

Elm Grove United Methodist Church



December 4, 2022

2nd Sunday of Advent

Welcome

Prelude

Anita Chops

Gathering Words

On the journey toward Christmas, God calls: change your hearts, transform your lives, and prepare the way of the LORD!

Candle Lighting

One: Advent is a time to watch.

***All:* We watch in hope for the LORD; O come, Emmanuel.**

One: During Advent we watch for hope in the midst of despair.

***All:* We watch in hope for the LORD; O come, Emmanuel.**

One: During Advent we watch for forgiveness in the midst of rebellion.

***All:* We watch in hope for the LORD; O come, Emmanuel.**

One: During Advent we watch for peace in the midst of conflict.

***All:* We watch in hope for the LORD; O come, Emmanuel.**

One: During Advent we watch for the presence of God in the midst of a fallen world.

***All:* We watch in hope for the LORD; O come, Emmanuel.**

Lighting the Advent Candle

Congregational Singing

"We Wait in Hope" © 2008

**We watch in hope for the morning Light, for the love of Christ to illuminate the night.
We watch with joy for the Savior's birth; we watch in hope for peace on earth, peace on earth.**

*Hymn

"God Almighty, We Are Waiting"

W/S #3047

*Opening Prayer

**Nurture us with the bread of justice.
Strengthen us with wine of compassion and peace.
Shower us with wellspring of hope and promise.
Live in us this day, that we may grow in stature and grace.
In Christ's name, we pray. 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

"Emmanuel"
Chancel Choir (11:00)

by L. Larson

Presentation of our Gifts

*Doxology

"What Gift Can We Bring"

UMH #87, v.1

*Prayer of Dedication

**Bless these gifts, O God, that they may become justice for the poor, deliverance to the needy, and hope to the oppressed.
Bless our gifts, Holy One, that we may grow in your grace, and produce the fruit of your Spirit: Love, peace, hope, and joy. Amen.**

*Hymn of Preparation

"Spirit Song"

UMH #347

"Let's Talk" Time

*Gospel Lesson

Matthew 3:1-12

Message

"Living Into God's Dream"

Rev. Debra Dague

Call to Confession

Saints, let us trust in God's love for us and confess our sin, confident in God's mercy.

Prayer of Confession

Holy Spirit, send your cleansing fire into our lives, that we may bear the fruit of righteousness.

When we create division where peace is most needed, lead us into the ways of life.

When we cling to old patterns that destroy, straighten out the crooked roads of doubt and despair.

When we harden our hearts against love and kindness, soften our hearts so that love guides our paths.

Grant us the peace that passes all understanding, and nourish us with hope and faith, that we might walk in your ways and bear the fruit of your love.

Words of Assurance

Christ is God's branch of mercy and grace—the promise of new life out of death and despair.

In Christ, we are freed to begin anew, and to grow in the love of God!

Holy Communion

*Hymn

"Grace Alone"

TFWS #2162

*Closing Prayer

God in heaven, as we learn to wait in faith, help us now to watch in expectation.

Open our eyes that we might see the ways you are at work around us, within us and through us.

Amen.

*Postlude

Anita Chops

"The United Methodist Hymnal" © 1989

"The Abingdon Worship Annual 2016" © 2015

"We Wait in Hope" © 2008

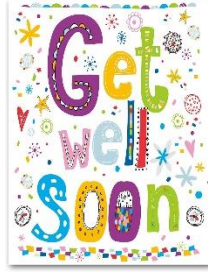
"Worship & Song" © 2011

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



Warm Winter Clothing Items
Hats, mittens, scarves, long underwear

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".



United Women in Faith
Christmas Covered-Dish Luncheon
Dec. 7th @ 12:00pm
ALL ARE WELCOME!



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)