

*Welcoming All.
Seeking Justice.
Finding God.*

38 South Winooski Avenue
Burlington, Vermont



*An Open and Affirming
Congregation of the*

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



firstchurchburlington.org

April 20, 2025
Easter Sunday

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.”

*This blessing will bide its sweet time
until it hears the beginning of breath,
the stirring of limbs,
the stretching*

*reaching,
rising
of what had lain
dead within you
and is ready
to return.*

– Jan Richardson

PRELUDE

Austin Handbell Choir
Chris Lyons-Dinh, *organ*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Call: O, God...

Response: Blessed be your name.

One: [...] We gather together to sing and pray the story we know by heart,
a story of love's triumph and powerful grace.

The story of Jesus' resurrection,

All: And our own.

INTROIT

I Know that My Redeemer Liveth, from Messiah
Bellana Driscoll, *soloist*

Handel

INVOCATION

Ava Bilton

***OPENING HYMN**

Tim Berger and Mandy Grace, *trumpet*

Christ the Lord is Risen Today, # 233 NCH (black hymnal)

WORDS OF WELCOME

One: For the truth that no one suffers alone, we say:

All: Alleluia!

One: For the truth that violence does not have the final word, we say:

All: Alleluia!

One: For the knowledge that death has been put to death, we say:

All: Alleluia!

One: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

One: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

One: Christ is risen, indeed!

All: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

Luke 24:1-11

Caroline Crawford

WORD OF GOD FOR (SM) ALL AGES

The Rev. Elissa Johnk

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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.

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.

ANTHEM

Joyful Joyful
Sanctuary Choir

arr. Victor C. Johnson

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

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

The Easter Offering will be devoted to supporting the ministries and missions of First Church and a 10% tithe will be donated to Vermont Interfaith Action. To make a gift to the Easter Offering, simply write "Easter Offering" in the memo, or select from the drop-down online.

OFFERTORY

The Strife Is O'er
Austin Handbell Choir

arr. J. W. Krug

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***SONG OF PRAISE**

The Day of Resurrection, #245 NCH (black hymnal)

SERMON

***CLOSING HYMN**

Thine is the Glory, #193 PH (blue hymnal)

***BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Tocatta from Symphony
Ch. M. Widor

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

