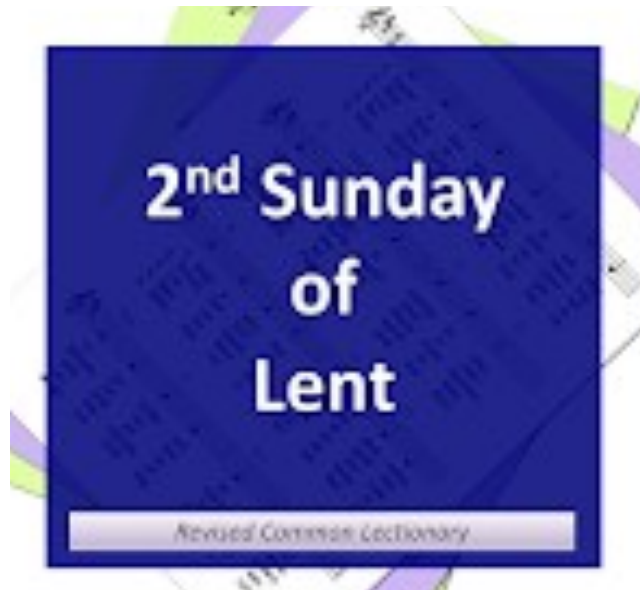


First Congregational Church of Fair Haven, UCC
~ ALL ARE WELCOME HERE! ~
~ MARCH 16, 2025



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY *“Jesus, as a mother you gather your people to you; you are gentle with us as a mother with her children.”*
From a prayer of St. Anselm 1033-1109

PRAISE AND WORSHIP VIDEO *Walking In the Light of God*



UNISON PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

ALL: Loving Protector, in times of chaos, we can be startled by sudden declarations, distracted by claims of solutions to problems. Forgive us, God, for our wandering from you. Forgive us, when our own fears draw other people's attention away from you. Help us to act, not from anxiety, but from faith in your certain presence. Help us to slow down and recognize you within and around us. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND GRACE

Pastor: No matter how far from God our resistance takes us, God wishes to draw us back, as deliberately as a hen gathers her brood under her wings. Receive God's embrace and this good news: you are forgiven.

ALL: *With gratitude we say, Amen.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

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.*

TIME WITH THE YOUNG—A MESSAGE OF GOD'S LOVE

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mary Ann Charron

RESPONSORIAL READING PAUL'S LETTER TO THE PHILIPPIANS

3:17-42

LEADER: Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us.

PEOPLE: *For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears.*

LEADER: Their end is destruction, their god is the belly, and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things

PEOPLE: *But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ*

LEADER: He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

PEOPLE: *Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.*

GOSPEL READING LUKE 9:37-43; 13:31-35

SERMONIC HYMN (*Chalice*) #97 *Fairest Lord Jesus*

*Fairest Lord Jesus,
ruler of all nature,
O thou of God to earth come down;
thee will I cherish,
thee will I honor,
thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.*

*Fair are the meadows,
fairer still the woodlands,
robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
who makes the woeful heart to sing.*

SERMON Challenges of Lent

Pastor Jane

OFFERING

DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow
Praise Him, all creatures here below
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Please use
this QR code
to make a



DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CLOSING HYMN *Chalice# 25 vs. 1, 3 & 5 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

*1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, who rules all creation.
O my soul, worship the wellspring of health and salvation.
All ye who hear,
now to God's temple draw near.
Join me in in glad adoration.*

*3 Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work, and defend thee.
Surely God's goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew
what the Almighty can do,
who with great love doth befriend thee.*

*5 Praise to the Lord! O let all of God's peoples and races,
all that hath life and breath, give thanks for manifold graces.
Let the Amen
sound from God's people again.
Gladly for ever sing praises.*

BENEDICTION AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

BRINGING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST OUT INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE *God Will Take Care of You* arr. by Charity Boyles
Sharon Pinsonnault

Our thanks to everyone who helped with the worship this morning

Please join us for Coffee and Fellowship following the service

PRAYER LIST Our prayer list is a network of love and faith in the power of prayer. We receive these names from members and friends of our church who hold these individuals up in their own prayer life for God's healing and strength upon them.

IMMEDIATE NEEDS: Pam Berryhill, Jeff Buxton, Patty Stannard, Chelsea, C.J. Dave Mallory, Connie Manukka, Judy Sheldon, Carlene Kasuba, Alan Wolmuth, Phil Stack

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENTEN BOOK STUDY Let's read, *Give Up Something Bad for Lent* by James W. Moore. We can meet on **Sunday, March 23rd** to have a light lunch and discussion.

HEALING SERVICE Our Lenten healing service will be held during our regular worship service on Sunday, March 30th. We hope everyone will join us for laying on of hands to share our love and healing powers with our church family. Come and show we care!

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT *"This is my commandment; love each other just as I have loved you"*. John 13:34

I think most of our church family will agree it is a lot harder to just love each other than to accept someone else's plan. And each of us is walking our own unique faith journey making each person's plan unique. When our faith is based on excluding someone else, and creating winners and losers, we have missed the pathway of faith. For in the Kingdom Jesus has ushered in, everyone wins, because we fight on behalf of others who have no voice, we pray and love people who are on the opposite side of an issue. It doesn't really matter whether we use chairs or pews, because the real job of discipleship is done walking with strangers, feeding the hungry, assisting people who might be afraid and praying out loud and without ceasing. Thank you Lord for watching over us.

LET'S WATCH CHOSEN TOGETHER DURING LENT. The Methodist Church in Poultney has invited us to join them on Friday evenings, at 5:00 PM.



TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE QUEEN SIZE QUILT, 85" X 89"
 A beautiful quilt made by Clem Levesque, age 91, is hanging in Reed Chapel. Clem donated this quilt to help with fund raising for the organ. **Tickets are \$5 each or 5 tickets for \$20.** (Sorry for the error in ticket price last week) The drawing will be held on Easter Sunday at the church.

230th Annual Meeting of the Vermont Conference UCC

Location: Grace Congregational UCC, 8 Court St, Rutland, VT
 or meet Virtually
Date and time: Fri, May 2, 2025 3:00 PM - Sat, May 3, 2025 5:00 PM
Organizer: Vermont Conference, (802) 505-8727,
treasurer@vermontucc.org

risen



indeed

The 230th Annual Meeting of the Vermont Conference
May 2-3, 2025
Grace Church, Rutland VT

"Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God."
Isaiah 58:1-12

If you would like to schedule time with Pastor Jane, please call her directly at 802-430-3636 or email her at janechurchlady@gmail.com

To schedule time with a Deacon either in-person or zoom, please contact Eileen via email to be placed on their calendar. Eileen@fhucc.org

Prayer Circle: If you or someone you know is in need of prayer you may call anyone of the following:

Karen Festa	802-683-1896
Maryann Charron	802-468-3207
Karyn Jockell	802-278-8058
Lana Petty	802-353-0485

WE TRY TO MAKE IT EASIER TO COME AND WORSHIP WITH US

Trouble with Stairs?

A Handicap RAMP is available on the Caernarvon Street side of Church! You MAY park on the church side of Caernarvon Street during church events.

A handicapped accessible bathroom is available on the main floor of the church.

Parking. Please save spaces near the front of the church for those who have difficulty walking. One handicapped space is available on Caernarvan St. near the ramp.

Pastor Jane LoBrutto janechurchlady@gmail.com 802-430-3636

Church Administrator: Eileen Hurlburt eileen@fhucc.org

Debbie Pratt - Lead Deacon

Sharon Pinsonnault & Joan Brown Organist/Pianist

Andrew Donahue and Ron Stack – Social Media

Thank you for coming to worship with us!



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