







May 7, 2023

Fifth Sunday of Easter Communion Sunday and Children's Sunday

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.

> "If the book will be too difficult for grown-ups, then you write it for children." - Madeleine L'Engle

PRELUDE Children's Medley arr. Hayes
Amy Shortt, organ

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 Evangeline Trussell

One: Beautiful is the wonderful world of God's creation.

All: Beautiful are the colors of God's people.

One: Beautiful is the love of God

All: Beautiful are the dreams of God's people.

One: God made the heavens and the earth.

All: Let us all praise God and their creations.

Invocation Jason Vanderlaan

WORDS OF WELCOME Ayanna Harlow

*Opening Song I Come with Joy #349 NCH

Passing of the Peace Asa Jorgenson

GOSPEL READING Luke 22:14-20, 24-27 Magnus Grace

WORD OF GOD FOR (SM)ALL AGES & PRESENTATION OF BIBLES

Hilah Clarke

ANTHEM Love Is Love Justice Choir

Cherub and Alleluia Choirs

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION AND INSTITUTION

Aven Jorgenson, the Rev. Elissa Johnk

by Roddy Hamilton, adapted

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 • PRAYER OF BLESSING • 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.

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

Where Can I Go from Your Spirit Bellana Driscoll and Kenna Lund

arr. Kenny Potter

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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Tegan Bushey

*Song of Thanksgiving

Spirit of the Living God

#283 NCH

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Silas Trussell

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

Change My Heart, O God

Vinevard Music

You are invited to offer your monetary gifts and/or to complete the yellow offering card found in your pew. If you are new, please use this time to complete a welcome card and place it in the offering plate – and introduce yourself to our ushers after the service! Online, you can use the link under the video title, or text FCCBUCC to 73256.

*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

Mary Elizabeth MacDonald

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

SERMON

(Trans)Formation

*CLOSING HYMN

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

#43 NCH

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Love Is Love Is Love

*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://us06web.zoom.us/j/82411411970
Or join by phone - 1 646 876 9923 Meeting ID: 824 1141 1970

NOTES ON TODAY'S SERVICE:

Thank-you to all our youth leaders this morning!

Our Alleluia Choir includes Aven Jorgenson, Asa Jorgenson, Mary Elizabeth MacDonald, Shayla Polli, and Silas Trussell.

Our Cherub Choir includes Ella Baker, Abby Baker, Bryan Bruley, Ayanna Harlow, Libby Lightbody, Evangeline Trussell, and Marigold Trussell.

We are grateful to Amy Shortt, Laura Elder-Connors, Hilah Clarke, Jason Vanderlaan, and Lucy Samara for their work and support in preparing for Children's Sunday.

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 were given by Robyn Courville in honor of the living.

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

Paul Hobbs, *Head Usher* Jennifer Jorgenson and Sara Wilcoxson, *Welcomers* Lou Rochford, *Digital Usher*

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