

WORSHIP CONTINUES IN FELLOWSHIP

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

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

Karen Festa 802-287-2405

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.

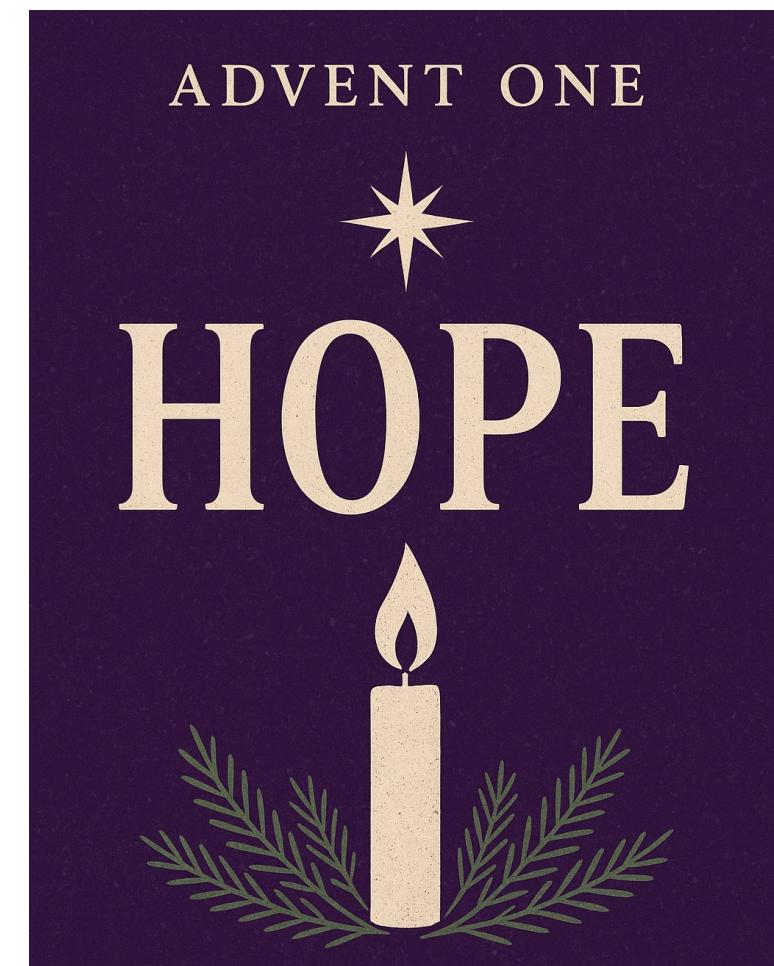
A handicapped accessible bathroom is available on the main floor of the church.

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.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF FAIR HAVEN

~ALL ARE WELCOME HERE! ~ NOVEMBER 30, 2025

~ FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY *"It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope."* — Pope Benedict XVI



First Congregational Church of Fair Haven, UCC
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church@fhucc.org



~ NOVEMBER 30, 2025 ~ FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~

PRELUDE *Concertato* Henry Purcell
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sharon Pinsonnault
Pastor Jane

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES & RINGING OF THE BELL Kate & Deb B.

One: What is our church's mission?

Many: To embody God's powerful love...

- welcoming all people, with a vision and message of hope,
- weaving deep relationships with Jesus and each other,
- working, praising and playing in our towns and world.

OPENING HYMN (CH) # 125 *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

*Come, O long-expected Jesus,
born to set your people free.
From our fears and sins release us;
Christ, in whom our rest shall be.
You, our strength and consolation,
come salvation to impart;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of many a longing heart.*

*Born your people to deliver,
born a child, and yet a king,
born to reign in us for ever,
born your gracious realm to bring.*

*By your own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by your all-sufficient merit
raise us to your glorious throne.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The day is near.

People: *And so we wait.*

Leader: We wait with hope.

People: *For the brokenhearted to be healed,*

Leader: For the downtrodden to be lifted up.

The meeting will be available on Zoom for those who are unable to attend in person. Absentee ballots will be available by December 1, 225. Contact Mary Brown, Clerk, or Steve Fredette. Moderator, if you need an absentee ballot and did not receive one by email.

SAVE THE DATE!!! Decorating the church of Christmas will take place on **Saturday, December 6th at 2:00 PM followed by fellowship and Dinner at 4:00 PM.** Sing carols, decorate and enjoy the fellowship. All are welcome!

COMMUNION BREAKFAST **Join us at worship on December 7th** our service will take place in the front of the Sanctuary with all of us sitting at a dining table. This will be a Communion Service and breakfast.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE will be held on **Wednesday, December 24, 2025 at 4:00 PM.** Everyone is encourage to attend, bring your family and friends to our special Lesson and Carols Service. We will have a special time for the young.

COOKIE WALK

DECEMBER 13TH

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

FAIR HAVEN CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH UCC
2 N. PARK PL

Let us make your Christmas Cookies so
you can enjoy this season with family
and friends!

All proceeds will go towards heating the
church this winter season!



Live Nativity

**Saturday, December 20
at 6:00 PM
Let's all go!!!**



BRINGING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST OUT INTO THE WORLD

CHORAL BENEDICTION *This Little Light of Mine*

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
 Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine
 Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine
 Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine
 Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine
 Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *In the Bleak Midwinter* Gustav Holst Sharon Pinsonnault

Please join us for Coffee and Fellowship following the service

Thank you for coming to worship with us!

IMMEDIATE NEEDS PRAYER LIST : Pam Berryhill, Jeff Buxton, C.J., Connie Munukka, Carlene Kasuba, Dorothy Stack, Shawn and Becky; Jessica Smith, David Stack, Joe Verga, Rick Hall, Jeanne Cole, Erik VanScoy, Vance, Mary Ann Charron

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WARNING

First Congregational Church Fair Haven, VT, UCC

The members of the First Congregational Church of Fair Haven, Vermont UCC are hereby warned to meet at the church on **Sunday, December 14, 2025 at 11:00 a.m.** immediately following the worship service to transact the following business:

1. To vote on the status of the Rainbow Door.

The vote will contain three choices:

- A. Remove the Door
- B. Leave the Door as is
- C. Alter the door to include the wording on display in Reed Chapel

The vote will be taken by paper ballot. The majority vote will be counted as Only one selection will constitute the majority.

Steve Fredette, Moderator

People: *We wait for the coming of the Christ child.*

Leader: In this meantime, we will light a candle against the darkness as we worship together.

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST CANDLE OF ADVENT HOPE

Reader 1: Watch and wait for Christ's coming! Today we light the candle of Hope.

Reader 2: *We think of Hope as anticipation of something future, but in truth, Hope can be the incarnation of trust.*

Reader 1: We trust in our Wonderful Counselor that when we seek guidance, we will find answers.

Reader 2: *We trust that when we are exhausted, our Emmanuel will send someone to carry our burdens for a while.*

Reader 1: We trust our Creator to renew our faith in community, in the goodness of others, and in the power of our empathy and action.

Reader 2: *We trust in our Beloved God, that when everything around us seems too difficult, too broken, too devastating for us to put to rights on our own, Hope will appear, and we rush forward, arms open wide to receive His grace.*

ALL: Come to us, O Christ of Light and renew in us Hope to our broken world.

INVOCATION

Debbie Pratt

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

ALL: *Holy One, You call us to wake from sleep, to become aware to our surroundings. The dawn of a new time of preparation is upon us. Forgive us when sleepiness takes its toll, when our discussions become battles, when our judgement and self-judgement outweigh our faith. Let us put on the light of Christ and live as You have called us in respect, in mutual dialogue, and in healthy living. Help us so that everything we do reflects Christ's light. Amen.*

WORDS OF GRACE

PRAISE & WORSHIP *Chalice Praise # 108 As the Deer*

Pastor Jane

*As the deer pants for the water,
So my soul longs after You.
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship You.*

Chorus

You alone are my strength, my shield,
To You alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship You.

You're my Friend and You are my brother,
Even though You are a King.
I love You more than any other,
So much more than anything. **Chorus**
I want You more than gold or silver,
Only You can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy-giver
And the apple of my eye. **Chorus**

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.

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

SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 122:1,8-9, Romans 13:11-14, Matthew 24:36-44
Matthew Pratt

SERMONIC HYMN (CH) # 88 All My Hope on God Is Founded

All my hope on God is founded,
who does still my trust renew.
Safe through change and chance God guides me,
ever faithful, ever true.
God unknown, God alone, seeks to claim my heart as home.

Human pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray our trust;
though with care and toil we build them,
tower and temple, fall to dust.
But God's power, hour by hour, is my temple and my tower.

But in every time and season,
out of love's abundant store,
God sustains the whole creation
fount of life forevermore.

We who share earth and air count on God's unfailing care.

SERMON Judging Can Be Good News

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.

Donate
Here



DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CLOSING HYMN (CH) # 680 O God of Every Nation

O God of every nation,
of every race and land,
redeem the whole creation
with your almighty hand;
where hate and fear divide us
and bitter threats are hurled,
in love and mercy guide us
and heal our strife-torn world.

From search for wealth and power
and scorn of truth and right,
from trust in bombs that shower
destruction through the night,
from pride of race and nation
and blindness to your way,
deliver every nation,
eternal God, we pray.

Keep bright in us the vision
of days when war shall cease,
when hatred and division
give way to love and peace,
till dawns the morning glorious
when truth and justice reign
and Christ shall rule victorious
o'er all the world's domain.