

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

Brett Miller, Director of Music

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



March 27, 2022
Fourth Sunday in Lent

WELCOME -----Pastor Michael Atkinson

PRELUDE --- "Herzlich tut mich verlangen" / J. Brahms
Dr. Jessica Scott, organist

PROCESSION OF LIGHT-----Audra Skidmore

*CALL TO WORSHIP-----Rev. Harry Jenkins

Leader: How blessed we are that God forgives us and loves us!

People: For all those times when we have fallen short

of what God would have us be, we have been forgiven.

Leader: God makes us new in God's Spirit!

People: Now is the time to joyfully accept the newness of life
which God offers to us.

Leader: Come, let us worship and be thankful.

People: Let us open our hearts to the peace and joy of God.

*OPENING PRAYER

How incredible is your love, O God! We have been made new in your love and reconciled to you and to each other in peace and joy. Be with us this day as we hear your words of comfort and hope. Guide our lives that we may serve you more fully all of our days. AMEN.

*HYMN #138, v. 1,3-4, 6 ----- "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

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.

OFFERTORY - - - - - "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" / H.R. Shelley
Brett Miller and Don Gardner, singers; Dr. Jessica Scott, piano

*The King of love my Shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine for ever.
Where streams of living water flow my ransomed soul he leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow with food celestial feedeth.
Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me,
And on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.
In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still, Thy cross before to guide me.
Thou spread'st a table in my sight; Thy unction, grace bestoweth:
And O what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!
And so through all the length of days Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house for ever.*

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS WITH THE PASTOR

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32- - - - - Liturgist, Tom Dyer

Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So Jesus told them this parable:

'There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me." So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs.

He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, “How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.’ ” So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him.

Then the son said to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.” But the father said to his slaves, “Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!” And they began to celebrate.

‘Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, “Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.” Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, “Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!” Then the father said to him, “Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.” ’

SERMON - - - - - “Waking to God’s Dream” - - - - - -Pastor Atkinson

PRAYER OF INVITATION

***HYMN #383, v. 1-3 - - - - - “This Is a Day of New Beginnings”**

***BENEDICTION**

ORGAN POSTLUDE - - - “Canzona Quarta” / G Frescobaldi- - - - -Dr. Scott

If you know of someone who is in the hospital, nursing home, or has a need from the church, please let Pastor Atkinson or Rev. Jenkins know.

Please feel free to call or send a text to....

Pastor Michael Atkinson at 304-771-3309 or Reverend Harry Jenkins at 304-280-0592



HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Palm Sunday Worship — April 10th at 10:45 a.m.
Maundy Thursday Communion — April 14th at 7:00 p.m.
Good Friday Tenebrae — April 15th at 7:00 p.m.
Easter Sunday Celebration — April 17th at 10:45 a.m.



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First United Methodist Church — Clarksburg



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