

# Elm Grove United Methodist Church



February 12, 2023

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

Welcome

Prelude

Anita Chops

\*Call to Worship

*One:* Happy are those who walk in God's ways.

***All:* Blessed are those who observe God's commandments.**

*One:* Faithful are those whose eyes are fixed on righteousness.

***All:* Joyful are those whose hearts are filled with praise.**

*One:* Come, let us love the LORD our God.

***All:* We come to worship the One who leads us in the ways of life.**

\*Hymn

*"Kum Ba Yah"*

UMH #494

\*Opening Prayer

**Holy Spirit, guide us as we walk in faith, and guard us against the powers that would draw us away from your love.**

**Help us live according to your commandments, that we might live long in the land you have prepared for us.**

**Prompt us to seek you with our whole heart and guide us to walk in your ways, that we may carry out the vows of the covenant we share.**

**May our words and deeds bring life and faith to others, as we hold fast to the gift of faith.**

**Be near us each and every day, and bless us with your light, that our days may be filled with grace. Amen.**

Sharing Joys & Concerns  
Pastoral Prayer

The LORD'S Prayer

UMH #895

**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

Special Music

*"Keep On"*

by L. Larson

*Chancel Choir, Soloists: Sandy Loughman & Brian McCullough (11:00)*

Presentation of our Gifts

\*Doxology

*"Give Thanks"*

TFWS #2036

\*Prayer of Dedication

**Gracious God, as we present these offerings, may we be reminded of the many blessings you have shared with us as individuals, and as a community of believers.**

**You have fed us with the milk of your grace, and have nurtured us with a love that knows no limits or boundaries.**

**May our sharing this day reveal our priorities and our promises, for we belong to you and offer you our gifts, that they may be used in mission and in ministry to bring glory to you, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Amen.**

\*Hymn

*"Freely, Freely"*

UMH #389

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 5:21-37

Message

Doug Whitecotton

*Prayer of Confession*

**Loving God, you call us to walk in your ways, observe your commandments, and love you as you have loved us.**

**You offer us a community of abundant blessing, with rich soil to promote dynamic growth.**

**Yet we often turn away from you to satisfy our own wants and desires.**

**We forsake the way of love and forgiveness, giving in to petty jealousies and quarreling, and surrendering our lofty ideals to our baser inclinations.**

**Forgive us, O God.**

**When we flee from your embrace, draw us into community with you and with one another.**

**Shower us with the cleansing waters of humility, that we may reclaim our purpose and find nourishment and growth in labors of love to bring our kingdom in our midst.**

*Words of Assurance*

God is alive and at work nurturing our growth, nourishing our needs, and reconciling us to one another.

God hears the confessions of our hearts and forgives generously, sharing love with all who follow in God's ways.

It is through God's amazing grace that we are forgiven.

And all God's children respond: **Thanks be to God!**

\*Hymn

*"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"*

UMH #557

\*Sending Forth

As we journey out into the world, may each of us walk in the light of God's ways, striving to be blameless and just.

May our hearts be vessels of God's love and may the LORD bless us in the land that we are entering.

Hold fast. Do not be led astray, and may the love of God be yours this day and forevermore.

Go now in peace. **Amen.**

\*Postlude

Anita Chops

*"The United Methodist Hymnal"* © 1989

*"The Abingdon Worship Annual 2014"* © 2013

# MISSION OF THE MONTH

## Bridge Street Middle School Food Bags

Items needed:

Individual - Microwaveable cups of Mac & Cheese

Individual - Microwaveable cups of Mashed Potatoes

Pop-Tarts, any variety

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".

# **EGUMC**

## **“Yard” Sale**

**March 24th - 4:30 to 7:30pm**  
**March 25th - 8:30am to 4:00pm**

Tables are still available.  
\$15/table  
(\*checks payable to “Troop 29”)

Sign-up in the Narthex or call the office.

*All proceeds benefit Boy Scout Troop 29*

## **THINK SPRING!!!**

The Stewardship Committee is running the annual plant & flower sale this year.

Vegetable & Herb plants (6-packs)  
Succulent Combos (6-packs)  
Landscape Flats (36-packs)  
Hanging Baskets (12-inch)  
Color Bowls (11-inch)

Order forms can be found on the Welcome Desk  
Or  
You can call the office or see Susi Whitecotton.

Sale ends April 2<sup>nd</sup>!!!

Plants will arrive between May 18-28<sup>th</sup>.



The Girl Scouts are selling yummy, scrumptious cookies again!

The order form is on the Welcome Desk

Place your order today!

Pastor Deb will officially be in the office beginning February 13th and she will begin preaching February 19th.

*Please join us on February 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am,  
for a reception to welcome  
Pastor Debra Dague  
to  
Elm Grove United Methodist Church*