

*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

August 22, 2021
10 a.m.

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

Patti Casey

WORDS OF WELCOME

The Rev. Elissa Johnk

CALL TO WORSHIP AND INVOCATION

The Brown Family

From Psalm 84, interpreted by and adapted from Francis McNab

One: O God, from our places in the working world, and in the wide wilderness of life,
we long for that sure sense of knowing what it is all about.

All: I yearn for that experience of joy to come to me, body and soul.

I look for your presence as a pathway to life's fullness.

One: Even birds as small as a sparrow can show us the way to your presence.

Though we are often wounded in this fractured world, we discover that this world also has its source of healing.

**All: We are all enriched and our hearts are made stronger
as we tap into that power that flows into us.**

One: The very sight of a spring of water arouses our anticipation of being refreshed and renewed.

All: From all our external involvements, we hear the call of our inner spirits.

One: O Lord of all Being, remind us that a moment in your presence is worth more than many years in the wilderness of life.

**All: Rather than being carried away by self-serving pursuits, let me be happy to stay even at the edge
of your presence**

***OPENING HYMN**

How Great Thou Art

#35 NCH (adapted)

SCRIPTURE READING

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-17

Karl Doerner

TIME OF UNBURDENING

INVITATION

MUSICAL MEDITATION

I Want Jesus

#490 NCH

ASSURANCE

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

WORD OF GOD FOR (SM) ALL AGES

Hilah Clarke

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 6:10-20

SERMON

***HYMN OF THANKSGIVING**

My Life Flows on in Endless Song

#476 NCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY

Dandelion

Patti Casey

During this time you are invited to offer your monetary gifts.

You can give online using this link

which is also under the video title on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/fccbonlinegiving>

or by texting FCCBUCC to 73256

or mail a check payable to:

First Congregational Church at 38 South Winooski Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401

*DOXOLOGY

The Sanctuary Choir

#780 NCH

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN

Stronger Than That

Patti Casey

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Another Lucky Day

Those who are observing physical distancing are encouraged to leave immediately following the benediction. Those who are not are encouraged to stay for a portion of the postlude to facilitate their departure.

**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

Rev. Elissa Johnk, *Lead Minister*

Hilah Clarke, *Faith Formation Director*

Lucy Samara, *Communications Coordinator*

Max Johnson, *A/V Coordinator*

Jennifer Coleman, *Bell Choir Director*

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

Derik Breen, *Building & Grounds Staff*

Hannah Sachs, *Director of Creative Ministries
and Youth Ministries*

Caroline Catlin, *Office Manager
and Early Childhood Ministries*

Ana Ruesink, *Summer Music Coordinator*

and Youth Choir Director

Ian Rock-Jones, *Security Staff*

Baki Nelson, *Usher* • Caroline Crawford, and Eric Davis, *Welcomers* • Lou Daniel Rochford, *Digital Usher*

Special thanks to our guest musician, Vermont singer songwriter, Patti Casey.

Learn about Patti and listen to more of her beautiful music here: <https://patticasey.com/>

Flowers given by Jan and Don Jackson
in celebration this week of their 65th wedding anniversary!