COLLEGE STREET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ



Welcome!

Whether this is your first time here or your ten thousandth, we are delighted that you're here!

Thank you for sharing this holy and joyful gift of worship!

This is a very special day! First Congregational & College Street Churches are joining together today to celebrate this past week's Peace Camp and the gift of being church together in Burlington. As a result, today will be a little different for everyone!

During **God's Word for (Sm)All Ages**, all children and youth are invited to join Pastor Elissa at the front of the church. Parents are welcome to join them.

We will have some special opportunities during our **Offering** today, and we will explain those during the service. For members of either congregation, there will be marked collection trays up at the altar where you can place your gift for your congregation. If you are a guest, your presence is your offering.

Our **Time of Prayer** begins with centering silence followed joys and concerns and a pastoral prayer. Please share what God has placed on your heart as you feel comfortable. In order to make space for everyone, we limit our sharing to a couple of sentences each.

After the **Benediction**, you are invited to sit for the postlude as you reflect on worship.

Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you're welcome here.

THE MORE WE GET TOGETHER

The more we get together, together, together The more we get together, the happier we'll be 'Cause your friends are my friends And my friends are your friends The more we get together, the happier we'll be

WE WILL BRING YOUR PEACE

We will bring your peace into the world We will bring your peace into the world With a loving hand, do the best we can We will bring your peace into the world ...hope...

...love...

...peace...

MAKE ME A CHANNEL OF YOUR PEACE

Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred.

let me bring your love.

Where there is injury, your healing power,

And where there's doubt,

true faith in you.

Make me a channel of your peace.

Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.

Where there is darkness only light,

And where there's sadness ever joy.

O Spirit, grant that I may never seek So much to be consoled, as to console, To be understood, as to understand, To be loved

as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace.

It is in pardoning

that we are pardoned,

In giving of ourselves that we receive, And in dying

that we're born to eternal life.

THIS IS MY SONG

This is my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for lands afar and mine.

This is my home, the country where my heart is; here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine; But other hearts in other lands are beating

with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean, and sunlight beams on clover leaf and pine;

But other lands have sunlight too, and clover, and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.

O hear my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for their land and for mine.

July 16, 2023 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude **Amy Shortt**

Introit: The More We Get Together

Leader: Friends, let us love one another

All: For God is Love

Welcome

Prayer of Invocation

*Hymn: We Will Bring Your Peace

*Responsive Reading: Becky McMahon

Leader: God, we come to you in hope and in gratitude for your steadfast lovingkindness

All: We confess that we do not always share that with others Sometimes we do not see the need around us And sometimes, we see but we choose to look the other way.

Leader: God, in the suffering we see around us this week

All: Help us be present to the fullness of your love

Give us the energy and the courage to act wisely

Lead us to see and to help our neighbors,

many of whom have lost so very much

Leader: Thank you for seeing us, O God

All: Thank you for seeing us as we are

and thank you for seeing us as your beloved children

worthy of grace and empowered to be your hands and feet in your world.

Amen.

WE LISTEN AND REFLECT UPON GOD'S WORD

Ellen Pine Genesis 16: 1-14 Scripture:

Reflection Rev. Ken White

Word of God for (Sm)All Ages Rev. Elissa Johnk

*Hymn: Make Me A Channel Of Your Peace

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

Call to Offering

Offertory

Doxology

We give thee but thine own What-e'er the gift may be;

All that we have is thine alone,

A trust, O God, from thee. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Time of Prayer

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

WE GO FORTH INTO THE WORLD TO SERVE

*Hymn 591: This Is My Song

Benediction

Postlude Amy Shortt

*Congregation may stand

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 16: 1-14

Now Sarai, Abram's wife, bore him no children. She had an Egyptian slave whose name was Hagar, and Sarai said to Abram, "You see that the Lord has prevented me from bearing children; go in to my slave; it may be that I shall obtain children by her." And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai. So, after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar the Egyptian, her slave, and gave her to her husband Abram as a wife. He went in to Hagar, and she conceived, and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked with contempt on her mistress. Then Sarai said to Abram, "May the wrong done to me be on you! I gave my slave to your embrace, and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked on me with contempt. May the Lord judge between you and me!" But Abram said to Sarai, "Your slave is in your power; do to her as you please." Then Sarai dealt harshly with her, and she ran away from her.

The angel of the LORD found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, the spring on the way to Shur. And he said, "Hagar, slave of Sarai, where have you come from and where are you going?" She said, "I am running away from my mistress Sarai." The angel of the LORD said to her, "Return to your mistress, and submit to her." The angel of the LORD also said to her, "I will so greatly multiply your offspring that they cannot be counted for multitude." And the angel of the LORD said to her

"Now you have conceived and shall bear a son;
you shall call him Ishmael,
for the LORD has given heed to your affliction.
He shall be a wild ass of a man,
with his hand against everyone,
and everyone's hand against him, and he
shall live at odds with all his kin."

So she named the LORD who spoke to her, "You are El-roi," for she said, "Have I really seen God and remained alive after seeing him?" Therefore the well was called Beer-lahai-roi: it lies between Kadesh and Bered.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Monday-Friday, 9-9:15 am **Morning Prayer Group** Sunday, July 16 10 am Joint Worship with First Congregational Church 11:30 am Prayer Shawl Group Tuesday, July 18 8 am Men's Group at Panera Bread, Shelburne Road 6 pm Deacons Meeting 6:30 pm Council Meeting 7 pm Media Small Group Wednesday, July 19 7 pm Noyana Rehearsals Saturday, July 22 9 am Al-Anon Meeting Sunday, July 23 10 am Worship Tuesday, July 25 7 pm Media Small Group Thursday, July 27 1 pm Meditation Group 5:30 pm Community Connections 6:30 pm Christian Development Saturday, July 29 9 am Al-Anon Meeting Sunday, July 30 10 am Worship Tuesday, August 1 5:30 pm Deacons Meeting

7 pm Media Small Group

We believe God is calling us to use our gifts to bear witness to the boundlessness of God's love by working for equality and justice for all people, especially those whose experience of society is one that is dominated by experiences of economic and social injustice; we hear a special call to support the LGBTQ community. We believe that we are called to use God's gift of our building and location for the good of the broader Burlington community, sharing it in service. We also believe that God is calling us to proclaim God's love not only for God's people, but also for God's earth.

President: Laura Labrie

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College Street Congregational Church regards all persons with equal respect and concern, whether they are people of faith or in search of faith. It is open and affirming of all individuals, regardless of race, age, gender, economic condition, disability, marital status or sexual orientation. We welcome all people to share in the worship, life, leadership and employment opportunities of the Church.

HEY MA