

*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

**March 27, 2022**

**10 a.m.**

*Fourth Sunday in Lent*

*"Legalism has killed more  
faith than doubt ever has."*

*— Andrena Sawyer*

**PRELUDE**

*Variations on Wondrous Love*

*Robert Lau*

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

The Rev. Elissa Johnk

**CHORAL INTROIT**

*Non Nobis Domine*  
Sanctuary Choir

*William Byrd*

*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."*

*This week's "Celebrations & Prayer's" list will be available for you  
on the front page of our website – and among the links under the title of the YouTube live stream –  
throughout this morning's live stream of the worship service.*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP AND INVOCATION**

*from the Sanctified Art Collective and Rev. Torrigian*

One: God of this day, cultivate in us a spirit of worship—

**All: Hearts that pray,  
Ears that hear,  
Eyes that see,  
Minds that believe.**

One: God of this space, cultivate in us a spirit of worship—

**All: Letting go of distractions  
And fears,  
Isolation  
And doubt.**

One: God of this day, cultivate in us a spirit of worship—

**All: For you are love, our new beginning,  
And we will always need that.**

One: Let us worship the Holy God. Let us pray:

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*What Wondrous Love is This*

#223 NCH

**READING**

Letting Go  
*by Rev. Sarah Are*

**TIME OF UNBURDENING**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PASSING THE PEACE**

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

**GOSPEL READING**

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-21

**SERMON**

Discerning a Communal Vision, Week Four: Toxic Charity

**\*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING**

*Amazing Grace*

#547 NCH

**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**

*How Can I Keep from Singing*  
Women's Ensemble & Tim Berger, trumpet

*Paul Halley*

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

*In addition to our morning offering, Outreach is sponsoring a special offering to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS). This ecumenical ministry provides disaster relief, refugee response and long-term development work, both here and abroad. To give to OGHS by check – please make you check payable to First Church and place "OGHS" in the memo, or select "One Great Hour of Sharing" from our online dropdown menu.*

**\*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**

**ANTHEM**

*Standing in the Need of Prayer*

*arr. David Cherwien*

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

*Standing in the Need of Prayer*

#519 Vv 1-3 NCH

**\*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Reprise on Standing in the Need of Prayer*

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

**VIRTUAL FELLOWSHIP on Zoom:** Worship is followed by Fellowship outside at First Church – and remotely on [ZOOM](https://bit.ly/sundayfellowship) - the link is: <https://bit.ly/sundayfellowship> OR- Phone in: 1-301-715-8592. When prompted, enter 591-074-317

## 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!

The flowers today are given by the Phillips family in loving memory of  
Lora Ballou Phillips Gray.

### Staff Directory

Rev. Elissa Johnk, *Lead Minister*

Amy Shortt, *Director of Music*

Caroline Catlin, *Office & Nursery Administrator*

Lucy Samara, *Communications Coordinator*

Jennifer Coleman, *Bell Choir Director*

Ian Rock-Jones, *Security Staff*

Hannah Sachs, *Director of Creative Ministries  
and Youth Ministries, on parental leave*

Hilah Clarke, *Faith Formation Director*

Max Johnson, *A/V Coordinator*




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

Derik Breen, *Building & Grounds Staff*

Paul Hobbs, *Head Usher*

Jennifer Jorgenson and Bob Wolf, *Welcomers*

Eric Davis, *Digital Usher*

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