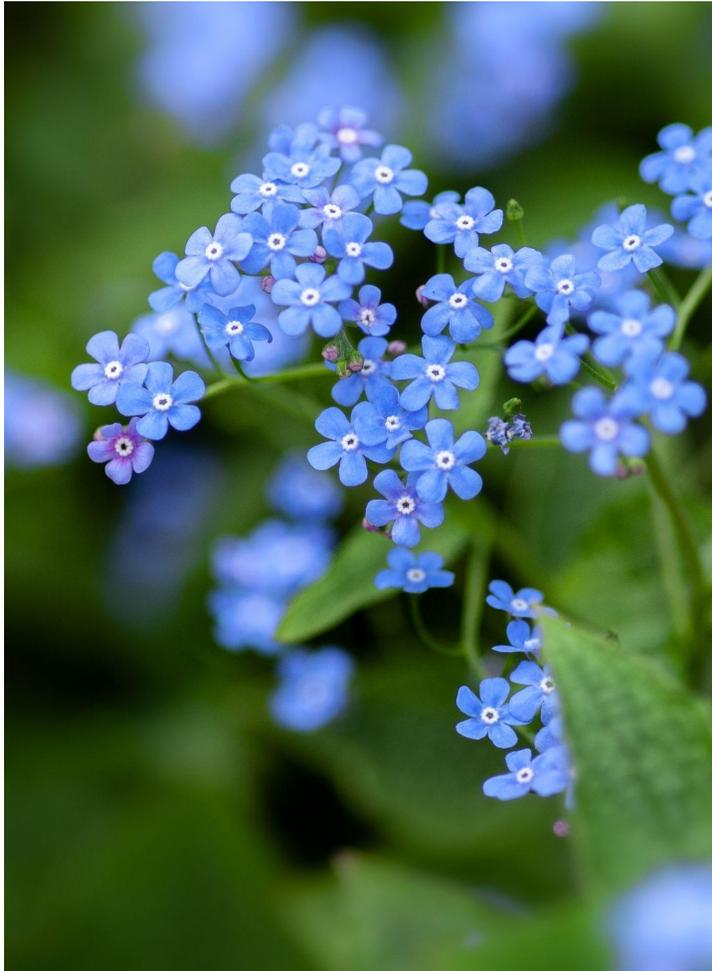


# The First Congregational Church in Thetford, Vermont

*Built in 1787, this is the oldest meetinghouse in continuous service  
in the state of Vermont. A member of the United Church of Christ*

*A Sanctuary for Spiritual Nurture*



May 15, 2022

Rev. Robin Junker-Boyce, Pastor  
Maureen Burford, Church Musician & Choir Director  
[www.thetfordhillchurch.org](http://www.thetfordhillchurch.org)

## Morning Worship

May 15, 2022

### Silent Prayer

**Prelude** *My Roots Go Down Into the Earth*

*~My leaves are open, open to the light~* words & music by Sarah Pirtle  
Liz Thames

**Greeting** (all announcements in bulletin)

**Call to Worship** (*based on psalm 1*)

One: Blessed are they who do not walk in the counsel of the wicked, or  
set foot on the path of sinners, or sit in the seat of mockers.

**All: They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their  
fruit in its season, whose leaves do not wither, and who prosper in all  
they do...Come let us worship**

**Hymn** CH #575 *Come and Find the Quiet Center* (Acapella, insert)

**Prayer of Confession**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Silence**

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Passages** Psalm 16:5 & an excerpt from Wendell Berry's *The Wild Geese*  
Geese appear high over us,  
pass, and the sky closes. Abandon,  
as in love or sleep, holds  
them to their way, clear  
in the ancient faith: what we need  
is here. And we pray, not  
for new earth or heaven, but to be  
quiet in heart, and in eye,  
clear. What we need is here.

Wendell Berry

**Meditation** *Rooted In Love - Stewardship 2022 #4*

Pastor Robin

**Silence for Reflection**

**Communal Prayer**

**Sung Response** NCH#283 *Spirit of the Living God (Acapella)*

**Offertory**

**\*Doxology**

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

**Benediction**

**Postlude** NCH#539 *Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant*

*Won't you let me be your servant,  
let me be as Christ to you?  
Pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant, too.*

*We are pilgrims on a journey,  
we are trav'lers on the road;  
we are here to help each other  
walk the mile and bear the load.*

*I will hold the Christ-light for you  
in the nighttime of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you,  
speak the peace you long to hear.*

*I will weep when you are weeping;  
when you laugh I'll laugh with you.  
I will share your joy and sorrow  
till we've seen this journey through.*

*Will you let me be your servant,  
let me be as Christ to you?  
Pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant, too.*

**575** Come and Find the Quiet Center

Unison F B $\flat$  C7

1. Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we

2. Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the

3. In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's

F F B $\flat$

lead, find the room for hope to enter, find the

pace, God it is who speaks and names us, knows our

pain, let our loves and fears unravel, celestial

C7 F Am7

frame where we are freed: clear the chaos and the

being, touches base, making space within our

bracket the space we gain: there's a place for deepest

Dm Am7 Dm Am7 B $\flat$  (C7)

clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see all the

thinking, lifting shades to show the sun, raising

dreaming, there's a time for heart to care, in the

WORDS: Shirley Erena Murray, 1989  
MUSIC: Traditional American melody; arr. Jack Schrader

Words and arr. © 1992 Hope Publishing Co.

BEACH SPRING  
87.87D

♩=70-74

## Spirit of the Living God

283

Daniel Iverson, 1926

Acts 11:15; 2 Cor. 3:1-6; Gal. 5:25

F Gm D Gm F Dm C F

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me;

F Gm D Gm F B $\flat$ /C C7 F

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

B $\flat$  F G7 C

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

F Gm D Gm F Dm C7 F

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

Presbyterian minister Daniel Iverson was inspired to write this chorus one evening while attending revival services led by the George T. Stephans Evangelistic Party in Orlando, Florida, in 1926. It became widely popular at similar meetings before it was published several years later.

Tune: IVERSON 7.5.7.5.8.7.5.  
Daniel Iverson, 1926

## Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?

539

Richard Gillard, 1977; alt.

Rom. 12:9-18; Col. 1:24-29

1 & 6 Won't you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as Christ to you?  
2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - elers on the road;  
3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the shad - ow of your fear;  
4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.  
5 When we sing to God in heav - en we shall find such har - mo - ny,

Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser - vant, too.  
We are here to help each oth - er go the mile and bear the load.  
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.  
I will share your joy and sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney through.  
Born of all we've known to - geth - er of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.

(repeat stanza 1)

Richard Gillard was born in England and later made his home in New Zealand. Largely self-taught, Gillard has described his musical style as "folk." This is the best known of his many songs in the United States.

Tune: SERVANT SONG 8.7.8.7.  
Richard Gillard, 1977  
Arr. Betty Carr Pulkingham, 1977; adapt.

## **Church Calendar**

**May 1-13:** Virtual Auction

**May 22:** Family Potluck Picnic

**May 28, 9AM - 1PM:** Memorial Day Yard Sale

### **Today's Announcements**

- THANK YOU to our Tech Teens: Emilia Williams, Adi Alsup, & Uly Junker-Boyce
- May Deacon on Duty is Jay Dunlap (NOTE May 15 Deacon on Duty will be Ben Williams)
- Our Virtual Auction is in full swing! Custom Tea Tasting, Original Watercolors and Oil Paintings, Vacation Nights in Lyme, NH, Maine, even France! All this and more are up for bid! Visit [32auctions.com/FCCT](https://32auctions.com/FCCT) to check out all the amazing items and place your bids by May 13.
- History of U.S. Immigration Laws -- an educational presentation. Join VIA for an informative presentation by Dr. Pablo Bose from UVM and Lecturer Maria Clara de Greiff from Dartmouth on Sunday, May 15 from 3 to 5 pm on Zoom to gain a foundation of knowledge that will help you put our current laws in context, and provide you the opportunity to get involved with the campaign we are conducting through VIA's national network, Faith in Action, to reform our immigration system. To attend, please register in advance: <https://bit.ly/ImmigrationWorkshop2022>.
- We're so excited to offer the return of the kids' Sunday Circle on May 22. To celebrate, we'd love to invite our families with children to an outdoor potluck after the service that day. Please fill out our google form (available in the CW) if you can come and let us know your names and what dish you'd like to bring.
- Our Memorial Day Yard Sale is coming Saturday, May 28 from 9AM - 1PM, and we need your help! We're looking for 8 volunteers to help with set up and sales, 3 volunteers for clean up, and donations. Donations should be realistically salable (please no broken items, books, stuffed toys, tires, cribs, large appliances, computers, printers, mattresses, skis and boots, sleeper couches, or hazardous materials). Items can be dropped off Thursday May 26 & Friday May 27, and very large items like furniture can be delivered to us on Saturday morning, May 28, at 8am. If you are unable to drop off donations, we will pick them up at your house!
- The Church Window is our weekly e-newsletter. If you would like to receive it, please email [office@thetfordhillchurch.org](mailto:office@thetfordhillchurch.org)

### **To Our Visitors**

If you are new among us, welcome! Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. We are an Open and Affirming congregation. You are invited to become a part of our life together. Our goal is to be a loving and caring church, and we hope you feel this. Please help us to know you by introducing yourself, filling out a contact card on the Welcome Table at the back of the sanctuary, and joining us in fellowship following the service.