

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

117 N. 2nd Street, Clarksburg, WV 26301

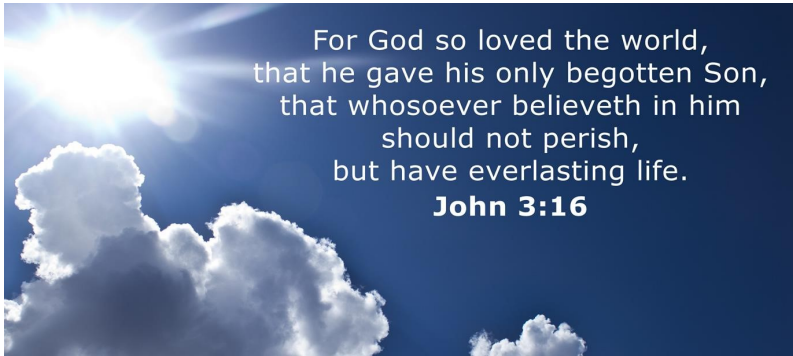
Phone: 304.623.3397

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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"



March 14, 2021
Fourth Sunday in Lent

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

ORGAN PRELUDE -----Dr. Jessica Scott

CALL TO WORSHIP

- Leader: God loves us with a steadfast love.
People: **Let the redeemed of the Lord say so!**
Leader: God loves us so much he gave us his Son.
People: **Let us believe and have eternal life!**
Leader: God loves us with a great love, rich in mercy.
People: **Let us have faith to receive this grace!**
Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

OPENING PRAYER (*Unison*)

Great Triune God, we have gathered here in your name as an act of faith, believing that you are not only among us, but that you love us. It is often hard to recognize your love, see your mercy, and feel your presence. Help us today in our worship, that we might be transparent to your grace, as you reveal yourself to each one of us. Amen

HYMN -----"Christ Is The World's Light"

Christ is the world's Light, Christ and none other;
born in our darkness, he became our Brother.
If we have seen him, we have seen the Father: Glory to God on high.

Christ is the world's peace, Christ and none other;
no one can serve him and despise another.
Who else unites us, one in God the Father? Glory to God on high.

Christ is the world's life, Christ and none other;
sold once for silver, murdered here, our brother-
he, who redeems us, reigns with God the Father: Glory to God on high.

PASTORAL PRAYER

CALL TO CONFESSION -----“O Lord, Have Mercy” ----- Children of First Church

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: God, we have sinned against you.
We have spoken against you and your servant Jesus.

People: We have uttered lies.
We have cursed you and others.
We have said vulgar things.
We have been consumed by doubt.

Leader: We have been bitten with the venom of hatred in our world.

People: We have oppressed the helpless.
We have been intolerant of others.
We have delighted in violence.
We have spent money foolishly.

Leader: Please, Lord God, forgive us our transgressions, that we may be healed of our sin.

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.

SPECIAL MUSIC -----“Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling” -----arr. Donald Busarow
Robert Skidmore, violin; Brett Miller, clarinet; Dr. Jessica Scott, keyboard

SCRIPTURE LESSON ----- John 3:14-21

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

‘Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil.

For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.’

SERMON ----- “Our Lenten Journey: Receiving and Advancing God’s Love” ----- Rev. Atkinson
(you are encouraged to use this space for notes)

HYMN ----- “If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee”

If thou but suffer God to guide thee,
and hope in God through all thy ways,
God will give strength, whate'er betide thee,
and bear thee through the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love
builds on the rock that naught can move.

Only be still, and wait God's leisure
in cheerful hope, with heart content
to take whate'er thy Maker's pleasure
and all-discerning love hath sent;
we know our inmost wants are known,
for we are called to be God's own.

Sing, pray, and keep God's ways unswerving;
so do thine own part faithfully,
and trust God's word; though undeserving,
thou yet shalt find it true for thee.
God never yet forsook at need
the soul that trusted God indeed.

BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE ----- Dr. Jessica Scott



Easter Giving Tree

All of the eggs are gone....thanks so much!

We appreciate your faithfulness in responding to this ministry.

If you have claimed an egg, please remember that the food needs to be at our church by **March 25th.** so that the baskets can be filled and distributed on March 30th.



You have helped to make this a special Easter for our sisters and brothers in need!

Questions? Contact Cheryl Moorhead at 304-677-9859 or Anita Burns at 304-203-1279.



UNDIE SUNDAY

Each year, our church joins other United Methodists in collecting **NEW underwear** for distribution at our outreach mission sites. This year, FUMC will be collecting throughout Lent.

Throughout Lent, our church will be open on Tues/Wed/Thur, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
(Doors near parlor entrance.)

Undies for all ages / sizes / genders are needed.

