

# Elm Grove United Methodist Church



July 9, 2023

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

Welcome

Prelude

*“Keeper of the Song”*  
*Ladies Chorus*

by J. Martin

*Centering Words*

God showers us with blessings, even when we complain.  
Perhaps especially when we complain. This is good news indeed!

\*Hymn

*“I Come with Joy”*

UMH #617, vs. 1, 4, 5

\*Opening Prayer

**We praise you with joy, loving God, for your grace is better than life itself.  
You have sustained us through the darkness, and you bless us with life in this new day.  
In the shadow of your wings we sing for joy and bless your holy name. 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

*“Wings of Your Love”  
Ladies Chorus*

by Martin & Drennan

Presentation of our Gifts

\*Doxology

*“What Gift Can We Bring”*

UMH #87, v.1

\*Prayer of Dedication

**Gracious God, you provide bread in the wilderness and life-giving waters in the desert.**

**We offer you our thanks and praise.**

**May our gifts and offerings bless your world— that all may be blessed, and all may find purpose and passion, through Christ, our LORD. Amen.**

\*Hymn

*“How Great Is Our God”*

W/S #3003

Epistle Lesson

Philippians 1:13-21

Message

*“I Choose Joy”*

Rev. Debra Dague

Prayer of Confession

**God of infinite patience, O how we love to complain: the journey is too long, we are hungry, we are thirsty, we are tired and want to go home, life isn't fair, this isn't what we signed up for...**

**You've heard it all before, faithful One; you'll hear it all again.**

**Yet, do not forsake us in our grumbling, but shower us with your blessings of old, for we are weary of our own complaining and long to make a fresh start.**

**Open our lips to sing songs of gratitude and we will be reborn.**

**Open our minds to the glories of your love and we will shine like the sun.**

**In your holy name, we pray. Amen.**

*Words of Assurance*

Rejoice, you who seek the LORD.

Count your blessings, not your troubles.

For in acts of gratitude, you will find peace.

\*Hymn

*“Joy in the Morning”*

TFWS #2284

\*Sending Forth

Go forth into the wilderness of life, trusting that we do not journey alone.

Drink God's grace and eat your fill of God's love, for God nourishes us along the way! **Amen!**

\*Postlude

Anita Chops

*"The United Methodist Hymnal" © 1989*

*"The Abingdon Worship Annual 2014" © 2013*

*"The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023" © 2022*

*"Worship & Song" © 2011*

# MISSION OF THE MONTH

Ohio Co. Animal Shelter

Bleach  
Pine-Sol Cleaner  
Dry Dog Food

You may drop your donation at the church during regular office hours or Sunday mornings.

Monetary donations are always welcome,  
just mark the memo line of your check "Mission Group".



**VBS**  
**July 17-20 (4 days only!)**  
**9:00am – 12:00pm**  
**Grades K-5**

**\*Just Added**  
**Adult VBS**  
**July 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**6:00-8:00pm**  
**Dinner provided**

**Pre-Registration available**



**We are still in need of Adult & Teen Help.**  
**Call the office if you or someone you know**  
**would be willing to help.**

To help us plan for VBS, please look over the list of needs below to see if you can provide any of the items. VBS is important, but expensive, so financial gifts are also appreciated.

**Items needed:**

Rice Krispie Treats

Cocoa Rice Krispie Cereal

Graham Crackers

Capri-Sun Drink Pouches

Strawberry or Grape Jelly

Oreo Cookies

Mini-Marshmallows

Hand Wipes

Contact the office for questions:

304-242-1206

[elmgroveumc@comcast.net](mailto:elmgroveumc@comcast.net)

**Christmas Trees**

Can we borrow your Christmas tree for VBS?

We are looking for 7ft. trees or smaller to use for props.

Please label your tree box and tag your tree with your name.

Drop-off at the church any Sunday morning or regular office hours.

Trees will be returned promptly after VBS.

**Thank You!**