

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.*

October 4, 2026

WE GATHER TOGETHER

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

PRELUDE *Quatuor* based on *Jesus Shall Reign* by Charles Callahan

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT *Come, Live in the Light* words and music by David Haas **FCCB Choir**

CHILDREN'S TIME

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

L: God heard the cries of a people held in bondage.

P: God led them toward freedom.

L: God gave them words to guide their life together.

P: Teach us to live in truth, care, and reverence.

L: Come, let us worship the God who calls us to love our neighbors.

P: May our worship shape the way we live. Amen.

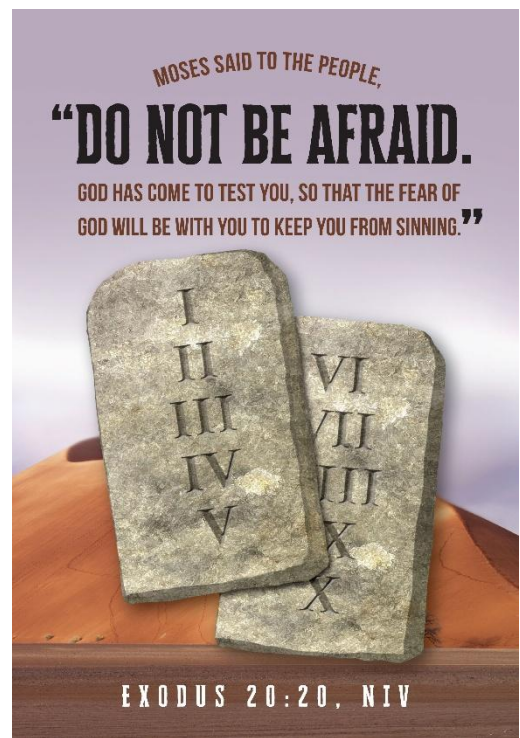
***HYMN** *Our Savior's Infant Cries Were Heard* TWC #438

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

God of freedom and faithfulness, you hear your people when they cry out. You meet us on the journey and show us how to live together. Be present with us in worship today. Quiet the noise that keeps us from listening. Open us to your word, and give us the courage to hear what it asks of us. Shape our hearts for truth and our lives for love. Amen.

ANTHEM *Al Shlosha D'Varim* by Allan E. Naplan **FCCB Choir**

English translation: The world is sustained by three things: truth, justice and peace.



*Those who are able may stand

WE LISTEN TOGETHER

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

(pew Bible p. 58)

MUSICAL REFLECTION *The Land of Confusion* by Genesis

MESSAGE “How to Live in the World”

WE RESPOND TOGETHER

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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 *The Deserted Garden* by Florence B. Price **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**

HOLY COMMUNION

WELCOME

PRAYER OF PREPARATION (responsive)

L: Let us pray.

All: God of grace, we come carrying our successes and failures, our gratitude and disappointment, our faith and our questions. Remove the barriers that separate us from you and from one another. Open our hearts to your presence, and prepare us to receive your grace. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE (responsive)

L: God knows us completely and loves us faithfully. Through Jesus Christ, we are offered forgiveness, healing, and a new beginning.

P: Thanks be to God for a grace that welcomes everyone.

COMMUNION PRAYER

REMEMBERING JESUS

PRAYER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

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SHARING THE MEAL (responsive)

L: This is the bread of life, given for all.

P: We receive God's gift with gratitude.

L: This is the cup of blessing, poured out for all.

P: We receive God's grace with joy.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (unison)

God of abundant love, you have welcomed us, fed us, and reminded us that we belong to you and to one another. Now send us out to become living signs of your grace. Help us feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, comfort those who are hurting, stand beside those who are treated unjustly, and carry the love of Christ into our community. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

WE DEPART TO SERVE TOGETHER

***HYMN** *God of Grace and God of Glory* TWC #669

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *Improvisation on "Come Away to the Skies" by Christopher McWilliams*



Joys: having Serena W. with us at church

For FCCB family & friends: Pastor Doug & Donna's daughter-in-law Jess, Michael B., Donna T. (has entered hospice) & Peter H., Cheryl P.'s aunt, Rob G., Serena W., the Richardson family, Lexi C.'s grandfathers, Don F., Xavier T, David in his last days, all those facing upcoming surgeries, Beth C.'s mother-in-law, Andy L., Gary I. (and Linda), Eldora (nearing end of life), Pastor Doug's brother Michael, Sue D., Dot F., Mara in San Antonio Grande, Paul, Bonnie B. and her daughter Melissa, Lorna's brother-in-law, Pastor Kevin has stopped chemo treatments, Sarah, Heather M.'s friend Jody (who lost her husband), Barb C., Caroline, Mary G., Eric P. (lung transplant) and the donor's family, Kelsey, Sue R., Ian L., Larry M., Marty & Kathryn L., Pastor Doug's sister Lori, Vicky, Stephanie J., Paul and Jeff (Pastor Doug's golf buddies), Matthew A-B, Marilyn, Lesley, Eli, Logan C., Ray and Cindy C., Jordan's son, Jeanine K.

For the loss of a loved one, the families of: Jim Barrett, Joel Fielder, Cassie Major, Tim Sargent, Gloria Askew, Steve Dodson, Lou (Maggie S.'s brother), Brenda Clark, Carol Day

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

For our World: those affected by the September nor'easter storm, homeless communities as colder weather approaches, those affected by wildfires, and those fighting those fires, those serving our country, farm workers with no employment rights, families under economic stress, innocent victims, prayers for PEACE: in the Middle East, for our leaders, our country and Constitution, those who fought/still fight for racial justice, victims of mass shootings, food shelves & support services, storms that surround our country and world, Gaza, Ukraine, all those battling cancer, mental illness, domestic violence and substance abuse.

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Pastor Doug's Office Hours: Wednesdays, 10-2; also available to visit in homes.
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H: 802-276-3404
C: 802-356-0578

Announcements

- TODAY: congregational meeting directly after worship
- Choir rehearses on Wednesdays, 1-2 pm
- Bible Study group meets Thursdays on Zoom at 6pm; all welcome!
- Sunday, November 1 FCCB Annual Meeting 2026



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

Quilt Show at FCCB Though we have just put up an exhibition of Autumn photos by Lotta Suter in the FCCB Gallery, we are already thinking about our next exhibition. In the second half of November, we would like to put up an exhibition of handmade quilts, table runners or any other decorative textile are welcome. We would especially like to have quilts with winter holiday themes. But other themes are welcome too! If you have a quilt, table runner or other decorative textile that you would like to see hung in the FCCB parish hall, please contact Karen Foote at 802-223-7286 or kbf789@aol.com.

Neighbors in Need COLLECTION October 4–25



Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the

UCC's justice ministries to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice.

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.

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CHICKEN PIE SUPPER at FCCB

Saturday, October 10, 2026

Two seatings available:

5:00 and 6:30 PM

(LIMITED NUMBER of take-out meals
available; reserve EARLY)

Adults \$15.00, Ages 4-12 \$8.00;

3 and under FREE

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED: 802-272-2956



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BERLIN

1808 Scott Hill Road, Berlin, VT 05602 ~ 802-229-0338
PO Box 1157, Montpelier, VT 05601

"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



The collection for **October** is
winter accessories (hats, mittens,
gloves); all ages & genders.

Please leave donations in
designated basket in the
Narthex.

Thank you!

DEACONS FUND

An anonymous monetary
collection to financially and
confidentially help members of
the church and community
when emergency needs are
made known to a member of
the Deacons Fund Committee
or the minister.

(see envelope in pew)

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