

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
OF ST. CLAIR



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,  
whose sin is covered.

**Psalm 32:1**

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](mailto:firstcongsc@gmail.com)**

**WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD**  
February 25, 2024 – Second Sunday In Lent

† Those who are able, please stand.

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

Today's altar flowers are presented by Kathy Cilluffo in memory of her Aunt Alice Weber, who is her mother's sister.

**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**

Beneath The Cross Of Jesus

**PRELUDE**

Lead Me To Calvary

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

**†HYMN**

Lord Jesus, Who Through Forty Days  
NCH211 All

**† CALLING ON GOD**

Rose Crowley

Psalm 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**

Rose Crowley

**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**



**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**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise  
NCH1 vs 1, 3, 4

**†BENEDICTION**

**†POSTLUDE**

Lift High The Cross



**One License #A720797**

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

Diane Liebetreu and her family, Carol Carroll, Susan Couch, Bryce C. DeLand, Eric Fandrick, 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: Don O'Connor

SOUND AND LIVESTREAM: Tim Galvin, Don Rice

MUSIC: Denise Gregg USHERS: Karen Galvin, Tim Galvin

READER: Rose Crowley POWER POINT: Ash Currie

COFFEE HOUR: Dennis and Kathy Wegner

**NEXT SUNDAY'S SERMON:**

"What Do The Rich Deserve?"

Psalm 146, CEV Luke 16:19-31, Ruden

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## **3/3/24 - NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

SUNDAY STEWARD: Don Rice

SOUND AND LIVESTREAM: Tim Galvin, Jacie Sanders

MUSIC: Denise Gregg USHERS: Paul Lydy, Tom Pennewell

READER: Nancy Rice POWER POINT: Kathy Cilluffo

READER 3/10/24 – 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 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](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**

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.

February holds  
the heart of each year  
When our love for others  
is defined and clear.

Where there is hunger  
and the need is near,  
Show your love,  
give food right here.

### **February Pantry Food**

Cereal  
Canned Fruit  
Mashed Potato Pouches  
Peanut Butter  
Spaghetti  
Canned Spaghetti Sauce  
Hearty Soup

**February Extras**  
**For Valentine's Day**  
Cake or Cookie Mix  
Candy

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.

**EASTER LILIES**

The altar will be decorated with four white Lilies on Easter Sunday. If you would like to make a donation toward Lilies in memory of or in honor of a loved one, please fill out the form located on the back table of the sanctuary, return the form with your donation to the church office. These memorials will be included in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

**MISSIONS**

The Mission Team has decided on their projects for the year. The month of March we will be collecting BEWARM (Blue Water Area Rescue Mission). They pack a lunch each day for 60 men to take to their jobs. We would like to help them. We need: brown paper bags, granola bars, sandwich bags, snack zip-lock bags, fruit cups, dry coffee creamers, apples, peanut butter. If you choose to participate please bring your donation to the church any Sunday in March.