

**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.firstcongsc.org
firstcongsc@gmail.com**

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

January 18, 2026 – Second Sunday After The Epiphany

† **Those who are able, please stand.**

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flowers are in memory of Ray and Ethel Muzeck and Tom Muzeck, parents and brother of Beverly Muzeck Stewart.

CHIMES

Rock Of Ages

† GATHERING SONG

Shout To The Lord

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

Michael B.

Leader: Holy God, You breathe life into dust and hope into weary hearts. As we gather today, meet us in the places where our spirits feel thin, tired, or tangled. You know the burdens we carry, the errors we hide, the disappointments that have settled into our bones. Yet You come to us— not with shame, but with mercy; not with condemnation, but with the promise of renewal.

People: Open us to Your presence. Create in us clean hearts. Restore to us the joy of Your salvation. Make this hour a holy meeting place where Your Spirit begins a new work within us.

We offer ourselves to You, trusting that You delight in making all things new. Amen.

† HYMN

Just As I Am
NC 207 Verses 1,2,3,4

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Leader: Gracious Lord, Your Word has the power to awaken what has grown numb and to revive what has grown weary.

As we turn to Scripture, lift our eyes, the way You lifted the eyes of Zacchaeus in that sycamore tree.

People: Help us see Jesus clearly. Help us hear Your voice honestly. Help us receive Your grace courageously. By Your Spirit, illuminate these ancient words so they become living truth within us. Renew our spirits, reshape our desires, and lead us into the kind of repentance that brings freedom and joy. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

FIRST READING

Psalm 51:10-12

Michael B.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Jesus Calls Us, O'er The Tumult

FCC ROCKS

Young and Young At Heart Message

Deana Currie

SECOND READING

Luke 19:1-10

Pastor Julia DiFiore

SERMON

Renewed Spirit

Pastor Julia DiFiore

SERMON REFLECTION

Amazing Grace

INVITATION TO PRAY FOR JOYS, CONCERNS, & GRATITUDE FOR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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.

†HYMN

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise
NC 1 Verses 1,3*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Announcements are in the back of this bulletin.)

†BENEDICTION

Beloved of God, you are seen, you are welcomed, and you are renewed by the One who seeks and saves the lost. May Christ's mercy reshape your days, may the Spirit breathe life into your spirit, and may the love of God guide your steps into healing, generosity, and joy. Go in peace, held by grace. Amen.

†POSTLUDE

Great Is The Lord



One License #A720797

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS...

Carol C, Dennis W, Mary P, Shannon P.

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

1/18/26 – WORSHIP ASSISTANTS
SUNDAY STEWARD: Dave S.
SOUND AND LIVESTREAM: Jacie S.
MUSIC: Denise G.
USHERS: Karl H. & Ken V.
POWER POINT: Pat O.
LAY READER: Michael B.
COFFEE HOUR: Morgan & Yuvonne W.

1/25/26 – WORSHIP ASSISTANTS
SUNDAY STEWARD: Sarah B.
SOUND AND LIVESTREAM: Shannon P.
MUSIC: Denise G.
USHERS: Dave S. & Nikki P.
POWER POINT: Deana Currie
LAY READER: Kathy C.
COFFEE HOUR: The Currie Family

READER: 2/1/26 – Dave S.

**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.

NEW BIBLE STUDY

SEASON 5 OF THE CHOSEN WEDNESDAYS AT 6:30!

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

Just a reminder: Choir practice is on Thursdays from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. All are welcome to come and sing to the glory of God.

TAIZ'E

Taiz'e will be held in the sanctuary on the first Saturday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Next Taiz'e is Saturday February 7th.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School will be held on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sunday of the month.

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.

LITTLE RED FOOD PANTRY GOD'S GRAB & GO CUPBOARD

The Little Red Food Pantry and God's Grab and Go Cupboard are Community Outreach Programs sponsored by the Mission Team. The Little Red Pantry is stocked twice weekly with nonperishable food items and is always available to the community. God's Grab & Go Cupboard is available by appointment only, allowing community members to meet with a Mission Team volunteer during regular office hours to receive needed items. Donations for the ministries may be dropped off during regular office hours or before Sunday Morning Worship Service. Little Red Pantry is available anytime located below the green awning. God's Grab & Go Cupboard is available by appointment only contact the church office or email at G3Cupboard@gmail.com.

For questions, please contact the church office (810) 329-4142.

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 H. 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](https://www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalChurchUCCofStClair) and our Instagram page at [@firstcong.churchofstclair](https://www.instagram.com/firstcong.churchofstclair).

THE CARE BEAR PROJECT

You will notice small teddy bears throughout the sanctuary. Each bear is a reminder of Christ's love, offering comfort and encouragement. If you are new here, please take one as our gift to you. Regular attendees are also invited to take a bear to share with someone in need of love, hope, or comfort. Every bear is meant to go where love is needed most!