

# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Rev. Michael Q. Atkinson, Lead Pastor

Rev. Harry Jenkins, Associate Pastor

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



August 1, 2021

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE

WORDS OF WELCOME ----- Pastor Michael Atkinson

ORGAN PRELUDE -----Dr. Jessica Scott

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Bread of Life has come among us.

People: What is this Bread of Life?

Leader: It is none other than Jesus Christ, God's beloved Son!

People: We hunger for the true bread that will nourish our souls.

Leader: Come, then, to Christ who feeds us with his very life!

People: We come, needing sustenance and nurturing. Amen.

## OPENING PRAYER

Along life's pathways, we search continually for signs to point us in positive directions. Christ has given us a sign which points us to healing and hope: that is the sign of the Bread of Life. No more shall we hunger and thirst after the things which cannot sustain us. Now we have been fed and nourished by Christ! Open our hearts in gratitude, Lord, for all the wondrous things you have done for us. Open our Spirits to hear your words of hope for us today. Amen.

HYMN -----“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”

Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God;  
God, whose word cannot be broken, formed thee for his own abode.  
On the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded, thou mayst smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,  
well supply thy sons and daughters, and all fear of want remove.  
Who can faint while such a river ever will their thirst assuage?  
Grace which like the Lord, the giver, never fails from age to age.

Blest inhabitants of Zion, washed in our Redeemer's blood;  
Jesus, whom our souls rely on, makes us monarchs, priests to God.  
Us, by his great love, he raises, rulers over self to reign,  
and as priests his solemn praises we for thankful offering bring.

CHILDREN'S TIME ----- Pastor Atkinson

SCRIPTURE LESSON -----John 6:24-35

So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, ‘Rabbi, when did you come here?’ Jesus answered them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.’

Then they said to him, ‘What must we do to perform the works of God?’ Jesus answered them, ‘This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.’ So they said to him, ‘What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it & believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, “He gave them bread from heaven to eat.” ’

Then Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.’ They said to him, ‘Sir, give us this bread always.’

Jesus said to them, ‘I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.’

CALL TO COMMUNION - - - - - "Welcome, Welcome! The Door Is Open!"

*Text by Thomas Troeger; Music by Carlton R. Young*

*Don Gardner, tenor; Brett Miller, clarinet; Dr. Jessica Scott, piano*

*Welcome, welcome! The door is open, there's room for all who come.*

*The table's laid, the meal prepared, enough for everyone.*

*(Refrain): This is God's feast, unlike any other,*

*Where the greatest and least are sister and brother.*

*Welcome, welcome! You're not too early, too late, too well-to-do,*

*Too poor to be an honored guest. A place is set for you. (Refrain)*

*Welcome, welcome! Come join the circle. Enjoy the wine and bread,*

*And pass them on to foes and friends till everyone is fed. (Refrain)*

INVITATION AND CONFESSION

In the daily grind of life, we are so often taught to climb the ladder of success by stepping on each other, focusing only on our own wants and needs. Even as children on a carousel, we were taught to try to grab the golden ring, and it would fulfill our dreams of glory and wealth. How we have been corrupted to think in these terms. Our "dollar for a dream" mentality has gotten us into lots of trouble. We chase after all those false idols that cannot ever sustain us and bring us peace. Forgive our stupidity, Lord. Forgive us when we believe that if we only could win the Lottery, everything would be OK and we would be happy. It is your Son Jesus Christ who leads us in the ways of happiness and peace, sustaining us with his life-giving bread. Nurture us again, Lord, with this Bread of Life, that we may truly focus on the ministries and mission you have set before us. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

### PARDON

Leader: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;  
That proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. 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...

...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

HYMN ----- "Become to Us the Living Bread"

Become to us the living bread by which the Christian life is fed,  
Renewed, and greatly comforted:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Become the never-failing wine, the spring of joy that shall incline  
Our hearts to bear the covenant sign:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

May Christians all with one accord unite around the sacred board  
To praise your holy name, O Lord:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE ----- -Dr. Jessica Scott

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### **THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH**

August 7 — Memorial Service for JoAnn Samples (FUMC at 11:00 a.m.)

August 8 — Church Picnic at Clarksburg City Park (Nutter Fort)  
Games at 5 / Covered Dish Meal at 6 / Vesper Service Follows



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First United Methodist Church — Clarksburg



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### CHURCH PICNIC — SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

Clarksburg City Park (Nutter Fort)

5:00 p.m. — Cornhole tournament and other games

6:00 p.m. — Covered-dish meal (hot dogs & hamburgers provided! drinks, too!)

We'll conclude the evening with Vespers

**CHURCH  
COOKOUT**



### THE NURSERY AT FIRST CHURCH

Room 207 (2nd Floor)

*Changing Table — Toys and Games*

*Plush Animals — Books and Puzzles*

*Microwave and Small Fridge — Live-Stream of Morning Worship*

*(The Nursery currently is not staffed, so, First Church folks, please help our visitors needing assistance. Thanks!)*



### A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

In Memory of

JOANN SAMPLES

October 1, 1935 ~ January 23, 2021

Saturday, August 7th, at 11:00 a.m. — First United Methodist Church

