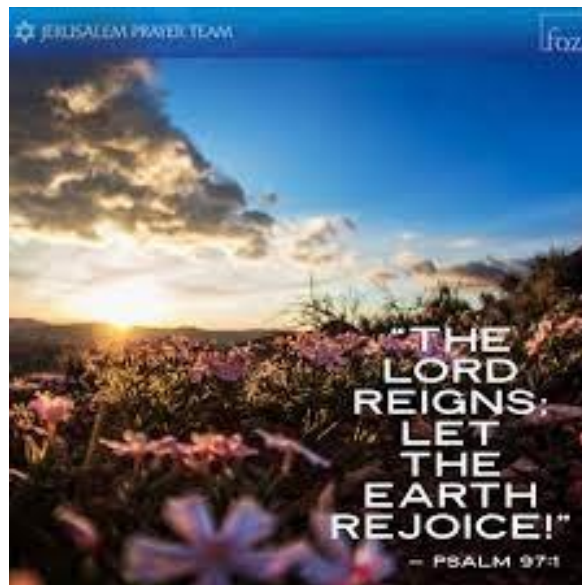


FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
OF ST. CLAIR



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 12, 2024 – Seventh Sunday Of Easter

† Those who are able, please stand.

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

Altar flowers are from Lezlynn Moore in memory of Kristine S. Moore, mother of Fred S. Moore.

**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**

When Love Is Found

**PRELUDE**

Holy, Holy, Holy

Bell Choir

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(Announcements are in the back of this bulletin.)

**†HYMN**

Beautiful Jesus

NCH44 vs 1 & 4

**† CALLING ON GOD**

Jody Skonieczny

The light of God in Jesus Christ does strengthen us!

**The light of God in Jesus Christ is our truth and our joy, our meaning and our purpose.**

**†OPENING PRAYER**

Jody Skonieczny

Let us pray. As we worship this day, O God, make yourself known to us. We bring doubt.

**Help us not to be afraid of it, but to see you in the dull ache of uncertainty.**

We bring questions.

**Help us to live without every answer. Help us to remember that in darkness even a small light shines and leads.**

We bring pain.

**If you cannot take it away, help us to be grateful for what healing you can give.**

We bring joy.

**Help us to share it, knowing joy grows when it is given away.**

In all we bring to you, Holy One, be here now. Be here, in Christ's holy name.

Amen.

**THE FIRST READING**

Psalm 96, CEV

Jody Skonieczny

**MUSICAL MEDITATION**

I Want Jesus To Go With Me

**THE SECOND READING**

Acts 16:6-15, NRSV

Dr. Guerreno

**MUSICAL MEDITATION**

This Is My Father's World

Bell Choir

**SERMON**

"When You Don't Get What You Want"

Dr. Guerreno

**†HYMN**

God Made From One Blood

NCH427 All

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

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven. Hallowed by 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**

A Mother's Love

Church Choir

**† OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

Spirit Of The Living God

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

## † PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Beyond our words and beyond our feelings, beyond our songs and beyond our silence, you are God. You are the giver of all gifts. You are the one from whom all good does come and always will. These gifts, we pray . . . use them for good. These gifts, we pray . . . use us for good. These gifts, we pray . . . bring good out of evil, bring good out of wrong, bring good out of indifference and fear. These gifts, we pray, are yours Holy God, in the name and spirit of your Son, our Lord. Amen.

## †HYMN

Go, My Children, With My Blessing

NCH82 All

## †BENEDICTION

## †POSTLUDE

What A Friend We Have In Jesus



One License #A720797

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

Jeannette Botright, Peter Payne and his family, Diane Liebetreu and her family, Carol Carroll, Susan Couch, Bryce C. DeLand, Eric Fandrick, Matthew Pennewell, Emerson Stone, Jan Yager, Rachel O'Connor, 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 Rice

SOUND AND LIVESTREAM: Tim Galvin, Jacie Sanders

MUSIC: Denise Gregg USHERS: Pat O'Connor, Don O'Connor

READER: Jody Skonieczny POWER POINT: Pat O'Connor

## **NEXT SUNDAY'S SERMON**

"Fire And Water, And God"

Genesis 6:5-9, 11-14, 17-18, CEV

Acts 2:1-4, 14, 16-17, 21, CEV

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## **5/19/24 - NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

SUNDAY STEWARD: Don Rice

SOUND AND LIVESTREAM: Tim Galvin, Kathy Cilluffo

MUSIC: Denise Gregg USHERS: Karen Galvin, Tim Galvin

READER: Dave Scheel POWER POINT: Jody Skonieczny

READER: 5/26/24 – Nancy Rice

## **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/CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

The Search Committee has turned over the search to the Leadership Committee. The Leadership Committee will present a candidate for pastor at the May 26, 2024, worship service. A congregational meeting will immediately follow worship to vote for acceptance of the Search Committee's nomination for pastor.

### **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. May Sunday School dates are May 5 and May 19.

## **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.

MAY I ask,  
MAY I please,  
For help for the hungry  
Not everyone sees.

Wish I MAY,  
Wish I might,  
We become one  
And fight this fight.

### MAY Pantry Food Needs

Cereal  
Canned Chicken/Tuna  
Kraft Mac & Cheese  
Spaghetti/Spaghetti Sauce  
Canned Pasta

### MAY Pantry Food Extras

Mother's Day Meal Side Dishes/Desserts  
Memorial Day Meal Side Dishes  
(Boxed Salad Kits, Chips, etc.)

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).

## **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.

## **MISSIONS**

Our Mission Team's May and June Project is delivering deserving treats for our essential workers. Following is the schedule of treats for deserving essential workers: April 29 - May 3 - St. Clair Police Department, May 6 - May 10 - St. Clair Fire Department, May 13 - May 17 - Blue Water Hospice, May 20 - May 24 - Mallards Landing, May 27 - May 31 - St Clair County Animal Control, June 3 - June 7 – SNAP, June 10 - June 14 - St. Clair County Dispatch, June 17 - 21 - Blue Water Area Rescue Mission (BWARM), June 24 - 28 - Friends of the St. Clair River and Dept of Public Works.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA**

Do you have something you would like shared to our social media platforms? For any news, events, or stories you'd like to share with our community, please reach out to Karl Heilman in person, message our Facebook page or email him at [kheilman84@yahoo.com](mailto:kheilman84@yahoo.com). Let's continue to spread God's love together! Feel free to like, share, and engage with our content as we strive to connect and uplift one another through the power of social media. Check out our Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/First.Congregational.UCC.St.Clair?mibextid=ZbWkw>.

## **GRADUATION SUNDAY**

Graduation Sunday will be June 9. If you know of any graduates from high school or college, please let us know, be sure to include what school and degree. There is a sign-up sheet located on the back table of the sanctuary.

## **SPECIAL OFFICE HOURS**

Office hours the week of May 12, will be Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., normal office hours will resume Tuesday, May 21, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.