

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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July 18, 2021

9:30 AM

"We are a community in Christ, called to act with love toward our neighbors."

**For those who are able, please stand.*

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

EXPRESSING OUR LOVE

(As we prepare for worship, we invite quiet contemplation of the Living God.)

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - JOYS AND CONCERNS

INTROIT # 170 (UCC-Red) "Have Thine Own Way, Lord"

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 23)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

***HYMN #279** (UCC-Red) "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

OPENING PRAYER

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ your Son.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

***SONG OF PRAISE #338** (UCC-red) (Gloria Patri)
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.

GROWING IN OUR FAITH

SCRIPTURE READINGS 2 Samuel 7: 1-14a
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

SERMON “How Will I Find You?”

***HYMN #473** (NCH-Black) “Blessed Assurance”

PRACTICING OUR SPIRITUALITY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; 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 FOR THE OFFERING (Please send pledges & donations to the church via mail or use online giving.)

MUSICAL OFFERING

***SONG OF PRAISE HYMN #780** Doxology (NCH – Black)
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, O heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Rev Quentin Chin)

**Thank you, God, for the ministries of the people of your church.
Thank you, God, for the bounty of your blessings you have poured out upon us.
We have taken a portion of our abundance and given it to you in grateful thanksgiving.
Consecrate this offering. May it help to support the ministries of this church that will dismantle the walls that divide us so all people will be one in the new family gathered in Christ Jesus.
Amen.**

***HYMN #288** (UCC-Red) “Be Thou My Vision”

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #812 (NCH-Black) “Threefold Amen”
Amen, Amen, Amen

POSTLUDE

WE EXTEND THE HAND of Christian fellowship to all who have come to worship in this Welcoming, Open and Affirming congregation. May our prayers and the hearing of God’s Word make our burdens lighter, our hearts encouraged, and our souls refreshed.
If you are visiting for the first time, we welcome you.
To join our online live worship service for each Sunday at 9:30 A.M., go to the church website, www.fccuccspfdvt.org. Click on Worship on the black bar under the picture of the church. Click on the Facebook link. Click on the arrow of the live video.

Following the worship service, all are invited to join us downstairs in the vestry for coffee and conversation!

OUR THANKS to Jon Clinch and all who participated in our service this morning.

ALTAR FLOWERS this morning are given by Jill Markert in loving memory of James Soucy.

Thank you for all your well wishes and keeping in touch. We have had quite a time here. First my surgery, then Zoey's illness, and now Bill is going through some medical issues. He has to see a spine specialist, and have an ultra sound of this aorta. They found that he has an aneurysm. I am getting stronger, Zoey's testing all was negative, her kidneys are a okay! That was scary, and now to get Bill healthy. Zoey will be turning 5 on the 18th of this month, Can't believe it. Where did that time go? We will be celebrating, if you would like to stop in for cake and ice cream we are celebrating on the 17th at 1:00. Miss you all, and please keep us in your prayers. Love Patti, Bill and Zoey.

ALTAR FLOWERS ARE NEEDED! Please call Cynthia King, 885-5831, if you would like to sign up for flowers.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE:

Those words can mean most anything. Would you or someone you know benefit from prayers, home visits, help with shopping, rides to appointments, prepared meals, food to help you over a hard time? If you have such a need, or know someone who does, please contact one of the Congregational Care co-chairs. Claire Trask at 886-7377 or Jane Morin at 885-3774.

PRAYER LIST Kemp Family All others in need
 James Donald Miller
 Ruth and Dan Kelin

COMING UP ON THE CALENDAR!

July 18	Worship -Michael Mario	9:30 AM
July 21	Book Discussion- <i>Spiritual Direction</i>	Jack Mahoney 7 PM
July 25	Worship -Michael Mario	9:30 AM

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS Tues. & Wed. 8:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.
PASTOR'S HOURS Wed. & Thurs. 9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

STAFF

Pastor: Michael Mario
Administrative Assistant: Judy Lasell
Sexton: Todd Murray