

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Rev. Michael Q. Atkinson, Lead Pastor

Rev. Harry Jenkins, Associate Pastor

Brett Miller, Director of Music

"A Holy, Healthy, and Loving Community Striving to Know Christ and to Make Christ Known"



November 6, 2021

All Saints Sunday

A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE

WORDS OF WELCOME ----- Pastor Michael Atkinson

ORGAN PRELUDE ----- Dr. Jessica Scott

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: For all those who have paved the way for our freedom of worship,
we give thanks, O Lord.

People: For those who have taught us about witness and the power of love,
we give thanks, O Lord.

Leader: For those who work in our church that we may come to know
what it means to serve, we give thanks, O Lord.

People: For all the saints, those who rest from their labors,
and those who labor still, we give thanks, O Lord.

Leader: Praise be to God, who continually inspires and guides workers
and witnesses.

People: Open our hearts and spirits, O Lord,
and help us to become good workers for you.

***HYMN #711 v. 1-4** ----- "For All the Saints"

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS WITH THE PASTOR

EPISTLE LESSON ----- 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Paul, Silas and Timothy: to the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father
& the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace and peace to you from God the Father and the
Lord Jesus Christ. We ought always to thank God for you, brothers & sisters, and
rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more.

The love all of you have for one another is increasing. Therefore, among God's churches we boast about your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and trials you are enduring.

With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may bring to fruition your every desire for goodness and your every deed prompted by faith. We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON-----"Living the Legacy"----- Pastor Atkinson
(you are encouraged to use this space for notes)

MUSICAL OFFERTORY- - "The Joy of the Redeemed" /Dickenson - Dr. Scott

*"Oh, what their joy and their glory must be, those endless Sabbaths the blessed ones see!
Crowns for the valiant, to weary ones, rest; God shall be all, and in all ever blest.*

*In new Jerusalem shall joy be found, blessings of peace shall forever abound;
Wish and fulfillment are not severed there, nor the things prayer for come short of the prayer.*

*We, where no troubles distraction can bring, safely the anthems of Zion shall sing;
While for your grace, Lord, their voices of praise your blessed people shall evermore raise.*

*Now let us worship our Lord and our King, joyfully raising our voices to sing:
Praise to the Father, and praise to the Son, praise to the Spirit, to God, Three in One."*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord of mercy, forgive us when we make excuses for our lack of faith. We let our selfishness and apathy get in the way of illumination and peace. We find ways to duck out of our opportunities for service and witness, claiming that we are too small or too ill-equipped to be effective witnesses to Jesus Christ. How foolish we can be! All of our lives God has been present to us, whether or not we knew it. God's love is always surrounding us. Yet we have not taken the time to recognize it. We whine and complain about the misfortunes that have befallen us and wonder where God is. We want immediate release from our struggles. And when release comes, we again move off in our own realms of self-centeredness.

Help us, O Lord. Stop us from being so faithless. Open our hearts with your forgiving spirits that we, having been healed and forgiven, may actually be effective witnesses to your love and compassion. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

You have always been loved by God. Know that you are healed and forgiven, that God has placed a special blessing in your life. Rejoice! For God is with you. Serve God in all that you say, think, and do. AMEN.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thank to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. . . .

...and so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

ALL: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit...

...and so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

ALL: Christ has died; Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

Renew our communion with all your saints, especially those we name before you—

Margaret "Louise" Gatrell Thomas
August 13, 1922 – January 9, 2022

Mary Jane "Betty" Rolland Preston Tonkin
May 19, 1923 – January 20, 2022

Linda Lou McKown Brannon
November 24, 1950 – July 18, 2022

Kathryn Elizabeth "Kay" Tannehill Winters
January 6, 1923 – July 25, 2022

Jeannie Louise Johnston Marsh
August 31, 1925 – August 17, 2022

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, strengthen us to run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the Pioneer and Perfecter of our faith.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. **Amen.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

Music during Distribution of the Elements - "In Splendor and Praise" / FUMC Handbells

HYMN #733-----"Marching to Zion"

BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE ----- Dr. Scott

2021 Annual Charge Conference
of First United Methodist—Clarksburg
Sunday, November 13, at noon, in the Sanctuary



Last Sunday, we welcomed these new members to our First Church community:

*Dee Preston
Jason, Catherine, and Cailin Preston
Brian Floyd
Teresa Gouer
Patrick and Mary Lonergan*



Madison Stout, our new Youth Director,
would like to meet with anyone who would like to help with planning
youth events....at 2:00 p.m. today in the Parlor.
304-365-4773



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First United Methodist Church — Clarksburg



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Parish-Wide Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, Nov 20, 7 p.m.

First UMC is hosting our parish Thanksgiving Service. Join us as we celebrate the countless blessings of God through praise and worship!



We recently received this note

“We just want to thank you so much here at NAATC for your generous donation with paying for our vehicle. Your blessing is so greatly appreciated. Many blessings to you all!”



HOLIDAY “FOOD BASKET” GIVING TREE

The Giving Tree is in place in our sanctuary. We are collecting food for at least 9 baskets to be handed out prior to Thanksgiving (and again at Christmas).

Please take leaves from the tree and return the items by November 20

Questions? Contact Nancy Ferber at 304-476-0566.

FIRST CHURCH PRAYER CHAIN

If you would like to have someone or something placed on our Prayer Chain contact Tammy Matheny at 304-476-2015.

