

# 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

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



March 28, 2021

Palm Sunday

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

*Acolyte — Kate Thrush*

PRELUDE -----Dr. Jessica Scott

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Let all creation shout!  
People: Let us wave the palm branches high. Jesus is coming!  
Leader: He comes in humility to claim God's own.  
People: May he claim us this day and heal our hearts!  
Leader: Hosanna to the Son of David.  
People: Hosanna to the blessed Son of God.

## OPENING PRAYER (*Unison*)

Hosanna! Blessed is Jesus who comes in God's Name! We stand at the gates of our Jerusalem and wave our branches high. We get caught up in the excitement of the parade. Jesus sits astride a donkey, a beast of burden bearing a most precious gift. Let the joy fill your hearts this day as we shout our Hosannas.

Praise God for the wondrous ways in which our lives have been touched. Prepare our hearts to worship and celebrate this day! AMEN

HYMN ----- "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

Hosanna, loud hosanna the little children sang;  
through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang.  
To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast,  
the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

From Olivet they followed mid an exultant crowd,  
the victory palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud.  
The Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state,  
nor scorned that little children should on his bidding wait.

"Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing,  
for Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven, our King.  
O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice,  
and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice!

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

We love parades! We love the excitement, the colors, the noise! Today we celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. His followers have stripped branches from the trees and waved them in the air. They have thrown their cloaks in the path of the donkey that his steps might be cushioned. And the scene is wonderful.

But there is a reality here. The reality is that although we wave our branches and shout "Hosanna!", we have not always behaved as disciples. Too often we have wandered from the path of Christ and stumbled along on our own, believing our way to be superior. We have turned from those who have needed help, because it wasn't convenient for us to be of help of service. We have done and said things that are not worthy of disciples. Yet, here we stand, in the parade route, waving our branches.

Forgive us, Lord. Help us to turn our lives around and truly serve you. Help us to really mean "Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the Name of the Lord!" Let Jesus enter our hearts and transform our lives today, for we ask this in his holy name. AMEN

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

### 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.

## SCRIPTURE LESSON ----- Mark II:1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, "Why are you doing this?" just say this, "The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately." '

They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, 'What are you doing, untying the colt?' They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields.

Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, 'Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!'

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

## BELL ANTHEM ----- "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" ----- First Church Handbells

SERMON -----“Our Lenten Journey: Everyone Loves a Parade” ----- - Rev. Atkinson  
(*you are encouraged to use this space for notes*)

PRAYER OF INVITATION

HYMN ----- “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

All glory, laud, and honor to Thee, Redeemer, King!  
To Whom the lips of children made sweet Hosannas ring.

Thou art the King of Israel thou David's Royal Son,  
Who in the LORD'S name comest, the King and Blessèd One.  
All glory, laud, and honor to Thee, Redeemer, King!  
To Whom the lips of children made sweet Hosannas ring.

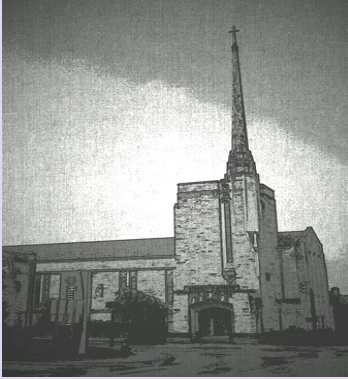
The people of the Hebrews with palms before Thee went  
Our praise and prayers and anthems before Thee we present.  
All glory, laud, and honor to Thee, Redeemer, King!  
To Whom the lips of children made sweet Hosannas ring.

Thou didst accept their praises; accept the praise we bring,  
Who in all good delightest, Thou good and gracious King.  
All glory, laud, and honor to Thee, Redeemer, King!  
To Whom the lips of children made sweet Hosannas ring.

BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE ----- Dr. Jessica Scott

# HOLY WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH



Maundy Thursday — April 1 at 7:30 p.m.  
Good Friday — April 2 at 7:30 p.m.  
Easter Celebration ~ April 4 at 10:45 a.m.

## UNDIE SUNDAY

We are still collecting **NEW underwear for all ages and sizes.**  
for distribution at our outreach mission sites.  
This week our church will be open (*parlor entrance*)  
on Tues/Wed/Thur, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



## NEW SPRING BIBLE STUDY

### THE GRACE OF LES MISERABLES by Matt Rawle

April 14/15 through May 19/20

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m., with Pastor Michael Atkinson

OR

Thursdays at 6:00 p.m., with Pastor Harry Jenkins

*All sessions will be in the fellowship hall. Drop this form in the collection plate, or call 304-623-3397.*

YES, Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m., beginning April 14th.

YES, Thursdays at 6:00 p.m., beginning April 15th.

YES, I need a study guide.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

