

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

77 Main Street, Springfield, Vermont

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www.facebook.com/fccuccspringfield/

September 6, 2026

10:00 AM

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

FIFTEENTH 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 #293 (NCH-Black) "Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMN #1 (UCC-Red) "From All That Dwell Below the Skies"

OPENING PRAYER (From Psalm 149)

1 Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song,
his praise in the assembly of the faithful.
2 Let Israel be glad in its Maker;
let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.
3 Let them praise his name with dancing,
making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.
4 For the LORD takes pleasure in his people;
he adorns the humble with victory.
5 Let the faithful exult in glory;
let them sing for joy on their couches.
6 Let the high praises of God be in their throats!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Psalm 119)

33 Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, and I will observe it to the end.
34 Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart.
35 Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it.
36 Turn my heart to your decrees, and not to selfish gain.
37 Turn my eyes from looking at vanities; give me life in your ways.
38 Confirm to your servant your promise, which is for those who fear you.
39 Turn away the disgrace that I dread, for your ordinances are good.
40 See, I have longed for your precepts; in your righteousness give me life.

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

Exodus 12:1-14
Matthew 18:15-20
Romans 13:8-14

A MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

SERMON

"Divine Arithmetic"

PRACTICING OUR SPIRITUALITY

***HYMN #332 (NCH-Black)**

"As We Gather at Your Table"

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

Dearest Creator God, you made the world and all its beings, each with special abilities and gifts. Teach us to use our gifts to live in peace and harmony, that we may bring delight to you. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(Communion Hymn: Let Us Break Bread Together 210 UCC Red Hymnal)

God be with you

And Also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to God most high.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

BREAKING AND DISTRIBUTION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Let us pray:

Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

***HYMN #171 (UCC-Red)**

“As Men of Old Their First Fruits Brought”

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 Diane and John Holme, for Small Acts of Kindness!

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	Ellen
Harriet	Wesley	Ted	Elmer	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!

Sep	6	Sunday Worship – Michael Mario	10:00 AM
Sep	10	Wilderness Bible Study via Zoom	9:30 AM
Sep	13	Sunday Worship – Michael Mario	10:00 AM
		Potluck Brunch to Follow!	

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

~ *NOTES* ~