

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

117 N. 2nd Street, Clarksburg, WV 26301

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Rev. Michael Q. Atkinson, Pastor
Dr. Natalie Shaffer, Director of Music
Dr. Jessica Scott, Organist

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



February 8, 2026
Morning Worship
10:45 a.m.

WORDS OF WELCOME

ORGAN PRELUDE *"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"* arr. by W. Held Dr. Jessica Scott

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: People of God, why are you here?

People: We gather to worship with our hearts and our lives.

Leader: People of God, who do you worship?

People: We worship God, who loves us and teaches us to love.

Leader: People of God, how do you worship?

People: We worship God by breaking the bonds of injustice and freeing the oppressed.

Leader: People of God, come, let us worship God, whose glory surrounds us!

People: May our worship demonstrate God's glory in our neighborhood, community, and the whole earth.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, July 2025.

*OPENING HYMN #2236 T.F.W.S.

"Gather Us In"

*PASSING OF GOD'S PEACE

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.

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS "This is Where Children Belong" TFWS #2233

This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshiping throng.
Water, God's word, bread and cup, prayer and song: This is where children belong.

ANTHEM

"Wade in the Water"
African American spiritual, arr. Carl Haywood

Chancel Choir

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 58:1-12

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements, they delight to draw near to God. 'Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?'

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.

Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 5:13-20

‘You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. ‘You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

‘Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Rev. Neil Leftwich

ORGAN OFFERTORY from “Variations on Foundation” by John Eggert

Dr. Scott

*DOXOLOGY

U.M.H #94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*CLOSING HYMN #593

“Here I Am, Lord”

*BENEDICTION

As you have been fed, go to feed the hungry. As you have been set free, go to set free the imprisoned. As you have been received – give. As you have heard – proclaim. And the blessing which you have received from the Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit be always with you. Amen.

Written by Rev. Daniel B. Randall and posted on the United Church of Christ's Worship Ways website, <http://www.ucc.org/worship/worship-ways/>.

Today's Worship Participants

Liturgist: Becky Skidmore

Ushers: Maurice Rhodes, Jack Brandimarte, Tiffany Cleveland, Judy Burns

Altar: Carolyn Yost Livestream: Brian Floyd

Acolyte: Carson 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**



**Kyle Harris
Joretta Lewis
Diane Davis
Robert Winfrey
Jim & Rose Cole
Ted Lemasters
Levi Mitchell**

The Children of FUMC

THIS WEEK AT FUMC

- **Wednesday, Feb. 11** — Bell Rehearsal, 11:00 a.m. — Monastic Meal, 12:15 p.m.
- **Thursday, Feb. 12**—Prayer Shawl group, 5-6 p.m.
- **Sunday, Feb. 15** — Choir Rehearsal, 9:30 a.m.

Join us in the Fellowship Hall today, after worship for the Souper Bowl of Caring lunch and trivia!

Ash Wednesday
There will be a parish wide service at **Quiet Dell UMC on Wednesday, February 18 at 7:00 p.m.**

connect with us



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