

Elm Grove United Methodist Church



November 27, 2022

Welcome

Prelude

Anita Chops

Gathering Words

Candle Lighting

One: Advent is a time to wait.

***All:* We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.**

One: During Advent we wait for the light in the darkness.

***All:* We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.**

One: During Advent we wait for freedom from captivity.

***All:* We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.**

One: During Advent we wait for comfort in sorrow.

***All:* We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.**

One: During Advent we wait for power in weakness.

***All:* We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.**

Lighting the Advent Candle

Congregational Singing

"We Wait in Hope" © 2008

We wait in hope for the morning Light, for the love of Christ to illuminate the night.

We wait with joy for the Savior's birth; we wait in hope for peace on earth, peace on earth.

*Hymn

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

UMH #211

*Opening Prayer

God of hope, we come before you full of expectation for what lies ahead.

We are excited about the birth of Christ, but we know there is much to do before this baby arrives.

A house needs to be prepared— a house in our hearts, where your grace may enter.

A people needs to pray— a people longing for peace, that reconciliation may take hold in our world.

A light needs to be turned on— a light of holy love, that we may reflect your glory.

God of new life, prepare our hearts and our lives, that we may wait with joy and hope for the birth of your Son. Amen.

Sharing Joys & Concerns

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.

Offering of Gifts, Prayers, & Tithes

You may mail in your offering or drop it in our locked mailbox that is to the right of our front glass doors.

Special Music

*“Waiting for a King”
Chancel Choir (11:00)*

by J. Martin

Presentation of our Gifts

*Doxology

“In the Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful”

TFWS #2195

*Prayer of Dedication

Thank you, God. Thank you for the wake-up call, reminding us to be ready.

Thank you for not giving up on your vision of peace.

Thank you for the opportunity to gather each week in your house, that we might encourage one another to stay on your path.

And thank you for the opportunity to give these gifts for your ministry, that together we might help the world be ready to receive the Prince of Peace, in whose name we pray. Amen.

*Hymn of Preparation

“Hope of the World”

UMH #178

“Let’s Talk” Time

*Gospel Lesson

Matthew 24: 36-44

Message

Doug Whitecotton

Prayer of Confession

God, we are ready now. We want peace now.

We long to receive the Prince of Peace in our world today.

But don't delay too long, Holy One, for soon we'll be busy with parties, and decorating, and baking, and shopping.

Our lives are crammed so full, we find it hard to calendar you in; we find it hard to locate the time to welcome the Light of the World.

We need your help, O God.

Teach us to set aside our party wardrobes, and clothe ourselves in Jesus Christ.

Guide us into true readiness, even though we do not know the date and time, when true peace will reign.

Wake us up; shake off the cobwebs of our complacency; and take us with you on the path up your holy mountain.

Plant your peace within us, so that each day, each moment, we may be ready for the harvest of your love. Amen.

Words of Assurance

The light of God's love shines brightly! The invitation is given: Come, walk in the light.

*Hymn

"People, Look East"

UMH #202

*Closing Prayer

God in heaven, as we begin this season of Advent, we pray that you will teach us to wait with patience, endurance and trust. Holding to the eternal promises revealed to us through the power of your Word, we ask that you remind us of your everlasting presence. **Amen.**

*Postlude

Anita Chops

"The United Methodist Hymnal" © 1989

"The Abingdon Worship Annual 2013" © 2012

"The Abingdon Worship Annual 2016" © 2015

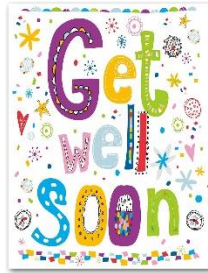
"We Wait in Hope" © 2008

For pastoral care during Pastor Cindy's absence, please contact

Rev. Neil Leftwich

or

Rev. Debra Dague.



If you would like to send Cindy a card, please send it to the parsonage and someone will get it to her. If you need the address, contact Molly in the office.

MISSION OF THE MONTH



GIFT CARDS for VETERANS

WALMART or KROGER gift cards only.

Not ready to attend in-person worship,
but still want to help out our mission group?
You can mail in monetary donations to the church anytime,
just mark the memo line of your check "Mission Group".



December 4th - Worship Services at 8:30am & 11:00am

December 11th - Worship Services at 8:30am & 11:00am

December 18th - Worship Services at 8:30am & 11:00am
Blue Christmas Service - 7:00pm

December 24th - Christmas Eve Service - 7:00pm

December 25th - ONE Worship Service at 10:00am
(No Sunday School classes)



January 1, 2023
ONE Worship Service
10:00am
(No Sunday School Classes)