

**First Congregational Church of Berlin**  
Berlin Corners, Vermont  
An inclusive, open & affirming church  
Pastor Doug Cameron  
Christopher McWilliams, Music Director

*Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you're welcome here.*

**January 25, 2026**



**WE GATHER TOGETHER**

**RINGING OF THE BELL / LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

**PRELUDE**     *Dawn*, by Dario Marianelli

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**INTROIT** *Every Eye Shall See*, by William J. and Gloria Gaither     **FCCB Choir**

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

**CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)**

**L:** Friends of God, today Jesus calls to each of us: "Come! Follow me!"

**P:** The kingdom of heaven has come near.

**L:** Some say, "But we are walking in darkness."

**P:** In Christ, we have seen God's light. The kingdom of heaven has come near.

\*Those who are able may stand

**L:** Some say, “But divisions tear us apart.”

**P:** In Christ we are united in mind and purpose. The kingdom of heaven has come near.

**L:** Friends of God, today we gather to worship God and to follow Jesus.

**P:** The kingdom of heaven has come near.

**\*HYMN**    *Let Us Build a House of Worship*    **TWC #793**

## **INVOCATION (unison)**

Inviting God, help us to hear Jesus calling us and help us to follow him. In Christ, your kingdom draws near to us, whether we are seeking it or not. When we are caught up in our anguish, you shine a great light in our darkness. When we face days full of trouble, you shelter us. When we are at odds with others, quarreling and breaking apart into factions, you save us with the unity won by Christ through the cross and his resurrection. Whether we face danger or are at ease in our routines—the kingdom of heaven draws near and Jesus says: “Now is the time to follow me.” You hear us, God, when we cry out to you. May we hear you this day when you cry out to us. Amen.

**ANTHEM**    *Look Down*, by Natalie Sleeth    **FCCB Choir**

## **RECEPTION OF NEW AND TRANSFERRED MEMBERS**

### **Introduction**

### **Presentation of Candidates**

**Questions to New Members**    *Stewart & Denise Clark, Danny Coane*

**Questions to Transferring Members**    *Sandra Touchette, Ed & Diane Blodgett*

### **Question to the Congregation**

**Pastor:** Members of this congregation, do you receive these new and transferring members into the fellowship of this church, and do you promise to support them with your prayers, encouragement, and love?

**Congregation:** We do, with God’s help.

### **Declaration of Welcome**

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

## **WE LISTEN TOGETHER**

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

pew Bible p. 926

\*Those who are able may stand

**\*HYMN**     *Jerusalem the Golden*   **TWC #754**

**MESSAGE**   “ Always United in Christ”

**WE RESPOND TOGETHER**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**   (See also our Prayer List)

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** in song   (TWC #632)

**Our Father, which 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen. Amen.**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**   *On Wings of Song*, by Felix Mendelssohn   **Lotta Suter, violin**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, you heavenly host: Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**WE DEPART TO SERVE TOGETHER**

**\*HYMN**     *Christ Be My Leader*   **TWC #107**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**   *Prelude Opus 28 No. 1 in C Major*, by Frederic Chopin



**Please join us for coffee time following worship this morning,  
held in the Parish Hall Community Room.**

*\*Those who are able may stand*



**Pastor Doug's Office Hours:** Wednesdays, 10-2;  
also available to visit in homes. [dougc9927@gmail.com](mailto:dougc9927@gmail.com)  
H: 802-276-3404  
C: 802-356-0578

## Announcements

- Choir rehearses at 1:00 pm on Wednesdays
- Bible Study meets on Thursdays at 6:00 pm ❄ **Until further notice, Bible Study will be held on Zoom during the winter months.**



Join us on Zoom for Sunday worship OR Thursday Bible Study:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89101553827>

Meeting ID: 891 0155 3827    Passcode: 1808    1-646-558-8656

## IN OUR *Thoughts and Prayers*

**Joys:** Evan H. got his first vehicle! Remembering Renee Nicole Good and the words of hope that the power of love overcomes the love of power.

**For FCCB family & friends:** Thanna A. awaiting current test results, travelling mercies for Ginger's daughter Holly, everyone dealing with the current round of colds/flu/Covid, Melissa "Bidey" W. hospitalized with Covid, Ian L., Andy L. with new health issues, Kathryn L. recovering from surgery, Erin M., Donna C., Dan H., Denise R., Marilyn (Rick's sister), Paul in California, Kevin G., Arthur and Nancy Z., Brenda C., Shannon (Thanna's and Barbara's granddaughter), Donna C., Lesley, Eli, Logan C., Donna T. & Peter H., Ray and Cindy C., Jordan's son, Yolanda, Pastor Doug's sister and niece.

**For the loss of a loved one, the families of:** Brian Jacobs, Tatiana Schlossberg (environmental journalist and granddaughter of JFK), Karen Robbins, Virginia Collins, Kathleen Clow

**For our members and friends in residential and independent care facilities:** Jeanine, Jamin, Elaine, Anita, Sandy, Ann, Renata, Marvie, Toni, Sue, Steve

**For our World:** the people of Venezuela and our service people there, victims of recent mass shootings, all military service people, food shelves & support services (and those who work there), storms that surround our country and world, starvation in Gaza, Ukraine, homeless communities in VT, all those battling cancer, mental illness, domestic violence and substance abuse.

\*Those who are able may stand

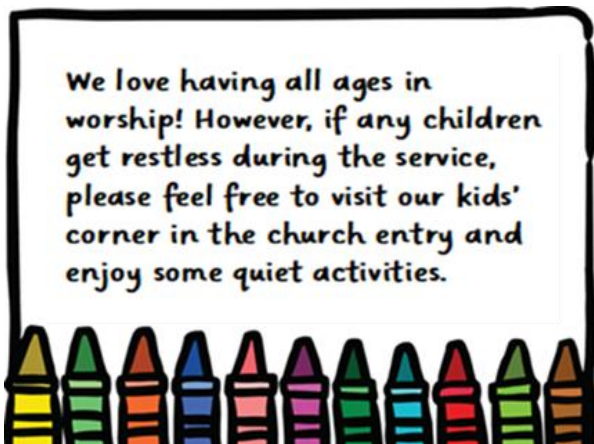


The collection for **January** is infant items small enough to fit in a diaper bag.

Examples: hygiene items, bottles, rattles, bibs, diapers, wipes, board books.

Please leave donations in designated basket in the Narthex.

*Thank you!*



### **Easter Bake Sale**

**Saturday, March 28, 10 am to 1 pm**

Please sign up in Parish Hall (or with Ginger Anderson) to bring breads, cookies or desserts for sale. Gluten-free items are especially asked for as well.

We'll also have **Easter baskets** as raffle items at the bake sale. Please consider signing up to contribute a basket. They should be based on fun themes (examples might be: "Pet Lovers Basket," "Young Readers Basket," "Healthy Houseplant Basket," etc.). They can include a few sweets, but also other items that fit the theme and appeal to a broad range of interests for all ages.

Baskets should be ready and at the church by Sunday, March 22 so church members have a chance to see and buy raffle tickets even if they can't attend the sale on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Winners will be drawn at the conclusion of the Bake Sale on March 28. *Thank you!*

*The vision of First Congregational Church of Berlin is to be a friendly, inviting spiritual home that practices the deep caring of Jesus within the congregation and in the wider community.*



**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BERLIN**

1808 Scott Hill Road, Berlin, VT 05602 ~ 802-229-0338

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here." ☪ That they may all be one. ~ John 17:21

\*Those who are able may stand