

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

117 N. 2nd Street, Clarksburg, WV 26301

Phone: 304.623.3397 email: cfumc@citynet.net

Rev. Michael Q. Atkinson, Pastor

Rev. Anna Troy, Deacon Don Gardner, Director of Music

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



April 28, 2024
Morning Worship
10:45 a.m.

WORDS OF WELCOME -----Pastor Michael Atkinson

ORGAN PRELUDE ----- Dr. Jessica Scott

*CALL TO WORSHIP ----- Rick Squires, Liturgist

Leader: Easter people, we have been saved by the Risen Christ, the life-giving Vine.

People: We abide in Love, the life-giving Vine.

Leader: We are branches of the Vine—sustained, nurtured, and pruned by Love.

People: We have no life apart from Love, the life-giving Vine.

Leader: When we make our home in the Vine, and the Vine makes a home in us, we bear the fruit of Love.

People: We produce the fruit of Love, the life-giving Vine.

Leader: Easter people, how shall we bear the fruit of Love, the life-giving Vine?

People: We will love and learn to love as we rest, play, work, and build community with God and one another. Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, November 2023.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN ----- "The Lord of Life, a Vine Is He"

The Lord of Life, a vine is he and grafted to him we must be'
and thus we yield abundantly sweet fruit for all to taste and see.

If we be joined to him we know his strength and power will help us grow.
His Spirit's grace through us will flow to prune and shape us as we go.

The vine is he, the branches we for now and to eternity.
His word sown deep in us will be both sun and rain, sufficiency.

The Lord of Life, the Source Divine calls us to come, with him entwine.
Will we, unhearing, dare decline the call of Christ, the One True Vine?

*PASSING OF GOD'S PEACE

PASTORAL 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 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.

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

ANTHEM-----"You're the Word of God" ----- FUMC Family Choir

SCRIPTURE LESSON-----John 15:1-8

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE -----“Promise and Possibilities” --- Pastor Michael Atkinson

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful One, you know when we are afraid to love; you know when we are too cowardly to show mercy. Remind us again that perfect love casts out such fears. Surround us and strengthen us with your perfect love, even in the face of our imperfections. Imbue us with a love so strong, with such growth toward perfection, that we may cast aside our pride and embrace the power of love.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Christ is the vine. We are simply branches. If we abide in Christ, Christ’s words will abide in us. Ask for whatever you wish in Christ’s name and it will be granted.

In the name of Christ, you who seek forgiveness are forgiven!

In the name of Christ, you who seek forgiveness are forgiven!

Adapted from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2012, © 2011 Abingdon Press

OFFERTORY MUSIC -----Dr. Scott

*DOXOLOGY-----U.M.H #94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts;
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up lifts;
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*HYMN -----“Blest Be the Dear Uniting Love”

Blest be the dear uniting love that will not let us part;
our bodies may far off remove, we still are one in heart.

Joined in one spirit to our Head, where he appoints we go,
and still in Jesus’ footsteps tread, and do his work below.

We all are one who him receive and each with each agree,
in him the One, the Truth, we live’ blest point of unity!

Partakers of the Savior’s grace, the same in mind and heart,
nor joy, nor grief, nor time, nor place, nor life, nor death can part.

*BENEDICTION

*ORGAN POSTLUDE -----Dr. Scott

Today’s Worship Participants

Liturgist: Rick Squires

Ushers: Chloe Ann Chipps, Renae Payne, Meredith Seibert

Acolyte: Jackson Walls

Altar: Carolyn Yost

If you or someone you know is in the hospital, nursing home, has a need from the church, or would like a visit, **Please feel free to call or send a text to Pastor Michael Atkinson at 304-771-3309**



*Lord in your Mercy,
Hear our Prayers*

- The children of FUMC
- Harry & Joretta Lewis
- Beth Bryant- Barranco
- Shirley Murphy
- Steven H.
- Scott Wilson
- Jay Grega
- Linda Haynes
- John Cathell



THIS WEEK AT FUMC

- **Tuesday April 30 — NO Bell Practice**
---Monastic Meal, 12:15 p.m.
- **Thursday May 2 —Prayer Shawl, 5-6 p.m.**



**Graduation Recognition
Sunday May 19, 2024**

If you or a family member is graduating this year please let us know!

You can email (cfumc@citynet.net) or call the church (304-623-3397)

We will need the graduate’s name and a brief explanation of where you are graduating from and plans for the future

Contact the church office by May 12th.

If you would like to follow the work of General Conference, you can find a link to live-stream the plenary and worship sessions or find updated news sources regarding the daily activity of the conference through our conference website, www.wvumc.org.

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