

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ST. CLAIR



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST



**“No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey,  
you’re welcome here.”**

**300 Adams Street, St. Clair, MI 48079  
810-329-4142**

[www.firstcongsc.org](http://www.firstcongsc.org)  
[firstcongsc@gmail.com](mailto:firstcongsc@gmail.com)

# WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

May 28, 2023  
Pentecost Sunday

† Those who are able, may stand.

## ALTAR FLOWERS

This week's altar flowers are in memory of John and Alice Kralik from their children, Tina Hudson and Jack Kralik.

## CHIMES

America the Beautiful

## PRELUDE

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

## WELCOME

Dr. Guerreno

Welcome to First Congregational Church of Saint Clair, United Church of Christ, where no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey you're welcome here. Many thanks to all who are here for this worship service. Greetings to those of you with us on the Facebook Livestream. And a big thank you to all who are helping with this morning's worship service.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** (Announcements are in the back of this bulletin.)

## † CALLING ON GOD

Nancy Rice

Give praise to God! Praise the Lord of hosts!

**From mountaintop and hillside, from ocean's depth and river's edge, from factory and office;**

from doors and windows and websites, in song and in poem, prayer and hymn, praise the God who is eternal and infinite, near and far, beneath, above, below, behind and beside.

**Praise we now the God of Love, made known in and through Jesus, God's Christ.**

Give praise to God! Praise the Lord of Hosts!

† HYMN

God of the Ages, Who with Sure Command  
NCH592 vs 1 & 4

**OPENING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**  
**Psalm 33, NRSV (selected)**

Nancy Rice

Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.

**A king is not saved by his great army. A warrior is not delivered by his great strength. The war horse is a vain hope for victory, and by its great might it cannot save.**

Our souls waits for the LORD. He is our help and shield.

**Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name. Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you.**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

[English Language Liturgical Consultation, 1988]

**The children will be excused for Sunday school during  
Yes, Jesus Loves Me.**

**THE FIRST READING**

Psalm 146, NKJV  
Nancy Rice

**MUSICAL MEDITATION**

Jesus Remember Me

**THE SECOND READING**

Ecclesiastes 8:16-9.6, TEV  
Dr. Guerreno

**SERMON**

"How Will You Be Remembered?"  
Dr. Guerreno

**† HYMN**

How Beautiful, Our Spacious Skies  
NCH594 vs 1 & 4

**JOYS, CONCERNS, AND INVITATION TO PRAY**

**OFFERTORY**

O Jesus, I Have Promised

**†OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

Be Now My Vision  
NCH451

Be now my vision, O God of my heart;  
nothing surpasses the love you impart.  
You my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, your presence my light.

**†PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**This world is yours, Holy One, held in your hands, held in your heart and always on your mind. Let it be, then, on this day the gift of the Holy Spirit was given to the body of your Christ—let it be that what we would do in your name, what we might do in your name and what you would have us do would be in our hearts and on our minds, that in giving of whatever kind we would make you pleased, and so bring in the fullness of what you do have in mind for all creation, in the name and spirit of your Christ. Amen.**

**† CLOSING HYMN**

Eternal Father! Strong to Save

**† BENEDICTION**

**† POSTLUDE**

City of God

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

This week's altar flowers are in memory of John and Alice Kralik from their children, Tina Hudson and Jack Kralik.



One License #A720797

**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS...**

Bryce C. DeLand, Amber Deel, Dave Scheel, Harietta Ryan, Eric Fandrick, Matthew Pennewell, Emerson Stone, Jan Yager, Rachel O'Connor, Marge Guinther, Barb Jeffries, Genie Lucyk, Ann Whittaker. Also, remember Edwin Summers, Cameron Coverly (Army-deployed in Europe), Nathan Distelrath, all who are serving in the military, first responders, medical personnel, and our elected officials..

**TODAY'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

SUNDAY STEWARD: Don Rice

SOUND AND LIVESTREAM: Tim Galvin, Don Rice

MUSIC: Denise Gregg

USHERS: Nikki Perry, Tom Pennewell

READER: Nancy Rice

POWER POINT: Jody Skonieczny

NEXT WEEK'S READER: Jacie Sanders

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON

"What The Bible Is About"

Genesis 1, selected, NKJV Psalm 111, CEV

---

**6/4/23 - NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

SUNDAY STEWARD: Dave Scheel

COMMUNION: Laurel Lydy

SOUND AND LIVESTREAM: Tim Galvin, Don Rice

MUSIC: Denise Gregg

USHERS: Nikki Perry, Tim Galvin

READER: Jacie Sanders

POWER POINT: Sam Tricomo

6/11 – Elsa Pennewell

## **OPEN AND AFFIRMING INCLUSIVE CHURCH COVENANT**

The members of the First Congregational Church of St. Clair, United Church of Christ, declare that we are a fully inclusive, Open and Affirming Congregation. We affirm the life and teachings of Jesus Christ and believe that all people are children of God. As such, we welcome to the community of faith all people of diverse race, physical and mental abilities, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, and socio-economic status. We covenant to provide to all a safe, loving, nurturing and compassionate community.

## **~CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS~**

### **WELCOME CHUCK GUERRENO**

Chuck can be reached at the church 10:00 – 4:30 Thursday through Friday, 11:00 – 4:30 on Saturday, and 8:00 – noon on Sunday. Chuck can be reached at [stclairinterim@gmail.com](mailto:stclairinterim@gmail.com) and (989) 980-0061.

### **SEARCH COMMITTEE**

The Pastoral Search Committee is continuing to update the church profile. The search committee members are: Co-Chairs Avery Skonieczny & Don Rice, Rose Crowley, Mike Kennedy, Don O'Connor, Kathy Rood, Kathy Cilluffo, Sam Tricomo, Vicki Kling and Ash Currie. We are available for your questions and concerns regarding the pastoral search in person or email at [firstcongsc@gmail.com](mailto:firstcongsc@gmail.com).

### **CURIOUS ABOUT CHURCH MEMBERSHIP?**

If you're wondering about becoming a church member, please speak with Pat O'Connor or Chuck to set up a time to chat. Your questions about the United Church of Christ and this church specifically will be answered.

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

This is the last Sunday for Sunday School. Sunday school will resume after Labor day. There are pew packets located under the back table in the sanctuary for the children. There is a nursery where parents may go with their younger children if they choose to. It's a comfortable room where children can play. There is a changing table in the bathroom in the lounge.

## **PASTOR'S EMERGENCY FUND**

Our Communion Offerings are usually placed in a Pastor's Emergency Fund. Those needing emergency assistance are screened and, when available, funds are provided.

## **MISSIONS**

The First Congregational Mission Team has been hard at work! Mission Team activities so far this year include:

Christian Children's Fund  
Hygiene Supplies/Harbor Impact  
Little Red Food Pantry  
Conference/Christmas Fund 2022  
East China Food Service/School Lunches  
St. Clair Middle School/High School Band  
Marine City MS Harpoon Club Support  
(a program to help potential drop outs from leaving school)  
Emergency Clothing/Gearing & Pine River  
Gift Cards/Easter families  
Our Churches Wider Mission  
Conference Dues

The Mission Team is also looking into starting a Lunch Buddy program next school year at one of the elementary schools. This will not be a donation of funds but of our time to mentor at-risk students. We just want to get a feel for how many people might be interested in taking part in this before we approach the school district. Kathy Cilluffo currently takes part in Port Huron School's program at Woodrow Elementary. Kathy meets with a student weekly on typically the same

day of the week. Time spent with the student is during their 30-minute lunch period. Woodrow has a dedicated room for us to meet and they can eat their school lunch or I may pick up something from a fast-food restaurant. For this program, a background check needs to be done and I assume that will be the same for East China as well. If you are interested, just send Kathy a quick email at [kckilluffo57@yahoo.com](mailto:kckilluffo57@yahoo.com) with your interest and any questions you may have.

If you wish for your offering to go to Mission, please designate Missions on your check and/or your offering envelope.

The next Mission Meeting is Wednesday, June 21, at 2 p.m., in the lounge.

### **GRADUATION SUNDAY**

Graduation Sunday is next Sunday, June 4. If you have any high school and/or college graduates please be sure to complete the form located on the back table of the sanctuary, or you may contact either Penny Malcolm or Wendy at the church office.

### **LITTLE FOOD PANTRY**

This small pantry is a community outreach program sponsored by The Mission Team of this church. It is stocked twice-weekly with non-perishable food. Donation requests may change but the need to feed does not.

"May, more than any other month,  
wants us to feel most alive."  
- Fennel Hudson

From start to finish  
We celebrate in May.  
Cinco de Mayo, our Mothers,  
Then, Memorial Day.



Celebrate another way.  
Keep the pantry alive.  
Help feed others.  
Then, we'll all thrive.

May pantry food requests  
Canned Fruit  
(fruit cocktail, peaches, pineapple)  
Canned Chicken & Canned Tuna  
Spaghetti & Spaghetti Sauce  
Memorial Day picnic food or supplies

Please leave food donations in the elevator room on one of the shelves labeled LITTLE RED FOOD PANTRY.

Any questions? Please call Nancy Kennedy @810-329-3790.

### **ALTAR FLOWERS**

If you are interested in donating altar flowers, please contact Bev Stewart at (810) 329-2147.

## HYMN LYRICS

### HYMN

God of the Ages, Who with sure Command  
NCH592 vs 1 & 4

God of the ages, who with sure command  
brought forth in beauty all the starry band  
of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,  
our grateful songs before your throne arise.

Refresh your people on life's toil-some way;  
lead us from night to never ending day;  
With truth and love guide us through error's maze,  
and we shall give you glory, laud, and praise.

### HYMN

How Beautiful, Our Spacious Skies  
NCH594 VS 1 & 4

How beautiful, our spacious skies,  
our amber waves of grain;  
our purple mountains as they rise  
above the fruitful plain.

America! America!

God's gracious gifts abound,  
and more and more we're grateful  
for life's bounty all around.

How beautiful, two continents,  
and islands in the sea  
that dream of peace,  
non-violence, all people living free.

America! America!

God grant that we may be  
a hemisphere where people  
here all live in harmony.

## HYMN

## Eternal Father! Strong to Save

Eternal Father, strong to save,  
whose arm has bound the restless wave,  
who bade the mighty ocean deep  
its own appointed limits keep;  
O hear us when we cry to thee  
for those in peril on the sea.

O Savior, whose almighty word  
the winds and waves submissive heard,  
who walked upon the foaming deep,  
and calm amid its rage did sleep:  
O hear us when we cry to thee  
for those in peril on the sea.

O Holy Spirit, who did brood upon  
the chaos wild and rude,  
and bade its angry tumult cease,  
and gave, for fierce confusion, peace:  
O hear us when we cry to thee  
for those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power,  
preserve their lives in danger's hour;  
from rock and tempest, flood and flame,  
protect them by your holy name,  
and to your glory let there be  
glad hymns of praise from land and sea.