

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
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**www.firstcongsc.org
firstcongsc@gmail.com**

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

June 25, 2023

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

† Those who are able, may stand.

CHIMES

In Christ There is No East or West

PRELUDE

Christ Is Made A Sure Foundation

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**

Karen Galvin

Adapted from Psalms 118, NRSV

O give thanks to our God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to our God!

This is the gate of virtue and honor.

The righteous shall enter through it.

This is the day God has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

O give thanks to our God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

† **HYMN**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise
NCH1 vs 1 & 4

† OPENING PRAYER

Karen Galvin

Thanks to you, great God of life, for the lives you have given us,
lives of joy and sorrow, lives of peace and racket, and calm and worry,

lives of fear and excitement, and boldness and impatience, confidence and faith—

thank you for life itself, and for our lives, as well. We give you our lives, asking only that you would use us well,

with love and mercy, and patience and forgiveness, that we would know and see the fullness of your reign not only in us but wherever we look,

not just today but always, in the name of Jesus, your Christ, who taught us this prayer and told us to pray it together: 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 FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 13:1-13, CEV
Karen Galvin

MUSICAL MEDITATION

The Church's One Foundation

SERMON

"Marriage"
Dr. Guerreno

† HYMN

When Love Is Found
NCH362 vs 1, 3, 5

JOYS, CONCERNS, AND INVITATION TO PRAY

OFFERTORY

My Hope Is Built

†OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy,
God the Almighty!
Early in the morning
we praise your majesty.
Holy, holy, holy!
Merciful and Mighty!
God in three persons,
blessed Trinity!
Holy, holy, holy!

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Your gifts do surround us, Holy God. Your care, your compassion, your generosity: blessing is everywhere we look. Too often we don't see it. In giving our eyes are opened. In giving we see. In giving we notice. In giving we are aware. Blessing comes from giving and giving comes from blessing. Here we are, then, Holy God, giving again. Teach us to see. Help us to be aware. Open our eyes, that giving and blessing would surround us, no matter what, in the name and spirit of your Son. Amen.

† CLOSING HYMN

God Be with You
NCH81 All

† BENEDICTION

† POSTLUDE

Guide My Feet



One License #A720797

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS...

Tim Galvin, Jessica Lemmen, Bryce C. DeLand, Dave Scheel, Harietta Ryan, Eric Fandruck, 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: Dave Scheel
SOUND AND LIVESTREAM: Tim Galvin, Don Rice
MUSIC: Denise Gregg
USHERS: Pat O'Connor, Don O'Connor
READER: Karen Galvin
POWER POINT: Kathy Cilluffo
NEXT WEEK'S READER: Pat O'Connor

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON
"Patriotism and Christianity"
Psalm 85:8-13, NRSV Amos 5:18-24, NKJV

7/2/23 - NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

SUNDAY STEWARD: Tom Pennewell
COMMUNION: Kathy Rood
SOUND AND LIVESTREAM: Tim Galvin, Jacie Sanders
MUSIC: Denise Gregg
USHERS: Randy Kling, Bob Rood
READER: Pat O'Connor
POWER POINT: Kathy Cilluffo

7/9/23 READER: Rose Crowley

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 and (989) 980-0061.

SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Pastoral Search Committee has reviewed four applicants, none are active at this time. The search continues. 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 firstcongscc@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

Sunday school will resume after Labor day. Through the summer, there will be pew packets located under the back table in the sanctuary for 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.

CONGREGATION MEETING

There will be a congregation meeting immediately following worship this Sunday, agenda items include: Search Committee Update, Church Economics #2, and What does Missions do?

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 dropouts from leaving school)
Emergency Clothing/Gearing & Pine River
Gift Cards/Easter families
Our Churches Wider Mission
Conference Dues
Donation made to the Special Olympics of Michigan
Donation made to the Heifer Project during the 10x match period

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 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 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.

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.

June is a joy!
School comes to an end.
We cherish each father.
Enjoy time with a friend.

Kids are home,
Ready to eat.
Food in the pantry
makes a meal complete.

JUNE PANTRY NEEDS
Canned Fruit
Fruit Cocktail, Peaches, Pineapple
Cereal
Kraft Mac & Cheese

SUMMER SUN EXTRAS

Ketchup

Mustard

Relish

Salad Dressing

Pasta Salad in a box

ex: Betty Crocker

Suddenly Salad

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

Questions? Please call Nancy Kennedy at (810) 329-3790.

HYMN LYRICS

HYMN

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise
NCH1 vs 1 & 4

Immortal, invisible,
God only wise,
in light inaccessible
hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious,
the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious,
your great name we praise.

So perfect your glory,
so brilliant your light,
your angels adore you,
all veiling their sight:
All praise we now render
as your angels do:
in awe at the splendor
of light hiding you.

HYMN

When Love Is Found
NCH362 vs 1, 3, 5

When love is found
and hope comes home,
sing and be glad
that two are one.
When loves explodes
and fills the sky,
praise God, and share
our Maker's joy.

When love is tried
as loved ones change,
hold still to hope,
though all seems strange,
till ease returns
and love grows wise
through listening ears
and opened eyes.

Praise God for love,
praise God for life,
in age or youth,
in calm or strife.
Lift up your hearts!
Let love be fed
through death and life
in broken bread.

HYMN

God Be with You
NCH81 All

God be with you till we meet again;
By good counsel guide, uphold you,
With a shepherd's care enfold you;
God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain:

Till we meet, till we meet,
till we meet at Jesus' feet;
till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;
Wings of shelter safely hide you,
Daily manna still provide you:
God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain:

Till we meet, till we meet,
till we meet at Jesus' feet;
till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;
When life's perils thick confound you,
Put unfailing arms around you:
God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain:

Till we meet, till we meet,
till we meet at Jesus' feet;
till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;
Keep love's banner floating o'er you,
Smite death's threatening wave before you:
God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain:

Till we meet, till we meet,
till we meet at Jesus' feet;
till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.