

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

77 Main Street, Springfield, Vermont

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www.facebook.com/fccuccspringfield/

August 17, 2025

10:00 AM

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

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - JOYS AND CONCERNS

INTROIT #235 (UCC-Red) "There Is a Balm in Gilead"

CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMN #19 (UCC-Red) "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty"

OPENING PRAYER (from St. Basil)

O Lord our God, teach us, we beseech and ask thee, for the right blessings. Steer the vessels of our lives toward thyself, the tranquil haven of all storm-tossed souls. Show us the course wherein we should go. Renew a willing spirit within us. Let thy spirit curb our wayward senses, and guide us and enable us unto that which is our true good, to keep thy laws, and in all our works evermore to rejoice in thy glories and gladdening Presence. For thine is the glory and praise from all thy saints for ever and ever.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, whose Word is a lamp for our feet and a light for our path, we recognize and confess that we have failed to respond fully to your gracious presence in our lives. Through Jesus Christ you have offered us new life, fulfillment, and the freedom to serve you. We confess that we are captive to sin, that our sin binds us with false pride, and that the wrong we do is made worse through the good we leave undone. Reconcile us to you and to all people. God of mercy, forgive all our sin and strengthen us anew for life as you intend it; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. 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.

GOD MOMENTS

GROWING IN OUR FAITH

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Hebrews 11:29 - 12:2
Luke 12:49-56

A MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

SERMON

“So Great A Cloud”

PRACTICING OUR SPIRITUALITY

***HYMN #31 (NCH-Black)**

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - CONCERNS

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 through our website. Loose offerings go into the general church fund.)

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

Dear Lord, Giver of all sacred bounty, may we reflect the light of your goodness through our giving, that we may create here in your church a true community in Christ, bringing your love to all our neighbours. Praise be to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen

***HYMN #497 (NCH-Black)**

“Guide My Feet”

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.

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

ALTAR FLOWERS today are given by Diane and John Holme.

ALTAR FLOWERS ARE NEEDED! Please sign up on the flower sign-up list on the table in the entrance or call Cynthia King 802-885-5831.

CHECK OUT our new church web site: firstchurchspringfield.org and our YouTube channel First Church Springfield 4738 (@firstchurchspringfield4738)

TO JOIN OUR ONLINE LIVE WORSHIP SERVICE EACH SUNDAY AT 10 AM, CLICK ON THE LINK FOR OUR NEW WEBSITE:

www.firstchurchspringfield.org

Note that a copy of the bulletin and hymns are available midway on the homepage.

Click on Worship on the homepage and it will take you to our Facebook page and a live video. Click on the video.

Glad you can worship with us!

CHOIR meets to raise our voices on the final Sunday of each month, rehearsing at 9 AM just before worship. All are welcome to join.

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 Congregational Care chair, Claire Trask at 886-7377.

PRAYER LIST	Marlene	Jaz	Martha	Jocelyn
	Helen	Jeff	Amie and Nicole	Wesley
	All others in need			

COMING UP ON THE CALENDAR!

Aug	17	Sunday Worship – Michael Mario	10:00 AM
Aug	21	Wilderness Bible Study via Zoom	10:00 AM
Aug	24	Sunday Worship – Michael Mario	10:00 AM

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
PASTOR'S HOURS**

Mon., Tues. & Wed. 9:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.
Wed. & Thurs. 9:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

STAFF

Pastor: Michael Mario
Sexton: Todd Murray

~ NOTES ~