

# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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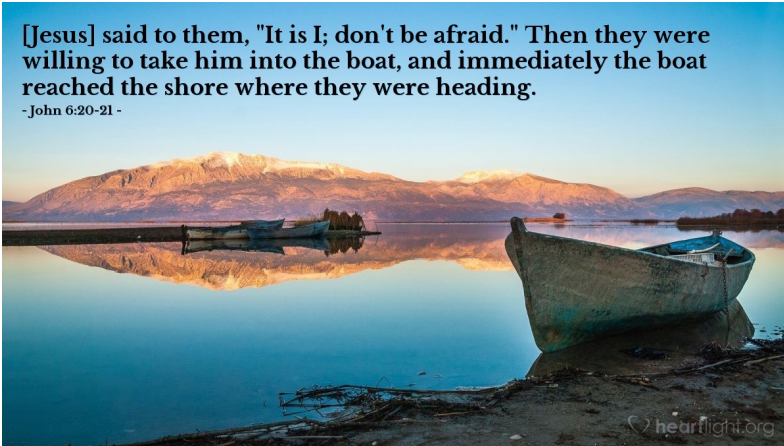
Rev. Michael Q. Atkinson, Lead Pastor

Rev. Harry Jenkins, Associate Pastor

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

[Jesus] said to them, "It is I; don't be afraid." Then they were willing to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the shore where they were heading.

-John 6:20-21-



July 25, 2021

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

WORDS OF WELCOME ----- Pastor Michael Atkinson

PRELUDE - - - - "Christus, Der Is Mein Leber" / A. Schilling - - -Dr. Jessica Scott

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Listen to the good news. God is with us, this day and every day.

People: Because God is with us, we can face each day with courage. We can find some good in everything, for we are never completely alone.

Leader: God's goodness sometimes seems to be a trickle, sometimes pulsing spurts, and sometimes a mighty flood. But always God is with us.

All: We worship you, O God, for your goodness. We praise you with our songs. We seek you in our prayers. We offer ourselves to you because you are our God.

## OPENING PRAYER:

You who have created us and who sustains us: We come with thanksgiving for these moments when we can ease the pace of our lives and listen for your voice. Create a spirit within us that truly draws us toward you and toward our brothers and sisters: a spirit deep, perceptive, gentle, and bold. Clear our minds, open our hearts, and touch us with your presence and your power. We offer this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ our friend and our Savior. Amen.

HYMN -----"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"

All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.  
Come from wilderness and wandering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.  
You who yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.  
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, never strangers; seeker, be a welcome guest.  
Come from restlessness and roaming. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.  
We that once were lost and scattered, in communion's love have stood.  
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread.  
Come from loneliness and longing. Here, in peace, we have been led.  
Blest are those who from this table live their lives in gratitude.  
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

PASTORAL PRAYER -----Rev. Jenkins

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.

CHILDREN'S TIME ----- Pastor Atkinson

MUSICAL OFFERTORY -----"Like Children", Mvt. I / Martin Brunner  
*Robert Skidmore, violin; Brett Miller, clarinet; Dr. Jessica Scott, piano*

## SCRIPTURE LESSON ----- John 6.1-21

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near.

When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, 'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all.

Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.' So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.'

When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, got into a boat, and started across the lake to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The lake became rough because a strong wind was blowing.

When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the lake and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, 'It is I; do not be afraid.' Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land towards which they were going.

SERMON -----"When God Showed Up" ----- Pastor Atkinson  
*(You are encouraged to use this space for notes.)*

INVITATION

HYMN ----- "Break Thou the Bread of Life"

Break thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,  
as thou didst break the loaves beside the sea;  
beyond the sacred page I seek thee, Lord;  
my spirit pants for thee, O Living Word!

Bless thou the truth, dear Lord, to me, to me,  
as thou didst bless the bread by Galilee;  
then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall;  
and I shall find my peace, my all in all.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE ----- "Fugue in C Major" / D. Buxtehude ----- Dr. Jessica Scott

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

**Next Sunday — 10:45/Morning Worship — Holy Communion**

**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 / Vespers 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

