

WHO WE ARE

Our Vision

As believers in Jesus Christ, we will be a church of vibrant Christians.

Our Mission

We welcome people to faith in Jesus Christ to: *Discover God*

Equip one another for life

Reach inward/outward to serve

Our Welcome

Because we believe each person is made in God's Image, we welcome all persons into the life and worship of this congregation. Regardless of age, ability, gender identity or sexual orientation, racial or ethnic background – you are welcome here!

CONTACT

Hours: Mon-Thurs, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Phone: (269) 983-5519

Website: www.fccstjoseph.org

Facebook: facebook.com/FCCStJoseph

Email: office@fccstjoseph.org

Address: 2001 Niles Avenue
St. Joseph, Michigan 49085



STAFF

Rev. Jeffrey Hubers, Minister

Brenton Offenback, Music

Carly Hubers, Youth

Alison Achramowicz, Children

Jan Trapani, Parish Nurse

Stephen Zork, Choir

Judy Hoffman, Church Office

Nanci Fenrick, Bookkeeper

Jim Dansfield, Maintenance

Julie Ruple, Housekeeping

SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 1

10:30 a.m. - Worship

11:30 a.m. - Fellowship

3:45 p.m. - Monday Musical

Monday, December 2

1:00 p.m. - WBS

Tuesday, December 3

6:00 p.m. - Missions Board

Wednesday, December 4

5:30 p.m. - Jubilate Bells

6:45 p.m. - Chancel Choir

Thursday, December 5

4:00 p.m. - Budget Committee

5:15 p.m. - Alleluia Bells

Sunday, December 8

10:30 a.m. - Worship

11:30 a.m. - Cong. Mtg.

4:00 p.m. - Diaconate Board

Monday, December 9

6:00 p.m. - Trustees Board

**For full listing, check Events
or Newsletter on website.**



First Congregational Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, December 1, 2024

10:30 a.m.

“First Sunday of Advent”

“Wherever you are on the journey of life or faith, *you are*
welcome here”

2001 Niles Ave
St Joseph MI 49085

www.fccstjoseph.org



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome / Announcements ***indicates invitation to stand if able*
Sharing the Peace [screen]

You are invited to listen for God's Spirit as we prepare for worship.

Prelude "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" arr. Paul Manz

**Call to Worship [screen] Diana Seaman, Liturgist

Hymn [screen] #148 "Come Thou Almighty King"

Advent Candle Lighting The Triemstra family

Children's Message *PreK—5th grade may come forward. Grades 1-5 invited to Sunday School in chapel. Pre-K have "Kids Club" in Nursery. Pickup at 11:40.*

Ministry of Music "Come Lord Jesus" Martin How
Chancel Choir

Prayer for Discovery [screen]

Scripture [screen] Psalm 25:1-10; Luke 21:34-36, NRSV

Message "What Are We Waiting For?" Rev. Jeffrey Hubers

**Hymn [screen] #152 "Prepare the Way, O Zion"

The Lord's Supper [screen]

Morning Prayer Lord's Prayer [screen]

Offertory "A Maiden Most Gentle" arr. Andrew Grant

**Doxology [screen]

Benediction Parting Blessing [screen]

Postlude "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" arr. Richard Blake

You are invited to be seated for the postlude as a final musical reflection; otherwise, please depart quietly. Peace be with you!

Ushers: Patty Nordberg, Harold and Karla Bragg, Linda Becker,
Jane Oelke

Thank you for joining us for worship! If you are a guest or visitor and would like to know more about FCC, please enter your contact info in the fellowship pads located in the pews and a staff member will reach out!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The flowers in the narthex are in memory of the organ donor, the unknown angel, 26 years ago, from Phillip & Pam (Griffin) Whitehead.

To receive text updates, send a text to **81010** with the message **@fccstj**

Thanks for all the help decorating for Advent—everything looks beautiful!

All are welcome to Monday Musical Christmas Vespers at 3:45 p.m. today.

Women's Bible Study will meet on Monday, December 2 at 1 p.m. Contact Kathy (zerlerkathy@gmail.com) for meeting info.

Choral Christmas will be on Sunday, December 8 during worship.

Review the Bylaws Revisions Proposals video links: [Q&A Session Video \(10/16\)](#) & [Proposals Run-Thru Video](#). There will be a congregational meeting after worship on December 8. Contact Pastor Jeffrey for info.

Women's Book Club Christmas celebration will be December 10 at 9:30 a.m. Please contact Faith Smith for additional info (fesstiv@comcast.net).

Mary Preston Guild will hold their Christmas luncheon on Wednesday, December 11 at noon in the Gathering Room. \$12/person—RSVP to Helen Sinn by December 6 (269.930.8226).

Men's Ministry will meet on Saturday, December 14 at 8 a.m. Breakfast first, then discussion. Contact John Bock for details (269.313.1093).

Children's Christmas Program will be Sunday, December 15, followed by our Christmas luncheon. You must purchase a ticket for the meal: Adults \$15; Kids/\$7. Please RSVP for the lunch by Thursday, December 12.

Join for a special evening of music and Christmas worship on Wednesday, December 18 at 6:30, led by our Music Ministry. Freewill offering collected.

We're collecting sign-ups to provide gifts for foster children. Contact the church office for more information!

Join for prayer and help load the weekend food packs for local elementary schools at 3 p.m. Thursday's in the Youth Room downstairs.

Can you help serve at Soup Kitchen on the third Tuesday of every month? Contact Lori Hellenga (269.921.7919) to volunteer or to learn more!

Could you usher on a Sunday morning? Sign-up through [Sign-Up Genius](#) (digital link) or contact Wes Lentz (cwbrazel@gmail.com) for assistance.