

# 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"*

March 2, 2025

Morning Worship

10:45 a.m.



WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Michael Atkinson

ORGAN PRELUDE    "Like the Golden Sun Ascending" by Paul Manz

Dr. Jessica Scott

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Disciples of Christ, today your Savior calls you to come up the mountain and pray. Will you come?

People: **We will go wherever Jesus leads us.**

Leader: Will you follow when Christ's glory overwhelms your senses, and you sit astounded at God's greatness?

People: **We will go wherever Jesus leads us.**

Leader: Will you follow when Jesus won't let you stay on the mountaintop, insisting that you return to the valley where people are hurting and in need of good news?

People: **We will go wherever Jesus leads us.**

Leader: Disciples, come! Let us worship God, whose glory shines on the mountaintop and in the eyes of our neighbors.

People: **Come, let us worship God, whose glory shimmers all around us, even now!**

*Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, August 2024.*

## \*OPENING PRAYER

Lord of the Mountaintop, God of dazzling clothes, be with us when we come down from the height of worship to face a world that didn't see what we just saw in you. Show us what to do.

When demons rage through elementary schools, let it not be said that your disciples could not cast the devil out. When violence threatens to engulf our communities, let it not be said that your disciples cowered in fear or walked on the other side of the road.

When there is peril or fire or flood, let it not be said that your disciples cleared the unwanted junk from their garages and called it charity...  
Lord of the Mountaintop, God of dazzling clothes show us how to be. Change us; transfigure us so that this world might see what we have just seen, and worship you.  
Amen.

*Written by Safiyah Fosua in The Africana Worship Book, Year C (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2008)*

## \*OPENING HYMN #173

“Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”

## CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 9:28-36

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.

Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, ‘Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah’—not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, ‘This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!’ When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord Jesus Christ, God's glory and love shone through you that day on the mountain and you persisted in revealing that glory and love through your words and deeds; through your life of humble service. We hear again these wonderful words of God "You are my Son, the Beloved, listen to him!" We confess our failure to listen to you because of the influence on our lives of the gods of this world. When this happens, our attitudes conceal rather than reveal your glory and your love.

If we conceal your love because our pursuit of other priorities prevents us from seeing and serving people in need:

**forgive us, Lord.**

If we conceal your glory because all we reflect is our own self-centeredness:

**forgive us, Lord**

If we conceal your truth through our lack of credible witness:

**forgive us, Lord.**

If we conceal your justice through our failure to empower those who are powerless:

**forgive us, Lord.**

If we conceal your mercy because of our hard and unforgiving attitudes:

**forgive us, Lord.**

If we conceal your compassion because of our prejudice and intolerance:

**forgive us, Lord.**

Lord Jesus Christ, cleanse our lives of all shameful attitudes of mind and heart so that we reveal your glory in and through all we do and say and are. This we pray in your name and in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

It is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. The good news is that we are not only enlightened by our belief in Christ, we are cleansed and we are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

*Written by Moira Laidlaw on [Liturgies Online](#).*

## \*PASSING OF GOD'S PEACE

## ORGAN OFFERTORY

"Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word" by Paul Manz

Dr. Scott

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 up lifts;

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

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 thanks 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:

Sung Response -----The Faith We Sing #2257 (b)

Holy, holy, holy Lord; God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! 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...

Sung Response -----The Faith We Sing #2257 (c )

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood...

...By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast as his heavenly banquet. 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.

Sung Response -----The Faith We Sing #2257 (d)

Amen. Amen. Amen.

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

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

COMMUNION ANTHEM "Christ Upon the Mountain Peak" / D.M. Gardner

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

\*CLOSING HYMN #77 "How Great Thou Art"

\*BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE "Recession" by CS Lang Dr. Scott

Today's Worship Participants

Liturgist: Amy Gardner

Ushers: Roxane Panarella, Curt Diaz, Jacki Welsh, Jaden Welsh

Altar: Carolyn Yost      Livestream: Robert Skidmore

Communion Steward: Janie Jenkins

Communion Servers: Patty Wilson, Sherri Shank

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**

**The Children of FUMC**

**THIS WEEK AT FUMC**

- **Tuesday, March 4** — Monastic Meal, 12:15 p.m.
- **Wednesday, March 5**— Ash Wednesday Service, Duff St. UMC, 7:00 p.m.
- **Thursday, March 6**—Prayer Shawl group, 5-6 p.m.

Small Group Study—  
“Give Up Something Bad for Lent”

Begins March 12  
Two Class Options:  
Wednesday at 11:00 AM & 6:00 PM  
5 week class, ends April 9th

It's not too late!! Contact the church office to sign up

The Heart banner on the lectern was made by members of the First Church Children's Choir and Children's Church group.

**connect with us**



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**cfumc@citynet.net**

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



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