

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
OF ST. CLAIR



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

The LORD is my light and my salvation—
whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life—
of whom shall I be afraid?

Psalm 27:1

DailyVerses.net

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

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firstcongsc@gmail.com**

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

January 14, 2024 – Second Sunday After Epiphany

† Those who are able, please stand.

WELCOME

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.

CHIMES

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

PRELUDE

O Master, Let Me Walk With You

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Announcements are in the back of this bulletin.)

†HYMN

Praise To The Living God
NCH8 vs 1&4

† CALLING ON GOD

Bonnie Landschoot

Psalms 19:1-4, NRSV, adapted

The heavens are telling the glory of God! The day proclaims God's majesty, and the night declares what it knows.

There is no speech.

There are no words,

but the creation speaks with joy of its Creator.

Let the words of each mouth and the meditations of each heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer.

†OPENING PRAYER

Bonnie Landschoot

Mighty One, our God, Giver of all life and Keeper of each, let peace be upon us now. Let your comfort and your mercy touch us where we need to be touched. Lift our eyes and our hearts to you, then challenge us to be bearers of peace and comfort, that joy would not make us smug and heartbreak not make us bitter. Loving God, Giver of Grace, lead us into caring service in the name of Jesus, your Christ, who taught us to pray

together, “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.

THE FIRST READING Psalm 27:1-3, 8-14, NRSV Bonnie Landschoot

MUSICAL MEDITATION Lord, Speak To Me

THE SECOND READING Matthew 22:34-40, Ruden Dr. Guerreno

SERMON “Whose God Is God?” Dr. Guerreno

†HYMN O For A World
NCH575 All

JOYS, CONCERNS, AND INVITATION TO PRAY

OFFERTORY Open My Eyes, That I May See

† OFFERTORY RESPONSE Jesus, Name Above All Names

Jesus, name above all names,
beautiful Savior, glorious Lord.
Emmanuel, God is with us,
blessed Redeemer, Living Word.

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

With word and music we praise you, Holy God. With word and music we speak to you of gratefulness and joy. We speak to you of these things, as well, with our giving. We are grateful and we are joyful for what is good in our lives, and we are grateful and joyful that what is not good can become good through your love and our effort. We are grateful and we are joyful, and so we give to bring about what you would have, and what we would have, as well, in the name and spirit of your Son, Jesus, the Christ. Amen.

†CLOSING HYMN

We Shall Overcome
NCH570 All

†BENEDICTION

†POSTLUDE

Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing



One License #A720797

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS...

Barb Jeffries' family, Diane Liebetreu and her family, Carol Carroll, Susan Couch, Bryce C. DeLand, Eric Fandrlick, Matthew Pennewell, Emerson Stone, Jan Yager, Rachel O'Connor, Marge Guinther, Ann Whittaker. Also, remember to pray for all who are serving in the military, first responders, medical personnel, and our elected officials.

TODAY'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

SUNDAY STEWARD: Tim Galvin

SOUND AND LIVESTREAM: Tim Galvin, Kathy Cilluffo

MUSIC: Denise Gregg USHERS: Karen Galvin, Tim Galvin

READER: Bonnie Landschoot POWER POINT: Jody Skonieczny

COFFEE HOUR: Don & Pat O'Connor

1/21/24 - NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

SUNDAY STEWARD: Tim Galvin

SOUND AND LIVESTREAM: Tim Galvin, Don Rice

MUSIC: Denise Gregg USHERS: Paul Lydy, Tom Pennewell

READER: Jody Skonieczny POWER POINT: Pat O'Connor

COFFEE HOUR: Melissa Williams, Tracy Guinnane

READER 1/28/24 – 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 Search Committee invited a prospective minister to tour St. Clair in October. 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

Beginning 2024, Sunday School will be held the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month.

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.

THE LITTLE RED 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.

For January
Give thanks and sing
For the baby king.
Worship him
With food you bring

January Food Pantry Needs

Cereal
Canned Fruit
Peanut Butter
Rice
Soup
Spaghetti
Canned Spaghetti Sauce

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

COFFEE HOUR

Coffee hour is each Sunday immediately following worship. There are several Sundays available to host coffee hour. Please be sure to check out the sign-up sheet on the back table of the sanctuary.