

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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# WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

July 16, 2023

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

† Those who are able, may stand.

**CHIMES**

Be Thou My Vision

**PRELUDE**

Born of God, Eternal Savior

**WELCOME**

Rev. Jacquie Patt

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.)

† **HYMN**

I Sing the Mighty Power of God  
NCH12 vs 1, 2, 3

† **CALLING ON GOD**

Bonnie Landschoot

Adapted from Psalm 1 and 119:105, NRSV

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked.

**Their delight is in the Word of God, and on the Word they meditate day and night.**

They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season.

**Their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.**

Bringing glory to you, and to your Name.

**Thy Word is a lamp to our feet, and a light unto our path. Amen.**

## **† OPENING PRAYER**

Bonnie Landschoot

Let us join our hearts and minds together as one voice, saying -  
**Creator God, you are always with us, even when we may not be aware of your Presence. Nurture us and guide us, as seeds planted in your Good Earth. May we know your Living Water, especially during this time of worship. So we may be renewed, strengthened and encouraged; for your work, and our days ahead. Amen.**

## **THE FIRST READING**

John 15:1-11  
Bonnie Landschoot

## **MUSICAL MEDITATION**

Softly and Tenderly

## **THE SECOND READINGS**

Romans 12:1-2  
Rev. Jacquie Patt

## **† HYMN**

Breathe on Me, Breath of God  
NCH292 vs 1, 2, 3, 4

## **SERMON**

“God, the Gardener”  
Rev. Jacquie Patt

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

### **THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**Our Father, 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 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.**

## **OFFERTORY**

Sing of Colors De Colores

**†OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,  
the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him,  
for he is your health and salvation!  
Come, all who hear;  
now to his temple draw near,  
join me in glad adoration!

**†PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**God of abundance, we thank you for the many ways you have entered our lives, and the ways you bless us each day. Give us generous hearts, that reflect your provision and give glory to you. We offer these, our gifts today. Bless them that they may be multiplied in abundance, and be seeds of hope, peace, joy, and love. Amen.**

**† CLOSING HYMN**

Be Not Dismayed  
NCH460 vs 1 & 2

**† BENEDICTION**

**† POSTLUDE**

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing



One License #A720797

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

Jessica Lemmen, Bryce C. DeLand, 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: Tom Pennewell

SOUND AND LIVESTREAM: Tim Galvin, Don Rice

MUSIC: Denise Gregg

USHERS: Nikki Perry, Tim Galvin

READER: Bonnie Landschoot

POWER POINT: Jacie Sanders

NEXT WEEK'S READER: Kathy Rood

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

SUNDAY STEWARD: Tom Pennewell

SOUND AND LIVESTREAM: Tim Galvin, Jacie Sanders

MUSIC: Denise Gregg

USHERS: Karen Galvin, Tim Galvin

READER: Kathy Rood

POWER POINT: Ash Currie

7/30/23 READER: Jacie Sanders

**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 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](mailto: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.

## **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 [kcilluffo57@yahoo.com](mailto:kcilluffo57@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.

Say "Hi" to July.  
It sparkles and shines.  
People will too  
when we are kind.

Kindness is caring  
at its very best.  
Feeding a stranger  
is feeding a guest.

July pantry needs  
Canned fruit  
Canned pasta  
Mashed Potatoes  
(box or bag)  
Peanut Butter

Summer extras  
Picnic Supplies  
(condiments, boxed pasta salad, etc.)

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

For questions, please call Nancy Kennedy (810-329-3790).



## HYMN LYRICS

HYMN

I Sing the Mighty Power of God  
NCH 12 vs 1, 2, 3

I sing the mighty power of God  
that made the mountains rise,  
That spread the flowing seas abroad,  
and built the lofty skies.  
I sing the wisdom that ordained  
the sun to rule the day;  
The moon shines full at God's command,  
and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of our God  
that filled the earth with food;  
God formed the creatures with a word,  
and then pronounced them good.  
Oh, how your wonders are displayed,  
Where'er I turn my eye:  
If I survey the ground I tread,  
or gaze upon the sky!

On earth there's not a plant or flower  
but makes your glory known.  
The clouds arise and spread their showers  
by order from your throne.  
All life is but a gift from you  
and ever in your care;  
Wherever people gather,  
you, O God, are present there.

## HYMN

Breathe on me, Breath of God  
NCH292 vs 1, 2, 3, 4

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
fill me with life anew  
That I may love the way you love  
and do what you would do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
until my heart is pure,  
Until with you I will one will,  
to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
stir in me one desire;  
That every earthly part of me  
may glow with holy fire.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
so shall I never die,  
But live with you the perfect life  
of your eternity.

## HYMN

Be Not Dismayed  
NCH 460 vs 1 & 2

Be not dismayed  
whate'er be-tide.  
God will take care of you;  
Beneath God's wings of love abide,  
God will take care of you;

Refrain:

God will take care of you,  
through every day,  
o'er all the way;  
God will take care of you,  
God will take care of you.

Through days of toil  
when heart grows frail,  
God will take care of you;  
When dangers fierce your path assail,  
God will take care of you.

Refrain:

God will take care of you,  
through every day,  
o'er all the way;  
God will take care of you,  
God will take care of you.