

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC, BURLINGTON, VT

APRIL 20TH 10AM



THE MIRACLE OF
EASTER

THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS,
AND THE DARKNESS DID NOT OVERCOME IT.

firstchurchburlington.org | info@firstchurchburlington.org | (802) 862-5010

Follow [@firstchurchbtv](https://www.instagram.com/firstchurchbtv)

WELCOME

WE MEAN IT.

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 the 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!

VISITING?

CHILD CARE is available during this service for children 0-3rd grade. Register your child with Director of Faith Formation, Hilah Clarke at the check-in station in the midway (just outside the front exit of the sanctuary).

KID BAGS + WIGGLE SEATS are available at the front and rear of the sanctuary.

RESTROOMS are located out the front exit of the sanctuary, right, down the hallway, and then on your left.

HEARING ASSISTANCE devices are available at the rear of the sanctuary. Ushers can assist you.

CONNECT with us by filling out a welcome card (in the pew) and dropping it in the offering plate.

EASTER FUN FOR ALL!

EGG HUNT - All children and families are invited to an Easter Egg Hunt in the Memorial Garden (outside, south of the sanctuary) immediately following worship.

EASTER RECEPTION - Everyone is invited to a special Easter celebration in the chapel (out the front exit of the sanctuary and down the hall) with coffee, tea, refreshments, and photo booth following worship this morning.

SERVE. GROW. CONNECT.



Love and Care for All Creation

On Sunday, May 4th, the Climate Justice Team is coordinating a Carpool for the Climate. All those attending the 10am worship service are encouraged to participate. To register to drive or ride, complete a form available at Sanctuary entrances and drop it in the offering plate. The Climate Justice Team will be in touch with your pick-up and drop-off instructions.



Worship on the Waterfront

Save the date: Looking for a fun way to celebrate the last day of school and the start of summer? On Sunday June 22nd, gather at the Community Sailing Center and Sail into Summer with worship on the waterfront, followed by sailing on Lake Champlain and a community cookout.



Where Two or Three Are Gathered In My Name

Hoping to connect or reconnect with church folk? The Partners in Pastoral Care Teams, Elissa, and Ava invite you to lunch at the church on Tuesday, April 29th at noon. Need a ride? Email Lucy Samara at lsamara@firstchurchburlington.org or phone the Church Office (802) 862-5010 x4.



Your Word is a Light Unto My Feet

Wanting to engage with others and delve more deeply into scripture? We offer two weekly Bible studies: In-Person at First Church on Wednesdays at 6:15pm, and on Zoom on Thursdays at 8:30am (link on our website).



We've Got Peace Like a River!

Save the date: In collaboration with College Street Congregational Church, UCC, Peace Camp 2025 is a multi-generational worship, fellowship, and educational experience held on the evenings of July 21-24. Dinner is included.

GET INVOLVED

CHILDREN AND KIDS PROGRAMMING is available every Sunday during worship led by our exceptional staff of trained educators and volunteers. Questions? Email Director of Faith Formation, Hilah Clarke, hclarke@firstchurchburlington.org.

YOUTH GROUP is open to students in 6th -12th grade and happens every Wednesday evening from 6-8pm in collaboration with College Street Congregational Church, UCC. Students share a meal, play games, and engage in discussions led by Youth Leader, Will Gunger. Questions? Email Will, youthministry@firstchurchburlington.org.

SANCTUARY CHOIR is open to all adults who wish to join. The choir rehearses every Thursday evening from 7-8:30pm to prepare special music for weekly worship. Repertoire features a wide variety of styles and genres. All skill levels are welcome! Questions? Email Choral Director, Becky Millard, bmillard@firstchurchburlington.org.

THE TABLE BAND is looking for more musicians to lead worship in the contemporary 11:30am service. If you play keys, drums, electric guitar, bass, or vocals and would like to learn more, email Ensemble Director, Jeff Bryant, jbryant@firstchurchburlington.org.

GOOD NEIGHBOR CREW helps make sure the church grounds and our surrounding neighborhood are kept clean, tidy, and safe for all to enjoy. Want to learn more? Join our Good Neighbor Training on May 4th from 1pm-3pm. Questions? Email Office Administrator, Will Gunger, office@firstchurchburlington.org.

CHURCH STAFF

Elissa Johnk, *Lead Minister*

Hilah Clarke, *Faith Formation Director*

Lucy Samara, *Communications Coordinator*

Will Gunger, *Office Admin & Youth Ministry Leader*

Caroline Catlin, *Early Childhood Coordinator*

Grace Raines, *Elementary Ministries Coordinator*

Tyler Warren & Michelle Mraz, *Security Staff*

Derik Breen, *Building & Grounds*

Ava Bilton, *Director of Congregational Life*

Jeff Bryant, *Ensemble Director*

Becky Millard, *Choral Director*

Michael Dyke, *A/V Coordinator*

Max Johnson, *A/V Coordinator*

Jennifer Coleman, *Bell Choir Director*

Laura Elder-Connors, *Children's Choir Director*

Ushers for today's service are Baki Nelson and Dawn Plante.

Lou Rochford is Digital Usher and Slide Creator.

Thank you to all who have offered their time and gifts in service of this morning's Easter celebrations.

**This service is filmed and broadcast online. If you do not wish to be on camera, please sit in the rear left section of the sanctuary.*