

PRELUDE

In Beauty May I Walk

Navajo Prayer

*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.”*

WORDS OF WELCOME

the Rev. Elissa Johnk

***CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

David Grace

by L. Bates, Bruce Pewter, and Keri Wehlander

One: In our gathering here together, let us:

All: open our minds to the challenge of reason, open our hearts to the healing of love, open our lives to the comfort of joy.

One: Astonished by the miracle of life, grateful for the gift of companionship,

All: confident in the power of living faith, we gather together.

One: As we continue to share in this Easter season,
may we be helped to say yes to life, yes to a new beginning,

**All: yes to the presence that gives us courage
for whatever is ahead.**

One: Let us pray:

***OPENING HYMN**

My Shepherd Is the Living God

NCH #247

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

PSALM READING

Psalm 23

(See Psalm 23 Insert)

WORD OF GOD FOR (SM)ALL AGES

Hilah Clarke

*Children of all ages are always welcome in worship, but they are also welcome
to attend Church School, directly following this portion of the service.*

ANTHEM

The 23rd Psalm
Sanctuary Choir

arr. Bobby McFerrin

GOSPEL READING

John 6:25-34

Will Gunger

SERMON

***HYMN OF THANKSGIVING**

My Life Flows on in Endless Song

#476 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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our God, 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.**

ANNUAL MEETING WITNESS

Dawn Plante

CALL TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Song of Peace *Arnold B. Sherman*
Austin Handbell Choir and Doris Ogden, *soloist*

*You are invited to offer monetary gifts
online using this link: <https://bit.ly/fcchonlinegiving>
(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

Let There Be Peace on Earth

*Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;
let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.*

With God our creator, family all are we.

Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.

With ev'ry step I take, let this be my solemn vow;

to take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Postlude in C

Handel

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

Virtual Fellowship: Worship is followed by Fellowship at First Church – and remotely on [Zoom](#)

- the link is: <https://bit.ly/fellowshipzoom> or <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82411411970>

Or join by phone - 1 646 876 9923 Meeting ID: 824 1141 1970

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 today were given by Barbara Carter in honor of all women of the church, past and present, who have nurtured us all.

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*

Caroline Crawford, *Head Usher*

Jennifer Jorgenson and Amy Mellencamp, *Welcomers*

Lou Rochford, *Digital Usher*

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