

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"



January 24, 2021
Third Sunday after the Epiphany

WORDS OF WELCOME ----- -Rev. Michael Atkinson

ORGAN PRELUDE ----- -Dr. Jessica Scott

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Gather this day in silence and hope.
People: **We wait for God's word for us.**
Leader: Let your hearts and spirits be open.
People: **God is our strength and salvation.**
Leader: Wait patiently for the Lord.
People: **With willing hearts and spirits we wait for the Lord.**

OPENING PRAYER

O God, you are our light and our salvation. Living in your presence, we have nothing to fear. Open our hearts to your word this day. As we hear the story of the call of the first disciples, make us ready to follow Jesus on whatever path he leads us.

Cast aside our fears and doubts, and teach us to trust wholly in you. For we ask this in Jesus' Name, AMEN.

HYMN ----- "Blessed Be the God of Israel"

Blessed be the God of Israel, who comes to set us free,
Who visits and redeems us, and grants us liberty.
The prophets spoke of mercy, of freedom and release;
God shall fulfill the promise to bring our people peace.

Now from the house of David a child of grace is given;
A Savior comes among us to raise us up to heaven.
Before him goes the herald, forerunner in the way,
The prophet of salvation, the harbinger of day.

On prisoners of darkness the sun begins to rise,
The dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes,
To guide the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace;
O bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!

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.

SONG ----- "Awake, My Heart, with Gladness" arr. By Donald Busarow

Robert Skidmore, violin Brett Miller, clarinet Dr. Jessica Scott, piano

GOSPEL LESSON-----Mark I:14-20

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fish for people.' And immediately they left their nets and followed him.

As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

SERMON

“Learning to Fish”
(you are encouraged to use this space for notes)

Rev. Atkinson

CLOSING HYMN ----- “I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”

I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus
I have decided to follow Jesus
No turning back, no turning back.

2) The world behind me, the cross before me.

3) Though none go with me, still I will follow.

BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Dr. Jessica Scott

Did you know...

Every weekday in FUMC parking lot the Clarksburg Mission gives out lunches to those who are unable to eat at the Mission?



We have been asked to extend this program to the weekends, and we agreed to help as we can.

What does this mean?

On Sat and Sun, we provide bag lunches for 15 people at 2:30 in the afternoon each day. Our church's weekends for this "Grab and Go" program normally will be the first and fourth weekends of each month.

What do you need to do?

Prepare 15 bag lunches that include at least: a sandwich, fruit, snack, cookies and a bottle of water and anything else you would like to add. Bags are then handed out in FUMC parking lot at 2:30. (Funding will be provided through outreach funds or thru donation)

For more details and if you would like to volunteer, please contact Cheryl Moorhead at 304-677-9859.



WORDS OF APPRECIATION

(The following are excerpts from recently received notes.)

“Thank you so much for the beautiful memorial service that you provided my sister, Kim Rollins. She would have been so proud and humbled by your words.”

“We would like to start off by saying ‘thank you’ for allowing Friends Feeding Friends to use your space on a weekly basis. Without your support, the things that we do in our community would not be possible.

The use of your space has helped us provide help and assistance to those struggling with homelessness and addiction.by providing a meal every Wednesday.”

“I want to thank you for your generous and faithful donation to our ministry of the Clarksburg Mission. We would not be able to continue our work without the prayers and financial support that we receive from you. People are fed, housed, and provided with clothing and life's necessities because of your giving.”

“Thank You for your ‘Merry Christmas’ donation to Sleep in Heavenly Peace. The continued support of our community is what allows us to continue to get beds to children in need.”