



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH *of Essex Junction*

Love. Serve. Grow.

A Welcoming Community, Accepting and Serving All in the Spirit of Christ

The First Congregational Church of Essex Junction, United Church of Christ, is an Open and Affirming congregation, embracing diversity and affirming the dignity and worth of every person, because we are all created by a loving God. We seek to live Christ's call for compassion, justice, healing and wholeness in life. Therefore, we welcome into our community persons of every race, gender, age, sexual orientation, faith background, nationality, ethnicity, marital status, mental and physical ability, economic and social position, gender identity and expression, level of education and family structure. We invite all to share in the life, leadership, ordained ministry, lay ministry, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, fellowship, blessings, and joys of our congregation as we seek to grow together in faith and love.

**1 Church Street
Essex Junction, VT 05452**

Phone: 802-878-5745 **E-mail:** welcome@fccej.org **Website:** www.fccej.org



The First Congregational Church of Essex Junction
Second Service @ 10:15 a.m. - October 10, 2021
Theme: The Gift of Money

Our Streamed service begins at 8:30 a.m. every Sunday but you are welcome to watch it any time thereafter. As you do so light a candle at home, sit in a comfortable spot, and center yourself

The Order of Worship

WelcomeRev. Mark Mendes: Lead Pastor

**No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey
you are welcome in this place.**

A Few Key Announcements:

2 Services with Faith Formation @ Second Service

Hybrid Service: Masks Required, soft singing allowed

Welcome to Mark Redmond from Spectrum

Music: Marie Johnson and Denise Keating leading Sanctuary Choir

Our Traditional Sanctuary Choir Leads Music at our 1st Service @ 8:30 a.m.

Laura Cunningham Firkey is leading our Praise Band **Finally at First**

Our Praise Band Leads our Second Service @ 10:15 a.m.

As always great to have Jonah Moos, Ed Guild, Gary Hartmann, Francis Gravel,
Linda Lou Parker and Harsh Shah operating the live stream tech.

Musical Introit

My Jesus

Finally @ First

Call to WorshipDeacon Pete Schmalz

Leader: Let us be thankful for the blessings that God has bestowed upon all of us in this nation of abundance, stability and peace.

People: Thank you God for food aplenty for our families, freedom to travel and explore life as we desire, homes to shield us from the heat and cold while providing us with comfort, health care to minister to our physical and psychological needs, schools to educate and draw us toward wisdom and faith to challenge our self-aggrandizement and keep us grounded in love and justice.

Leader: Thank you, Spirit of the Living God, for leading us to meaning, joy, and significant lives.

Prayer of Invocation & Unison Lord's Prayer.....Deacon Pete Schmalz

Loving God, 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 do not let us fall into temptation**, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, amen.

Scripture Reading

Mark 10:17-31

The Rich Man

As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, ‘Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?’ Jesus said to him, ‘Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: “You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother.” ’ He said to him, ‘Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.’ Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, ‘You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.’ When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, ‘How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!’ And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, ‘Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.’ They were greatly astounded and said to one another, ‘Then who can be saved?’ Jesus looked at them and said, ‘For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.’

Peter began to say to him, ‘Look, we have left everything and followed you.’ Jesus said, ‘Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.’

Children's Message..... Rev. Mark Mendes, Senior Pastor

Opening Hymn

Our God Is Here

Here in this time here in this place. Here we are standing face to face.
Here in our hearts here in our lives. Our God is here;
Here for the broken, here for the strong. Here in this temple we belong
Here in our hearts here in our lives. Our God is here.

Chorus 1

And we cry holy, holy, holy are You. We cry holy, holy, holy and true.
Amen we do believe our God is here. Our God is here

Here in the Word God is revealed. Here where the wounded can be healed.
Here in our hearts here in our lives. Our God is here.
Here we become what we receive. Here in this Eucharistic feast.
We are His body living as one. Our God is here.

Our God is here. Our God is here

Chorus 2

And we cry holy, holy, holy are You. We cry holy, holy, holy and true.
Amen we do believe our God is here. Amen we do believe our God is here.
Our God is here.

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Welcoming Mark Redmond from Spectrum

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Josh Simon

E-mail prayers to Rev. Josh @ [920 858-6601]

Musical Prayer Response by Finally @ First

Multiplied

**God of mercy sweet love of mine
I have surrendered to Your design
May this offering stretch across the skies
These hallelujahs be multiplied**

CCLI Song # 7029227; Bear Rinehart | Bo Rinehart
CCLI License # 11051841

Anthem

My Jesus

Finally @ First

CCLI: 7174531

Sermon

Money is Like Everything Else
Sermon Questions: Text Rev. Mark @ [802-922-1773]

Rev. Mendes

Offering Our Gifts to God

Emily Guziak Shares Why She Gives to the Church

Invitation & Prayer of ThanksgivingRev. Josh Simon

Closing Hymn

Go Make a Difference

Steve Angrisano / Tom Tomaszek
CCLI 2945945

Chorus

**Go make a diff'rence; We can make a diff'rence; Go make a diff'rence in the world
Go make a diff'rence; We can make a diff'rence; Go make a diff'rence in the world**

**We are the salt of the earth
Called to let the people see
The love of God in you and me
We are the light of the world
Not to be hidden but be seen
Go make a diff'rence in the world
[chorus]**

**We are the hands of Christ
Reaching out to those in need
The face of God for all to see
We are the spirit of hope
We are the voice of peace
Go make a diff'rence in the world
[chorus]**

**So let your love shine on
Let it shine for all to see
Go make a diff'rence in the world
And the Spirit of Christ
Will be with us as we go
Go make a diff'rence in the world
[chorus]**

SERVICE / SERMON NOTES

OUR PRAYER MINISTRY

If you require prayers for yourself or a loved one; or if you wish for a call from a pastor, please contact welcome@fccej.org or call 1(802) 878-5745.

Bruce Giannuzzi
David (David Irwin's friend)
Nancy Hayes
Bill Barrett (Nancy Hayes son-in-law)
Patty Garvey
Dave Johnson
Joe and Ann Wells
Maureen MacKenzie

Catherine McMaster's sister: Margaret Sprague
Robert Howe
The Family of Mary Gellatly
Jordan
Jonah Moos' Father
Sean McKenzie
Jaime Real
Path & Faith Lavelly
Claire Glatz
Ann Gray
Emily Broude
Carlene Lawrence's Family
College Students (and their parents!)

...and all persons affected by COVID19

The flowers on the altar are given by
Beth Volker in memory of John
Denver, gone 24 years on October 12.

&
By Carl and Alison Wermer in
Celebration of Dorothy Knox's life
and the Knox- Wermer Family

ALTAR FLOWERS REQUESTS

All altar flowers request slots for 2021 are fulfilled!

If you wish to retrieve your flowers, please email welcome@fccej.org or call 1(802) 878-5745.

NEWSLETTERS

Signup Online! <https://bit.ly/3dwsHji>

Our "Weekly Update" eNewsletter:
<http://bit.ly/3rlsISv>

Our monthly "SPIRIT@FIRST" eNewsletter*
<http://fccej.org/v5/category/newsletters/>

*available in a printed, snail-mailed format

ONGOING PROGRAMS!

- ⊕ **Coffee Clatter**, every Friday @ 8am, Martone's
- ⊕ **Bridge Group**, 3rd Fridays @ 1:30pm, Marvin Lounge



Sunday Worship @ 10am (Hybrid Format!)
Communion on 1st Sundays
Teleworship: youtube.com/c/fccej



Sermon Talk Back (Hybrid Format!)
Tuesdays @ 8:30am, Marvin Lounge
...and Zoom: <http://zoom.us/j/740803865>



Life Story/Memoir Club
3rd Wednesdays @ 1pm
Contact Pete Schmalz (pschmalz@comcast.net)



Noontime Book Group
3rd Mondays @ 11:30am, Marvin Lounge
Zoom component is on hiatus



FACEBOOK

bit.ly/39O39ht



INSTAGRAM

bit.ly/3rlfgZf



INTERNET

fccej.org



YOUTUBE

bit.ly/3oPpBv9

MINISTRY DIRECTORY

Staff

Senior Pastor: Rev. Mark Mendes [mmendes@fccej.org]

Associate Pastor: Rev. Josh Simon [jsimon@fccej.org]

Minister of Visitation: Rev. Ron Faux [revronfaux@gmail.com]

Christian Education Director: Laurie Chipman [lchipman@fccej.org]

Music Director: Carol Spradling [cspradling@fccej.org]

Church Administrator: Jen Kelly [welcome@fccej.org]

Music

Currier Bell Choir: Alison Wermer [clwerme@msn.com; P# 879-7650]

Finally @ First Director: Rick Dooley [rickdooley5@gmail.com]

Men @ First Director: Bill Bickford, Jr. [bill.bickford@aol.com]

Officers

President: Cathy Shearer [878-6023]

Vice President: Brenda Dawson [1-802-881-5253]

Financial Secretary: Rob Sinkewicz [878-4470]

Treasurer: Dan Petherbridge [879-0261]

Clerk: Christine Sinkewicz [878-4470]

Historian: Ann Gray [878-4088]

Auditors: Betsy Weischedel [922-2094] & Steve Wood [878-3068]

Committee Chairs

Christian Education: Lisa Clark [872-5849]

Communications: Francis Gravel [802-318-6235]

Deacons: Judy Pomainville [236-0604]

Finance & Pastoral Relations: Cathy Shearer [878-6023]

Hospitality: Jim Glatz [503-5076]

Human Resources: Brenda Dawson [1-802-881-5253]

Missions: Paula Sargent [879-3598]

Music: Denise Keating [345-8900]

Nominating: Dick Harris [1-802-644-6488]

Stewardship: Kathryn Brennan [878-9509]

Trustees: Kaki McGeary [879-2062]

Ushering: Marlene Frank [872-9126]

Recognized Groups

Heavenly Cents Thrift Shop: Sue Wood [878-3068] woodsusanjane@gmail.com

Heavenly Food Pantry: Valerie Gabert [879-0109]