

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

117 N. 2nd Street, Clarksburg, WV 26301

Phone: 304.623.3397 email: cfumc@citynet.net

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 6, 2022

A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE
First Sunday in Lent

WORDS OF WELCOME ----- Pastor Michael Atkinson

ORGAN PRELUDE ---"Ah, Holy Jesus" / Helmut Walcha --- Dr. Jessica Scott

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

Leader: When Jesus was in the wilderness, he was tempted to save himself.

People: We often look for the good things for ourselves first,
before the well-being of others.

Leader: Jesus was offered salvation if he turned stones to bread; if he accepted
wealth and power; if he tested God's commitment to him.

People: In all these things, Jesus remained strong in his commitment to God.

Leader: May our commitment be as strong.

People: May our lives be placed in God's caring hands throughout our journey.
AMEN.

*OPENING PRAYER

Lord, the temptations of the world loom large before us. We are enticed, cajoled, and "sweet-talked" into moving from lives of service to lives of self-centeredness. We need your healing love. As you resisted the temptations in the wilderness, help us to place our trust in you, that we may be strong in our faith and confident in our service to you through serving others. AMEN.

* HYMN #269 ----- “Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”

CHILDREN’S MOMENTS WITH THE PASTOR

MUSICAL OFFERTORY -“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” / arr. John Innes

Dr. Jessica Scott, piano; Brett Miller, organ

SCRIPTURE LESSON ----- -Luke 4:1-13

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil.

He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.’ Jesus answered him, ‘It is written, “One does not live by bread alone.” ’

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, ‘To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.’ Jesus answered him, ‘It is written, “Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.” ’

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, “He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you”, and “On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.”

Jesus answered him, ‘It is said, “Do not put the Lord your God to the test.”

When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.



SERMON- - - - - "A Journey Through the Wilderness"- - -Pastor Atkinson
(you are encouraged to use this space for notes)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

In a world which values gambling, risking, taking dares, Lord, we come to this time of temptation. We confess that often we are enticed to take the risk for the rewards, often financial, offered if you win. Just "a dollar and a dream" and we hear the glory stories of people receiving great monetary wealth; later, we discover how many lives have been destroyed by this grand prize.

Forgive us when we hunger for the wealth and power the world dangles before us. Move us from greed to gratitude for your blessings. Heal our wounded spirits and lives, so that we may fully serve you. Prepare us for this journey of discipleship and healing. In Jesus' name, we pray. AMEN.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God will provide for your needs. Place your trust in God. You are not alone. God is with you always. The world cannot offer to you such abiding riches as the presence of God. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God! AMEN.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thank to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth....

...and so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**ALL: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Leader: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit...

...and so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

ALL: Christ has died; Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine...

...through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

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

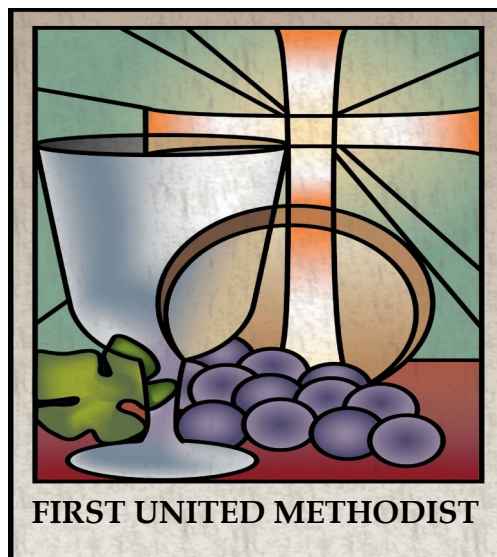
SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

*HYMN # 2112-----"Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley"

BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE -- "Toccata in e minor" / J. Pachelbel----- Dr. Scott

Communion Stewards — Jane Jenkins & Jeanne Warner

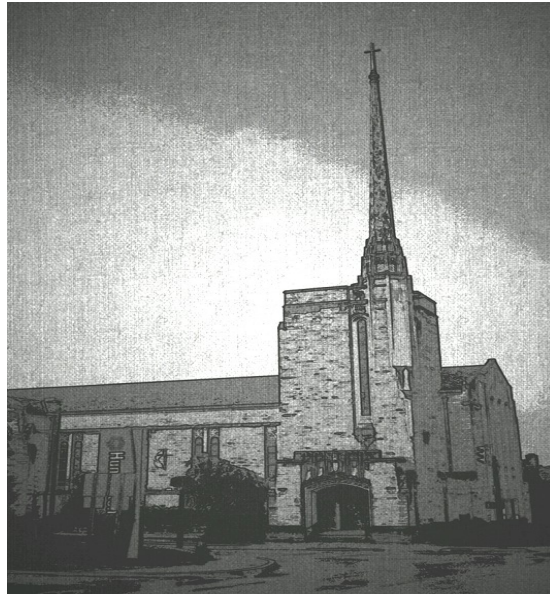


If you know of someone who is in the hospital,
nursing home, or has a need from the church, please let Pastor Atkinson or Rev. Jenkins know

Please feel free to call or send a text to the numbers listed below:

Pastor Michael Atkinson
304-771-3309 (cell phone)

Rev. Harry Jenkins
304-280-0592 (cell phone)



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cfumc@citynet.net



First United Methodist Church — Clarksburg



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BLESSING BOXES

Fulfilling Christ's command to "feed my sheep", Blessing Boxes are scattered throughout Clarksburg.

One is right outside our 2nd Street entrance.

Help fill the Box with drinks and non-perishable/"ready to eat" foods.

**Please remember when choosing items to folks likely do not have access to stoves, ovens,
refrigeration, pots, pans, or even a can opener. Thanks!**