

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 14, 2024

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

† Those who are able, may stand.

**CHIMES**

Lead Me, Guide Me

**PRELUDE**

This Is My Song

**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. 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**

Christ Is Made The Sure Foundation  
NCH400 vs 1, 2, 3

† **CALLING ON GOD AND OPENING PRAYER**

Karen Galvin

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and goodwill!

**Out of God's own being. Jesus comes to bring love and light to all people.**

God is love, and those who worship God must worship in spirit and in truth.

**God is love. Those who worship God must worship with awareness and with intended good.**

The heavens are telling the glory of God!

**The skies shout out God's praise, and the earth reveals God's majesty.**

The heavens tell the glory of God, but God's love is told in human hearts.

**Let us worship God in Jesus Christ!**

The church of Jesus Christ is the body of Jesus Christ, alive and active in God's world. God is love. Those who worship God must worship in spirit and in truth.

**Love is not just a feeling. Love is more than just being nice.**

The heavens are telling the glory of God!

**To love is God's clearest and most plain command.**

The heavens tell the glory of God, but God's love is told in human minds and hearts.

**God is with us in this place! Amen.**

### **THE FIRST READING**

Psalm 37:1-9, CEV  
Karen Galvin

### **MUSICAL MEDITATION**

Song For The Nations

### **THE SECOND READINGS**

Matthew 7:24-29, Ruden  
Dr. Guerreno

### **SERMON**

"When What You're Doing Isn't Working"  
Dr. Guerreno

### **† HYMN**

We Would Be Building  
NCH607 vs 1 & 2

### **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**

Spirit Of Jesus, If I Love My Neighbor

## †OFFERTORY RESPONSE

I Will Trust In The Lord

I will trust in the Lord, I will trust in the Lord,  
I will trust in the Lord, till I die.  
I will trust in the Lord, I will trust in the Lord.  
I will trust in the Lord, till I die.

## †PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**In song, we thank you, Holy God. In song, we praise you. In silence, also, we thank you and praise you. Yea, whether in song or in silence, whether here or elsewhere; whether in joy and prosperity or in sorrow and adversity, we praise and thank you. Be our God. Remember us. We shall remember you. Be our God, now and always, that the world would know and believe in the God of Jesus, whom we call the Christ. Amen.**

## †CLOSING HYMN

I Sing The Mighty Power Of God  
NCH12 vs 1, 2, 3

## † BENEDICTION

## † POSTLUDE

Nearer, My God, To You



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 Fandrlick, 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: Tom Pennewell

SOUND AND LIVESTREAM: Tim Galvin, Kathy Cilluffo

MUSIC: Denise Gregg

USHERS: Jim Light, Jacie Sanders

READER: Karen Galvin    POWER POINT: Jody Skonieczny

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## **7/21/24 - NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

SUNDAY STEWARD: Tom Pennewell

SOUND AND LIVESTREAM: Tim Galvin, Don Rice

MUSIC: Denise Gregg

USHERS: Pat O'Connor, Don O'Connor

READER: Bonnie Landschoot    POWER POINT: Pat O'Connor

READER 7/28/24 – Kathy Rood

## **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**

After a unanimous vote, Pastor Julia DiFiore's accepted our call as our new pastor. We are beyond thrilled and excited to have Pastor Julia, beginning August 7.

## **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. No Sunday School during the summer months.

## **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.

## **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.

A summer-high sky  
Means it's time for July.  
Picnics and parties.  
Fun foods to try.  
Hunger in any season  
We must amplify.  
A pantry donation  
Can be your reply.

JULY pantry requests:  
Cereal  
Canned Chicken or Tuna  
Mac & Cheese  
Mashed Potato Pouches  
Canned Pasta with or without Meat  
Peanut Butter

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**

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.

### **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 [@First Congregational Church UCC of St. Clair](https://www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalChurchUCCofStClair) and our Instagram page at [@firstcong.churchofstclair](https://www.instagram.com/firstcong.churchofstclair).

### **MISSIONS**

September is our month to staff the Ecumenical Food Pantry. We need workers for Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 4 to 7 p.m. There will be a sign-up sheet on the table in the back of the church. If you have any questions, please call Kathy Cilluffo at 810-289-8032 or by email at [kkilluffo57@yahoo.com](mailto:kkilluffo57@yahoo.com) or Barb Fandruck at 810-919-3873 or by email [barbfandruck@gmail.com](mailto:barbfandruck@gmail.com).