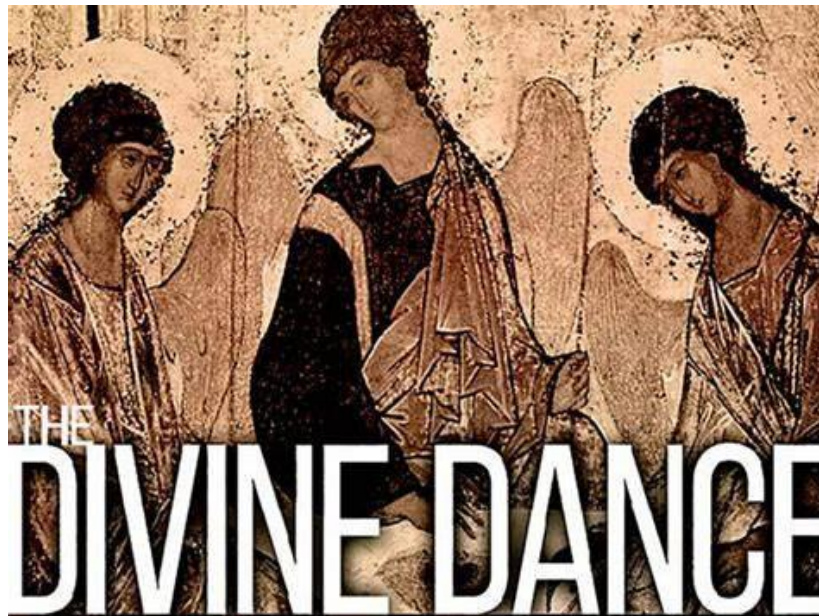


**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
OF ST. CLAIR**



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

**300 Adams Street, St. Clair, MI 48079  
810-329-4142**

**[www.firstconggsc.org](http://www.firstconggsc.org)  
[firstconggsc@gmail.com](mailto:firstconggsc@gmail.com)**

# WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

June 15, 2025

First Sunday After Pentecost

† Those who are able, please stand.

**CHIMES**

*Amazing Grace*

† **GATHERING SONG**

*Glory To God  
John Foley*

**WELCOME**

Pastor: Welcome to First Congregational Church of Saint Clair, United Church of Christ where, **People: no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey you're welcome and loved here.**

† **OPENING PRAYER**

Kathy Cilluffo

Pastor: We worship today in the name of God the Father,

**People: Praise to our creating God!**

Pastor: In the name of His Son, Jesus Christ:

**People: Praise to our redeeming God!**

Pastor: In the name of God the Spirit:

**People: Praise to our renewing God!**

Pastor: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;

**People: The whole earth is full of His glory.**

Pastor: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!

**People: Praise the Lord!**

† **HYMN**

*Holy, Holy, Holy  
NC277 Verses 1,4*

**PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION & ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

Pastor: Holy Trinity: Creating Love, Saving Love, Sanctifying Love

You welcome us to your unity, Your community

You do not condemn, but make the way to

new life, true life, eternal life with you

Hallelujah!

Grant us grace to receive the fullness of your mercy and healing and transformation. Free us from all things that block us from living your love fully,

**(congregation offer your own confessions silently)**

Pastor: You're making us instruments of your peace

**People: You're making us your love**

**Glory to you, forever**

**Honor to you, forever**

**Praise and blessing to you, forever**

**Amen!**

### **EXPRESSION of PEACE**

Pastor: The peace of our Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with all of you

**People: and also with you**

Pastor: Extend to one another a sign of Trinity Peace

note\* Please be respectful to one another's physical boundaries and ask before Touching or hugging. You may also remain in your pew and hand signal your peace to others to communicate your boundary.

### **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

Leader: Eternal Father, your Spirit inspired those who wrote the Bible and enlightens us to hear the words of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, fresh each day. Help us to rely always on your promises in Scripture,

**People: Amen!**

### **FIRST READING**

Psalm 8  
Kathy Cilluffo

### **MUSICAL MEDITATION**

*My Prayer*  
*Shirley Porter*  
*Church Choir*

### **SECOND READING**

Romans 5:1-5  
Pastor Julia DiFiore

### **SERMON**

*"Divine Dance"*

Pastor Julia DiFiore

## **BAPTISM OF LILY JANE**

Pastor: Members and friends in Christ, we gather now to celebrate the gift of grace and the sacrament of Baptism.

**People: There is one body and one Spirit. There is one hope in God's call to us.**

## **CONGREGATIONAL COVENANT**

Pastor: Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace and baptism. Do you who witness and celebrate this sacrament promise your love, support and care to LILY JANE, about to be baptized, as LILY JANE lives and grows in Christ?

**People: We promise our love, support and care.**

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: CONGREGATION AND CANDIDATE**

Pastor: Let us now confess our faith in the Triune God.

Do you believe in God?

**ALL: I believe in God.**

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**ALL: I believe in Jesus Christ.**

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**ALL: I believe in the Holy Spirit.**

## **PRAYER OF BAPTISM**

†HYMN

*Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart  
NC290 Verses 1,4,5*

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

**Praying person: Holy Trinity hear our prayer.**

**People's response: Holy Trinity hear our prayer.**

## **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

*Please place your offering in the box at the back table at your convenience upon entering or leaving. Or use the QR code on the pew by the envelopes.*

## PRAYER OF BLESSING FOR TITHES & OFFERINGS

### †HYMN

*They'll Know We Are Christians*  
*WR595 Verses 1,2,4*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Announcements are in the back of this bulletin.)

### †BENEDICTION

Pastor: With the help of God may we...

**People: Go forth into the world in peace and be of good cheer, hold fast to that which is good, render to no person evil for evil.**

**Strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak and help the afflicted.**

**Honor God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.**

Pastor: May it be as you have said, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit-Amen.

### †POSTLUDE

*Yes, He Did!*  
*Lloyd Larson*  
*Church Choir*



One License #A720797

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

The Rice family, Aimee H, Baby Paul, Jackie K, Joe M, David M, Carol C, Susan C, Bryce D, Eric F, Matthew P, Ann W.

Also, remember to pray for all who are serving in the military, first responders, medical personnel, and our elected officials.

## **6/15/25 – WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

SUNDAY STEWARD: Tim Galvin

SOUND AND LIVESTREAM: Tim Galvin, Shannon Porter

MUSIC: Denise Gregg

USHERS: Tim Galvin, Karen Galvin

READER: Kathy Cilluffo

POWER POINT: Pat O'Connor

COFFEE HOUR: Michael & Sarah Bruzdowski

## **6/22/25 – WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

SUNDAY STEWARD: Michael Bruzdowski

SOUND AND LIVESTREAM: Tim Galvin, Mary Piquette

MUSIC: Denise Gregg

USHERS: Karl Heilman, Ken VanNortwick

READER: Pat O'Connor

POWER POINT: Deana Currie

READER 6/29/25 – Deana Currie

## **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~**

### **CURIOUS ABOUT CHURCH MEMBERSHIP?**

Please let Pastor Julia know ([pastorjuliad@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjuliad@gmail.com)) and she will set up a time to chat. Your questions about the United Church of Christ and this church specifically will be answered.

## **BIBLE STUDY**

Join us for a unique Bible study experience with The Chosen! Each week, we'll watch an episode from the series, followed by scripture and group discussion.

This is more than a show, it's a journey of faith, reflection, and community. Whether you're part of our church, another congregation, or just curious, you're welcome here.

Bring your heart, your questions, and your hopes. Let's grow together as we explore the life of Christ in a deeper, more personal way.

6:00- PJ's Popcorn & Fellowship (Feel free to bring a snack to share!)

6:30- Episode Begins

7:30- Bible Study and Discussion

## **CHOIR**

Choir practice Thursdays, at 7:30 p.m.

## **TAIZ'E**

Taiz'e will return in October.

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday school will be held the 2nd and 4th Sunday each month unless otherwise noted. Sunday school will resume in the fall.

## **MISSIONS**

The Mission Team is requesting volunteers to staff the Ecumenical Food Pantry Tuesdays and Thursdays in June from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. There is a sign up sheet located on the back table in the sanctuary.

The Mission Team at First Congregational Church UCC of St. Clair is thrilled to bring back "Deserving Treats For Our Essential Workers"!

Throughout June, July, and August, we'll be delivering special treats and heartfelt thanks to essential workers across St. Clair County.

Want to help spread the love and gratitude? A sign-up sheet is available just off the sanctuary, or feel free to reach out to Pat O'Connor to get involved.

Let's show our appreciation for those who give so much to our community!

### **HEALTH CARE MINISTRIES**

The Healthcare Ministry Team will resume blood pressure checks during coffee hour following worship on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month.

### **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.

The joy of June  
Is here at last!  
What's real for some  
Is such a contrast.

We celebrate because  
School is out,  
We love our Dads,  
And what summer's about.

Take time to hear  
The silent shout.  
Help feed the hungry.  
Don't leave them out.

JUNE food pantry requests  
Green Beans  
Corn  
Cereal  
Mac & Cheese  
Spaghetti Sauce  
Tuna



JUNE food pantry food extras - Kids are home, so..

Lunch Foods

Peanut Butter

Canned Pasta, etc.

Father's Day

Cake Mix/Frosting, Cookies, etc.

Memorial Day...Picnic Foods

Chips

Condiments

Boxed Pasta Salad, etc.

Please leave food donations in the elevator room on one of the shelves labeled LITTLE RED FOOD PANTRY. And please check the expiration date on each food item before leaving it for the pantry.

For questions, please contact 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 our Social Media Minister 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).