# Elm Grove United Methodist Church



### **January 8, 2023**

**Baptism of the LORD** 

Welcome Prelude

Anita Chops

\*Call to Worship

One: Come, servants of God.

All: God's Spirit has called us here.

One: Come, servants of Love.

All: God's Spirit calls us to justice and peace.

One: Come, followers of Christ.

All: God's Spirit calls us to reconciliation and love.

One: Come, beloved children of God. All: God's Spirit is a blessing for all.

\*Hymn

"When Jesus Came to Jordan"

**UMH #252** 

#### \*Opening Prayer

God of wilderness and water, your Son was baptized and tempted as we are.

Guide us through this season, that we may not avoid struggle, but open ourselves to blessing, through the cleansing depths of repentance and the heaven rending words of the Spirit. 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

"Peace Like a River" Chancel Choir (11:00) by D. Wagner

Presentation of our Gifts

\*Doxology

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

UMH #95

#### \*Prayer of Dedication

Mighty God of love and justice, send your Spirit upon these gifts of personal treasure and worldly wealth; send your Spirit upon our gifts of time and talent.

Breathe into us and into these offerings the newness of your life, the faithfulness of your justice, and the hope of reconciliation and peace. Amen.

\*Hymn

"Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

**UMH #334** 

\*Gospel Lesson

Matthew 3:13-17

Message

Doug Whitecotton

#### Prayer of Confession

Gracious One, wash over us with your baptism of forgiveness and reconciliation.

When we neglect justice; when we cause strife; when we walk away from your path of discipleship, forgive us.

Wash over us with your baptism of forgiveness and reconciliation, that we may be made whole again. Amen.

Words of Assurance

See, the former things have passed away.

In Christ, new hope is declared; grace springs forth; and reconciliation with God is ours for the asking.

Rejoice, for in Christ we are forgiven and made new.

Rejoice, beloved, for God is well pleased to offer us forgiveness in grace and love.

\*Hymn

"Down by the Jordan"

Worship & Song

\*Sending Forth

May God bless you with strength and hope. May God grace you with justice and peace.

Go with these precious gifts of God! **Amen.** 

\*Postlude Anita Chops

For pastoral care please contact:

Rev. Neil Leftwich

or

Rev. Debra Dague.

We are taking down the Christmas decorations  $\underline{\mathsf{TODAY}}$  at 4:30pm.

Any help is appreciated. We especially need people who can lift heavy boxes over their heads into the bell tower.

<sup>&</sup>quot;The United Methodist Hymnal" © 1989

<sup>&</sup>quot;The Abingdon Worship Annual 2014" © 2013

<sup>&</sup>quot;Worship & Song" © 2011

# 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".



January 13 & 14, 6:00pm

See any cast member or the church office for tickets.

Adults \$15.00 & Children (under 8) \$8.00

Get your tickets before they sell out!



# Join us January 29th!

# One worship service at 11:00am

Followed by,

Covered-dish luncheon, fellowship & fun!