



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

117 N. 2nd Street, Clarksburg, WV 26301

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Rev. Michael Q. Atkinson, Lead Pastor

Rev. Harry Jenkins, Associate Pastor

August 29, 2021

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

WORDS OF WELCOME ----- Pastor Michael Atkinson

PRELUDE ----- "Aurelia Variations for Organ" / Scott Green -- Dr. Jessica Scott

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Summer wanes and the autumn draws close.

People: Lord, help us to be ready for opportunities of service.

Leader: We have felt the refreshment of time-away.

People: Lord, give us spirits of joy for the times ahead.

Leader: Come, let us celebrate God's eternal presence and love.

People: Let us open our spirits to receive God's direction for our lives.

ALL: AMEN.

OPENING PRAYER

Sovereign God, whose commandments guide and teach, strengthen us today to live as you intend. Save us from the distractions of principalities and powers who rule this present age and from spiritual hosts of wickedness that invade even the heavenly places. Hear the supplication of your saints wherever they gather, that your church may be filled with true ambassadors of the gospel. To that end, bless our worship. Amen.

HYMN -----"For the Beauty of the Earth"

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies;
(*refrain*) Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light. (*refrain*)

For thyself, best Gift Divine, to the world so freely given,
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth, and joy in heaven: (*refrain*)

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.

MUSICAL OFFERTORY ----- "Adagio" ----- Richard Wagner
Brett Miller, clarinet; Dr. Jessica Scott, piano

SCRIPTURE LESSON -----Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.)

So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?'

He said to them, 'Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, "This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines." You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.'

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.' For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.'

SERMON- - - - - "Making the Unimportant, Important" - - - Pastor Atkinson
(You are encouraged to use this space for notes.)

INVITATION

HYMN - - - - - "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

I) Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart. In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

2) Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart.

BENEDICTION

PRELUDE- - - - "Aurelia Variations for Organ" / Scott Green - - Dr. Jessica Scott

BLESSING BOXES

Fulfilling Christ's command to "feed my sheep", Blessing Boxes are scattered throughout Clarksburg. One is right outside our 2nd Street entrance.

Want to help? Adopt a Day!

Claim a Sunday, Tuesday or Thursday to fill the Box with drinks and non-perishable/"ready to eat" foods. Some supplies are here at the church, or donate your own.

CALL THE OFFICE IF YOU CAN HELP! 623-3397

RUMMAGE "GIVE-A-WAY"

Since we can't safely hold a Rummage Sale, we will be sorting items and giving them to local agencies who can distribute them.

But...you help is needed this week!

Come to the Fellowship Hall Tuesday and/or Wednesday beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Questions? Contact Tammy Matheny or Anita Burns



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First United Methodist Church — Clarksburg



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Our Condolences and Prayers

to Chloe Ann Chipps
upon the death of her son Jack Chipps

June 19, 1956—August 24, 2021



THE NURSERY AT FIRST CHURCH Room 207 (2nd Floor)

*Changing Table — Toys and Games — 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)