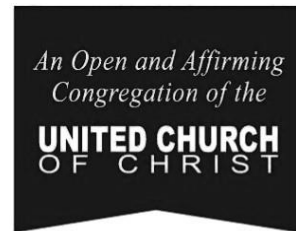




38 South Winooski Avenue  
Burlington, Vermont



firstchurchburlington.org

June 25, 2023

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

*"You can't understand most of the important things from a distance, Bryan.  
You have to get close," she told me all the time.*

— Bryan Stevenson, *Just Mercy*

**PRELUDE**     *E Major Prelude from Well-Tempered Clavier Book II*     J.S. Bach  
Tom Cleary

*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 INVOCATION**     the Jorgenson family

*Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown, Will you let my name be known,  
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?  
The Summons by John Bell, stanza 1*

One: Christ calls us this day and every day to a journey of discipleship that will radically transform our lives.

**ALL: We hear your summons as you call us by name,  
and our desire is to say "yes."**

One: Christ calls us to a journey of "follow-ship" that will challenge us, as it challenged Jesus, to live the truth of his identity. It is not easy to show God's love in the face of adversity or apathy and yet,

**ALL: We hear your summons as you call us by name,  
and our desire is to say "yes."**

One: Christ calls us to a journey of discipleship that may bring us into direct conflict with those we know and love but still,

**ALL: We hear your summons as you call us by name,  
and our desire is to say "yes."**

One: Christ calls us to a journey of "follow-ship" that offers life without fear, a life that transcends our earthly existence, and

**ALL: We hear your summons as you call us by name,  
and our desire is to say "yes."**

One: Christ calls us this day and every day to a journey that will radically transform us, if we let it, and through us, the world. Christ blesses us so that we do not have to travel alone, but go with all others who hear their name and say "yes."

**ALL: Holy One, help us say "yes!" and equip us for the journey, as we give thanks  
for the ways you have called us, in spirit and in truth! Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN**     *Come, Labor On*     #532 NCH

**YOUTH SERVICE TRIP WITNESS**     Aven Jorgenson

**TIME OF UNBURDENING**



## 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!

### 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*

Jesse O'Gorman, *Security Staff*

Noah Sullivan, *Security Staff*

Will Gunger, *Head Usher*

Dawn Plante and Sara Wilcoxson, *Welcomer*

Lou Rochford, *Digital Usher*

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