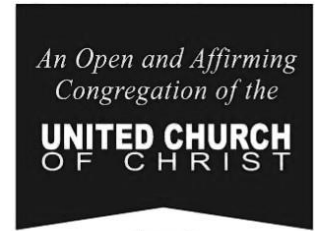




38 South Winooski Avenue
Burlington, Vermont



firstchurchburlington.org

January 9, 2022
10 a.m.
First Sunday after Epiphany

PRELUDE *"Air" from Orchestral Suite No. 3* J.S. Bach
Emy Berger, *flute*, and Carlanne Herzog, *piano*

WORDS OF WELCOME The Rev. Elissa Johnk

***CALL TO WORSHIP AND INVOCATION**

One: Let us kneel in the darkness,

All: Until we see God's light emerge.

One: Let us wait with hope filled hearts,

All: As Christ's image grows within us and shows us life.

One: Let him speak to us and teach us love,

All: Until we open our hearts to be his home.

One: Let us pray:

***OPENING HYMN** *Who Would Think That What Was Needed* #153 NCH,Vv 1,3

*Remote worshipers are invited to submit prayer requests via YouTube chat –
prayer requests received prior to the sermon will be shared during "Prayers of the People."*

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 43:1-7, p. 623 John Goodell

TIME OF UNBURDENING

Gracious God, we confess that too often we live as though we are fearful, not faithful. When we encounter the waters of chaos and confusion, we don't easily pass through them, but we obsess about the height of the water, instead of the sight of the other side.

You promised to walk through the rivers with us, so help us hold on to that promise.

Silent Prayer

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

WORD OF GOD FOR (SM)ALL AGES Hilah Clarke

GOSPEL READING Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

SERMON

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Amazing Grace

arr. Jack Schrader

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please remember our congregation includes those who are worshipping digitally, and share concerns appropriately – with permission and using first names only.

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.**

CALL TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Spirit of God, Descend Upon my Heart
Tim Berger, *flugelhorn*, and Emy Berger, *piano*

G. Croly/F. Atkinson

*You are invited to offer your monetary gifts
online using this link: <https://bit.ly/fccbonlinegiving>
(the link is 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*

***DOXOLOGY**

#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**

***HYMN OF THANKSGIVING**

I am the Light of the World

#584 NCH

***BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Sing Praise to God

arr. Rebecca Bonam

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

Fellowship on Zoom: All worshipping remotely are invited to a virtual time in fellowship following worship. The Zoom link is in the YouTube description for this morning's live stream and on the front page of the First Church website: www.firstchurchburlington.org

NOTES ON TODAY'S SERVICE

We are grateful for this morning's music leaders:
Carlanne Herzog, Emy Berger and Tim Berger.

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*
Caroline Catlin, *Office & Nursery Administrator*
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*
Hilah Clarke, *Faith Formation Director*
Ana Ruesink, *Youth Choir Director*
Ann Vivian, *Fall Music Coordinator*
Ian Rock-Jones, *Security Staff*

Baki Nelson, *Head Usher* • Dawn Plante, *Welcomer* • Eric Davis, *Digital Usher*

Many thanks to all our musicians who are helping out while we wait for our new Music Director, Amy Shortt to arrive in mid-February!

 www.firstchurchburlington.org  info@firstchurchburlington.org  802.862.5010

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