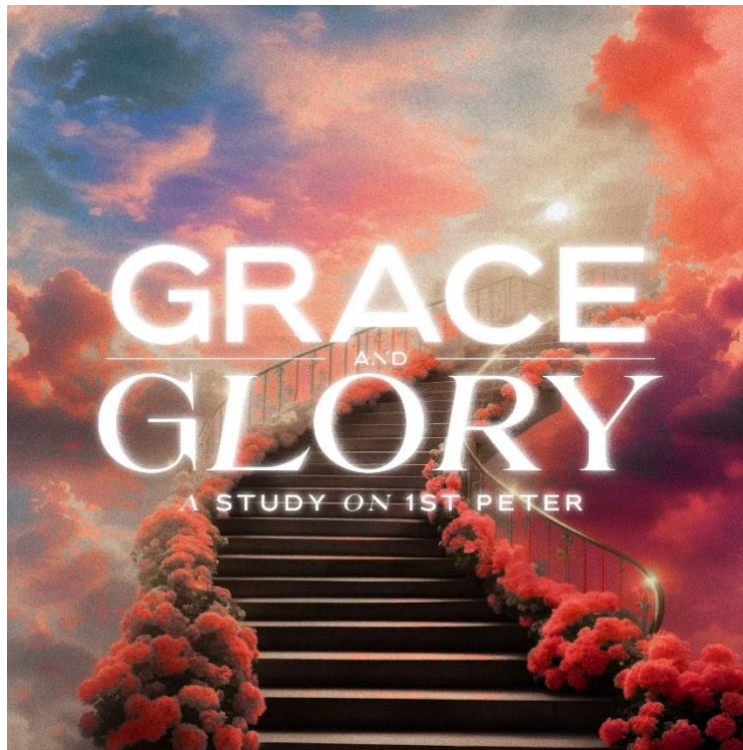


**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
OF ST. CLAIR**



**“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
firstconggsc@gmail.com**

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

June 29, 2025

Third Sunday After Pentecost

† Those who are able, please stand.

CHIMES

Jesus, Sovereign, Savior

† **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**

Deana Currie

Leader: Amazing grace

People: How sweet the sound.

Leader: That saved a wretch like me.

People: I once was lost, But now am found.

Leader: Was blind, but now I see.

People: Lord of all, you have called us toward a new way of life.

Give us a vision of that new life today as we worship you. Amen.

Adapted from "Amazing Grace" by John Newton (1725-1807) for responsive reading. By Austin Hill

† **HYMN**

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
NC439 Verses 1,2*

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION & ASSURANCE OF GRACE

People: Lord God, you have given yourself fully and completely to make us your people, a gift of grace to the world. We confess that too often we have kept this grace for ourselves. For the times when we've shied away from the suffering. Which comes when we love others as you have loved us Lord, have mercy for the times when we've taken your grace for granted and not allowed your love to overflow to others. Christ, have mercy, for the times when we've not trusted that you really care about us. Lord, have mercy, fill us again

with your love, poured out through the Holy Spirit So that our lives reflect your glory to the world. Amen

Pastor: Sisters, brothers and siblings, hear again the good news: Christ suffered and died, for ALL people. Through Him, we are reconciled with God, and through Him you receive God's Grace. Your sins are forgiven, live now freely in God's love.

EXPRESSION of PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

Pastor: Extend to one another, the Grace and Peace of Christ!

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Leader: By your Grace, we are blessed with your wisdom and Spirit. Renew our minds Oh Lord as we hear your Word, that we may be transformed in an ability to Love like you. Amen.

FIRST READING

Psalm 30
Deana Currie

MUSICAL MEDITATION

God Moves In A Mysterious Way

SECOND READING

1 Peter 4:12-13
Pastor Julia DiFiore

SERMON

Series: Grace & Glory
Week 2
Suffering And Perseverance

Pastor Julia DiFiore

†HYMN

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine
NC473 Verses 1,3

JOYS, CONCERNS, AND INVITATION TO PRAY

Praying person: Lord hear our prayer.

People: Shower us with your Grace.

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

*When I Survey The Wondrous Cross
NC224 Verses 1,2*

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: I pray that the Grace of God guides you to fulfill what you have proclaimed, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit! Amen.

†POSTLUDE

God, The Spirit, Guide And Guardian



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.

6/29/25 – WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

SUNDAY STEWARD: Sarah Bruzdowski

SOUND AND LIVESTREAM: Tim Galvin, Kathy Cilluffo

MUSIC: Denise Gregg

USHERS: Don & Pat O'Connor

READER: Deana Currie

POWER POINT: Jody Skonieczny

COFFEE HOUR: Krysta & Adam Ryburczyk

7/6/25 – WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

COMMUNION: Nancy Rice

SUNDAY STEWARD: Kathy Cilluffo

SOUND AND LIVESTREAM: Tim Galvin, Jacie Sanders

MUSIC: Denise Gregg

USHERS: Dave Scheel, Nikki Sterling

READER: Bonnie Landschoot

POWER POINT: Michael Bruzdowski

READER 7/13/25 – Jody Skonieczny

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) 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. 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 and our Instagram page at @firstcong.churchofst.clair.