

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

77 Main Street, Springfield, Vermont

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www.facebook.com/fccuccspringfield/

July 19, 2026

10:00 AM

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

EIGHTH 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 #13 (NCH-Black)

"O My Soul, Bless Your Creator"

CALL TO WORSHIP

***HYMN #267 (UCC-Red)**

"Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee"

OPENING PRAYER (Wisdom of Solomon 12:13, 16-19)

There is no god besides you, whose care is for all people,
to whom you should prove that you have not judged unjustly;
for your strength is the source of righteousness,
and your sovereignty over all causes you to spare all.
For you show your strength when people doubt the completeness of your power,
and you rebuke any insolence among those who know it.
Although you are sovereign in strength, you judge with mildness,
and with great forbearance you govern us;
for you have power to act whenever you choose.
Through such works you have taught your people
that the righteous must be kind,
and you have filled your children with good hope,
because you give repentance for sins.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess to Almighty God that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed, in things done and left undone. For these, and for all other sins which we cannot now remember, we are truly sorry. We pray, dear Lord, to have mercy on us. We firmly intend amendment of life, and humbly beg forgiveness, and ask you for counsel, direction, and absolution.

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 MOMENT

GROWING IN OUR FAITH

SCRIPTURE READINGS Genesis 28:10-19a
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

A MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

SERMON "Who Grows There?"

PRACTICING OUR SPIRITUALITY

***HYMN #597 (NCH-Black)** "Shall We Gather At the River"

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.)

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

Almighty God, we are grateful for the gifts you've given us as part of your family on earth. We show our gratitude in sharing our gifts to further the mission of the church. May our acts of kindness, however large or small, help bring others closer to you. Thanks be to you, O God.

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

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "One In Love"

One in love, one in friendship true,
One in hope, one in spirit, too,
One in faith that God will care for you
Till we meet together again.

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 Heidi and Michael Mario.

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.

PRAYER LIST	Dianne	Jaz	Jocelyn	Amie and Nicole	
Harriet	Wesley	Ted	Elmer	Ellen	All others in need

CHECK OUT our 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.

COMING UP ON THE CALENDAR!

July	19	Sunday Worship – Michael Mario	10:00 AM
July	23	Wilderness Bible Study via Zoom	9:30 AM
July	26	Sunday Worship – Michael Mario	10:00 AM

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS PASTOR'S HOURS

Tues. & Wed. 9:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.
Wed. 9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

STAFF

Pastor: Michael Mario
Sexton: Todd Murray

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