

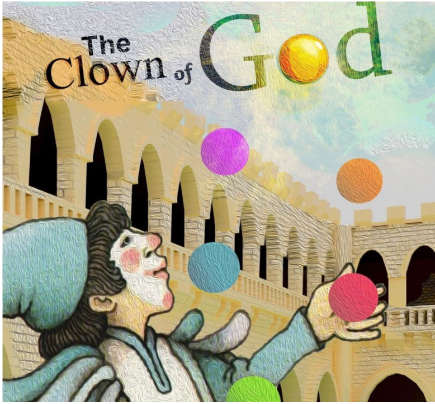
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

117 N. 2nd Street, Clarksburg, WV 26301

Phone: 304.623.3397 email: cfumc@citynet.net

Rev. Michael Q. Atkinson, Pastor

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



September 3, 2023

Morning Worship

10:45 a.m.

WORDS OF WELCOME ----- Rev. Anna Troy

ORGAN PRELUDE ----- Dr. Jessica Scott

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*from Psalm 90*)-----Shelley Spellman, Liturgist

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord, the rock of our salvation.

People: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving and praise.

Leader: For the Lord is our God.

People: We are the people of God's pasture, the sheep of God's hand.

*OPENING PRAYER ----- (*attributed to St. Francis of Assisi*)

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

*HYMN #419-----"I Am Thine, O Lord"

*PASSING OF GOD'S PEACE

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS -----Rev. Anna Troy

MORNING 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 MUSIC -----"Fanfare for Organ and Bells"/G.F. Handel

OFFERTORY PRAYER

All things come from you, O God, and with praise and thanksgiving we return to you what is yours. You created all that is, and with love formed us in your image. When our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You gave your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior, that we might have abundant and eternal life.

And so, in gratitude for all that you have done, we offer ourselves, and all that we have, in union with Christ's offering for us.

By your Holy Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



SCRIPTURE LESSON----- Luke 21:1-4

As Jesus looked up, he saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins.

"Truly I tell you," he said, "this poor widow has put in more than all the others. All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on."

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

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE - - - - - "The Clown of God: An Italian Folk Tale" - - - Rev. Anna Troy
(you are encouraged to use this space for notes)

*HYMN - - - - - "Take Up Thy Cross" /tune: Truro

Take up thy cross, the Savior said, If thou wouldst My disciple be;
Deny thyself, the world forsake, and humbly follow after Me.

Take up thy cross, let not its weight fill thy weak spirit with alarm;
His strength shall bear thy spirit up, and brace thy heart and nerve thine arm.

Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame, nor let thy foolish pride rebel;
Thy Lord for thee the cross endured, and saved thy soul from death and hell.

Take up thy cross and follow Christ, Nor think til death to lay it down;
For only those who bear the cross may hope to wear the glorious crown.

*BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE - - - - - Dr. Scott

If you or someone you know is in the hospital, nursing home, has a need from the church,
or would like a visit, please contact Pastor Atkinson.

**Please feel free to call or send a text to
Pastor Michael Atkinson at 304-771-3309**

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Tuesday, September 5 -- NO Monastic Meal this week (see you on the 12th!)

Thursday, September 7 -- Prayer Shawl Group at 5:00 p.m., in the Parlor

Just a reminder....

The office hours for our new Administrative Assistant, Leah Wray, will be 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Tues/Wed/Thur. Phone -- 304-623-3397.
Leah begins her work with us on Tuesday, September 5th. Welcome, and God bless!

United Methodist Committee On Relief (UMCOR) -- Hawaii



As first responders continue to provide initial aid in the area, please join UMCOR in prayer for those affected.

Gifts can be made in the following ways:

- 1) Online at <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/901670>
- 2) A check payable to FUMC, with memo: "Advance #901670-Hawaii"

**Contact Tammy Matheny at 304-476-2015
If you would like information about our Prayer Chain.**



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First United Methodist Church — Clarksburg



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