

# Elm Grove United Methodist Church



April 23, 2023

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

Welcome  
Prelude

Anita Chops

\*Call to Worship

*Leader:* The day has dawned.

**All: Sing a new song!**

*Leader:* Christ is alive.

**All: Rejoice in new life!**

*Leader:* With open minds and Easter faith,

**All: come to worship God!**

\*Hymn

*“Easter People, Raise Your Voices”*

UMH #304

\*Opening Prayer

**Gracious God, our heavenly Father, we humbly thank you for all your gifts so freely given: for life and health and safety, for work and rest and friendship, and for the wonder of creation.**

**We thank you for preserving throughout history a people for yourself.**

**Above all, we praise you for our Savior, Jesus Christ, for his death and resurrection, for your life-giving Spirit and the hope of sharing in your glory.**

**Fill our hearts with all joy and peace in believing; through Jesus Christ our LORD. 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

Special Music

*"We Will Sing a Song to the Lord"*  
*Chancel Choir (11:00)*

by Price/Besig

Presentation of our Gifts

\*Doxology

*"We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise"*

TFWS #2031

\*Prayer of Dedication

**Gracious God, you have given us the gift of love: love of you, love of Christ, love of one another, love of the world.**

**We offer you this thanksgiving sacrifice, that you might take it and make this offering of love visible for all the world to see. Amen.**

\*Hymn

*"Rule of Life"*

screen only

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 28:5-7

Message

*"Easter is Over! Or, Has It Just Begun?"*

Rev. Debra Dague

*Call to Confession*

We come before God not as despised sinners, but as beloved children.

With the confidence of children of God, let us humbly confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, you walk with us, even when we fail to see; you call to us, even when we fail to hear; you listen for our petitions, even when we fail to speak; you whisper words of love, even when we respond with indifference; you call us to repentance, even when we don't see the need.**

**Forgive us, Holy One. Heal our hardness of heart, that we may turn to you anew.**

**Open our minds to your Spirit, that we may hear your words.**

**Refresh our souls, that we may speak of your love.**

**In the redeemer's name, we pray. Amen.**

*Words of Assurance*

Our God is a redeeming God!

God's promise of redemption is for you and for the healing of the world, through the forgiveness of sins.

Rejoice and be born anew through the living and enduring word of God.

\*Hymn

*"Victory in Jesus"*

UMH #370

\*Sending Forth

Go forth to proclaim new life!

Go forth to proclaim the Risen Christ!

Go forth to feed the world with love! **Amen.**

\*Postlude

Anita Chops

*"The United Methodist Hymnal" © 1989*

*"The Abingdon Worship Annual 2016" © 2015*

*"The Abingdon Worship Annual 2014" © 2013*

*"Worship & Song" © 2011*

*"Book of Common Worship" © 2018*

# MISSION OF THE MONTH

## **The House of the Carpenter**

### **Toilet Paper Paper Towels**

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".



Quarter Auction - May 13, 2023

Doors will open at 11:00am and the auction will begin at 12:00pm.

Admission is \$5.00/paddle & additional paddles are \$1.00/each.

Concession Stand, 50/50 Raffle, Chinese Auction & Door Prizes will be available.

Don't miss this fun event!



DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES  
APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup>

\*Please give all articles to Joyce Kimpel



Do you or someone you know  
have a GOOD & WORKING  
refrigerator they would be willing to donate to the church?

Call the office with details  
304-242-1206