

38 South Winooski Avenue Burlington, Vermont





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, <u>Just Mercy</u>

PRELUDE E Major Prelude from Well-Tempered Clavier Book II
Tom Cleary

J.S. Bach

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

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

From "the Black Trans Prayer Book" by Deja Baptiste, adapt

PASSING OF THE PEACE

WORD OF GOD FOR SM(ALL) AGES

Hilah Clarke

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Won't You Be My Neighbor/You Are Special

Fred Rogers

GOSPEL READING

From Matthew 10:24 – 39

Eric Davis

SERMON

*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

They Asked, "Who's My Neighbor?"

#541 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.

CALL TO THE OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

Travels

P. Metheny and L. Mays

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

*Song of Praise #562 NCH V3

Take what-ever I can offer, gifts that I have yet to find, skills that I am slow to sharpen, talents of the hand and mind, things made beautiful for others in the place where I must be: take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me.

*CLOSING HYMN Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ #347 NCH

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Joyful Departure Ralph Towner

NOTES ON TODAY'S SERVICE

Portions of today's service come from the UCC's *Worship Ways* resources, and by David Adam, of the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand. Please join in welcoming and thanking our guest musician, Tom Cleary!

^{*}PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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

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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