



**March 30, 2025**  
*Fourth Sunday in Lent*

*Online worshippers (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 – to be shared during “Prayers of the People.”*

*In the next century,  
or the one beyond that  
they say,  
are valleys, pastures.  
We can meet there in peace  
if we make it.  
To climb these coming crests*

*one word to you, to  
you and your children:  
stay together  
go light.*

— Gary Snyder

**PRELUDE**      *Choral Prelude on “When We Are in Deepest Need”*      Bach  
Chris Lyons-Dinh, Organ

**CALL TO WORSHIP**      Sage Bryson  
*R.Hunt, adapted*

One: We light this Candle today in recognition of the Spirit of God  
that allows life to occur:  
The energy of atomic fusion,  
The energy of photosynthesis,  
The energy of primitive metabolisms, still active in our cells today  
The energy of campfires, labor, and growth,  
**Many: And, the energy of our community.**

One: So, friends, let us enter fully into this gathering place!  
Come in and find peace and rest,  
inspiration and aspiration,  
fellowship and love.

**Many: May we find light for our darkness,  
belonging for our loneliness,  
and music for our soul.**

One: Come in and let us delight in all the blessings  
that are ours this day.

**INTROIT**

Bellana Driscoll

**INVOCATION**

*Marcia McFee, adapted*

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*O Day of Radiant Gladness, #66 NCH Vv 1, 2, 4 (black hymnal)*

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

Ava Bilton

**SCRIPTURE READING**

From Psalm 36

The Trussells

**TIME OF UNBURDENING AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**WORD OF GOD FOR (SM) ALL AGES**

Hilah Clarke

**ANTHEM**

*Awake My Soul!*  
Sanctuary Choir

*Hagenberg*

**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 AND THE 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.**

**\*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING**

*Many Are the Light Beams, #163 NCH select verses (black hymnal)*

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

Rev. Elissa Johnk

**OFFERTORY**

*Andante Religioso*

*F. Mendelssohn*

*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*

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God, Creator of us all,  
Praise Christ, by whom we hear our call,  
Praise Spirit, that which sets us free,  
Our awe is yours, the One-in-Three.*

**GOSPEL READING**

Luke 9:26-37

**SERMON**

**\*PARTING HYMN**

*God Reigns O'er All the Earth, #21 NCH (black hymnal)*

**\*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Fugue on the Soissons Carillon*

*M. Duruflé*

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



38 South Winooski Avenue  
Burlington, Vermont



firstchurchburlington.org

**WELCOME!**

*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 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. That means YOU!*

STAFF DIRECTORY

*Elissa Johnk, Lead Minister  
Ava Bilton, Director of Congregational Life  
Hilah Clarke, Faith Formation Director  
Lucy Samara, Communications Coordinator  
Will Gunger, Office Admin & Youth Ministry Leader  
Jeff Bryant, Ensemble Director  
Michael Dyke, A/V Coordinator  
Caroline Catlin, Early Childhood Coordinator  
Grace Raines, Elementary Ministries Coordinator  
Jennifer Coleman, Bell Choir Director  
Laura Elder-Connors, Children's Choir Director  
Tyler Warren & Michelle Mraz, Security Staff  
Derik Breen, Building & Grounds*

USHERS

*Matt Bushey & Alanabeth Cadence  
Lou Rochford, Digital Usher  
& Slide Creator*

firstchurchburlington.org  
info@firstchurchburlington.org  
(802) 862-5010  
Follow @firstchurchbtv