

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

77 Main Street, Springfield, Vermont

Phone: (802) 885-5728

E-mail: [fccucc@vermontel.net](mailto:fccucc@vermontel.net)

website: [www.fccuccspfdvt.org](http://www.fccuccspfdvt.org)

[www.facebook.com/fccuccspringfield/](http://www.facebook.com/fccuccspringfield/)

Sept. 12, 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.*

## **SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST HOMECOMING SUNDAY**

### **EXPRESSING OUR LOVE**

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

#### **PRELUDE**

#### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**INTROIT #250** (UCC-Red) "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP ( Psalm 116: 3-8)**

I called upon the Name of the Lord:  
"O Lord, I pray you, save my life."  
Gracious is the Lord and righteous;  
our God is full of compassion.  
The Lord watches over the innocent;  
I was brought very low, and he helped me.  
Turn again to your rest, O my soul,  
for the Lord has treated you well.  
For you have rescued my life from death,  
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling.  
I will walk in the presence of the Lord  
in the land of the living.

**\*HYMN #42** (UCC-Red) "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

#### **OPENING PRAYER**

#### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION (from St Francis of Assisi)**

O most high, glorious God, enlighten the darkness of our hearts and give us a right faith, a certain hope, and a perfect love, understanding, and knowledge, O Lord, that we may carry out your holy and true command. *Amen.*

#### **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**

#### **NEW MEMBER WELCOME**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**            Isaiah 50: 4-9a  
   Mark 8: 27-38

#### **THE CHILD IN US ALL**

**SERMON**                                "Follow Me Home"

**\*HYMN #449** (NCH-Black)        "Softly and Tenderly"

### **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.**

**ACKNOWLEDGING OUR GIFTS** (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**

**Lord God, we thank you for the privilege of giving, without which our lives would be impoverished indeed. We pray for grace to give well, to help without patronizing, to assist without weakening, and to share without diminishing the self-respect of others. Amen**

**\*HYMN #186** (UCC-Red)            "O Master, Let Me walk With Thee"

#### **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](http://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 Kyle Washburn and all who participated in our service this morning.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** this morning are given by Heidi Mario in celebration of Michael Mario's installation.

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

**INTERESTED IN LEARNING** more about the bible? Join us for Wilderness Bible Study at 10 AM on Thursday. It's a Zoom meeting; all are welcome!

**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.

<b>PRAYER LIST</b>	Glenna Richardson Ruth and Dan Kelin All others in need	Pam Stone, daughter of Doris Westine Ginny Blais
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**COMING UP ON THE CALENDAR!**

Sep. 12	Worship – Michael Mario	9:30 AM
Sep. 12	Installation Ceremony	3:00 PM
Sep. 13	SPIRE DUE	
Sep. 16	Wilderness Bible Study via Zoom	10:00 AM
Sep. 19	Worship –Michael Mario	9:30 AM

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**  
**PASTOR'S HOURS**

Tues. & Wed. 8:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.  
Wed. & Thurs. 9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

**STAFF**

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