

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

117 N. 2nd Street, Clarksburg, WV 26301

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Rev. Michael Q. Atkinson, Pastor

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

Dr. Jessica Scott, Organist

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

December 8, 2024
2nd Sunday of Advent
Morning Worship
10:45 a.m.



WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Michael Atkinson

ORGAN PRELUDE

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland by H. Walcha

Dr. Jessica Scott

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Children of God, prepare the way! The Word of God is coming!

People: We come to listen and receive God's Word among us.

Leader: Children of God, the prophets call to us now and from generations past, urging us to prepare and refine our hearts for the coming of the Word of God. Are you listening?

People: We come to listen and prepare to receive God's Word among us.

Leader: Children of God, this is the mark of our preparation: that passion for God's Word would burn within us, cleansing us and renewing us to reflect God's love throughout the world.

People: May God ignite our passion for God's Word that has come among us as we listen, prepare, and receive all that God has for us today. Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, June 2024.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN --“Hear the Herald Voice Resounding” /tune: Hyfrydol

Hear the herald voice resounding: “Christ is near,” it seems to say.
“Cast away the dreams of darkness, Welcome Christ, the light of Day!”
Wakened by this solemn warning, let the earthbound soul arise:
Christ her sun, all sloth dispelling, shines upon the morning skies.

See the Light so long expected comes with pardon down from heav’n;
Hasten now, with tears of sorrow, one and all to be forgiv’n.
So when next he come with glory, shrouding all the earth in fear,
May He then, as our defender, on the clouds of heav’n appear.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Reader: The prophet Malachi calls us to watch for the messenger God will send us, a messenger who burns with a passion for God’s coming salvation. “For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness” (Malachi 3:2b-3).

Congregation: In a world driven to maintain the status quo, we choose to live with a passion for God’s peace, to listen to the call for righteousness, and to submit ourselves to God’s grace, that we might be refined and purified until we reflect God’s love throughout the earth.

Reader: We light this candle of peace as a sign of our commitment to passionately pursue the work of making peace in our hearts, our families, our communities, and throughout the earth until God’s kingdom comes on earth as it is in heaven.

Light the second candle of the Advent wreath.

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.

*PASSING OF GOD'S PEACE

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

CAROL

John Vaughan, guitar

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke I:68-79

'Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favourably on his people and redeemed them. He has raised up a mighty saviour for us in the house of his servant David, as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.

Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins.

By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.'

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

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

"A Passion For Peace"

Rev. Michael Atkinson

GUITAR OFFERTORY

John Vaughan

*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 #384

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

*BENEDICTION

*ORGAN POSTLUDE

Dr. Scott

Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light by David Maxwell

Today's Worship Participants

Liturgist: Tammy Matheny

Ushers: Jack Brandimarte, Kim and Brian Floyd

Altar: Carolyn Yost Livestream: Jackson Walls

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**



Beth Bryant-Barranco
John & Charlene Cathell
Frank & Leanna Murphy Dono
Kyle Harris
Harry & Joretta Lewis
Chris Broadwater
Danielle Riley
Brady
Jaden Jaggie

The Children of FUMC
The Winter Shelter guests
and workers.

THIS WEEK AT FUMC

- **Monday, Dec. 9**— Madrigal Christmas Concert, 7:00 PM, \$5 ticket (12 and under free)
- **Tuesday, Dec. 10**— Bell Rehearsal, 10 a.m. —Monastic Meal, 12:15 p.m.
- **Thursday, Dec. 12**—Prayer Shawl group, 5-6 p.m.

2024 Madrigal Christmas Concert

with guests, RCB High School Soaring Sounds

Monday, December 9

First United Methodist Church

At 7:00 PM

\$5.00 admission

Kids 12 and younger are free

AN HOUR OF DELIGHTFUL CHRISTMAS MUSIC!

The **Christmas Garlands**, decorating the balcony, are in loving memory of David Young: given by his family.

connect with us



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cfumc@citynet.net

scan the QR Code with your mobile phone camera for easy access to our Facebook and YouTube accounts



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