

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

117 N. 2nd Street, Clarksburg, WV 26301

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Rev. Michael Q. Atkinson, Pastor

Rev. Anna Troy, Deacon Don Gardner, Director of Music

Dr. Jessica Scott, Organist

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

April 13, 2025

Morning Worship

10:45 a.m.

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Michael Atkinson

ORGAN PRELUDE

Dr. Jessica Scott

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Today, we join Jesus in the final ascent to Jerusalem, knowing the depths we will descend on our journey through Holy Week.

People: **Open the gates of righteousness, that we may come worship God!**

Leader: We join the disciples in declaring that Jesus, riding on a donkey, is our Ruler, the One who will bring peace and salvation for all.

People: **Open the gates of peace, that we may come worship God!**

Leader: We join with the bystanders who questioned and wondered who this Jesus really is, who feared the consequences of angering the powers that be.

People: **Open the gates of truth, that we may come worship God!**

Leader: The journey through Holy Week brings us face-to-face with the stark reality of sin and God's faithfulness to save.

People: **Open the gates of salvation, that we may come worship God whose steadfast love never fails!**

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, September 2024.

***PALM INTROIT**

First Church Children and Adult Choirs

Hosanna, Hosanna; Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna, Hosanna; Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #278

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

*OPENING PRAYER

Leader: God, we gather on this day to begin a week of contrasts.

People: From hope to despair to hope again.

Leader: As we begin the week, as we join with the crowd,

People: Help us cut through the noise to see what is happening, to see what is at stake.

Leader: As the story unfolds,

People: Open us to both the hope and the pain.

Leader: In this time of worship,

People: Prepare us to celebrate, to weep, and to wait. Amen.

Adapted from Rev Gord on his blog, Worship Offerings, <http://worshipofferings.blogspot.ca/>

*PASSING OF GOD’S PEACE

CHILDREN’S MOMENTS

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.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 19:28-40

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, ‘Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, “Why are you untying it?” just say this: “The Lord needs it.”’ So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, ‘Why are you untying the colt?’ They said, ‘The Lord needs it.’ Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, ‘Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!’

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, order your disciples to stop.' He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.'

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

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

“Unexpected Journey”
(you are encouraged to use this space for notes)

Rev. Michael Atkinson

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, With the psalmist, we declare, “Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them!” But we forget that only by your grace can we be righteous. With the crowds, we proclaim, “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!” But we neglect to follow you when you show us the ways to make peace on earth as it is in heaven. With the Pharisees, we notice our siblings doing their best to follow you and command, “Order them to stop!” But we refuse to listen to your command to love our neighbors as you love us. Forgive us, merciful God, and free us to follow Jesus down the road into Jerusalem, confronting the death-dealing powers of this world with the truth of your peace and steadfast love. Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, September 2024.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

“Jubilation” Chancel Choir & Hand Bell Choir
Cathy and Garland Walker, Special Guests

*DOXOLOGY

U.M.H #95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host'
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*HYMN #577

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

*BENEDICTION

*ORGAN POSTLUDE

Dr. Scott

Today's Worship Participants

Liturgist: Jilly Lilly

Ushers: Teresa Gouer, Chloe Ann Chipps,

Altar: Carolyn Yost

Livestream: Mathew Wray

If you or someone you know is in the hospital, nursing home, has a need from the church, or would like a visit, **Please feel free to call or send a text to Pastor Michael Atkinson at 304-771-3309**



Beth Bryant-Barranco
John & Charlene Cathell
Kyle Harris
Harry & Joretta Lewis
Landen Jaggie
Parker Fox
Emma Riddle
Josh Hoban
Diane Davis
Steve Abe
Joy Butcher-Winfree
Susan Wilmerink Hanby
The Children of FUMC

THIS WEEK AT FUMC

- **Tuesday, April 15**—Bell Rehearsal, 10 a.m.
—Monastic Meal, 12:15 p.m. (Seder Supper)
- **Wednesday, April 16**— Final Small Group Study,
11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
- **Thursday, April 17**— Maundy Thursday Service, 7 p.m.
- **Friday, April 18**— Good Friday Service, 7 p.m.

Backpack Ministry

Join us after worship today to assemble the food bags for Nutter Fort Elementary.
A special thank you to the Stonewood Lions Club for their generous donation this month.

First Church goes to the Theater!

King of Kings Animated Film
Cinemark Theaters, Meadowbrook Mall
This evening, April 13 at 3:45 PM
Arrive at 3:30

Easter Flowers

- * **Dedication information is due to the church office by April 16**
- * Flowers are due to the church during Holy Week
Office Hours, April 15-17, 9-1

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scan the QR Code with your mobile phone camera for easy access to our Facebook and YouTube accounts



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