Elm Grove United Methodist Church



December 10, 2023

2nd Sunday of Advent

Welcome Announcements

Gathering Words

People of God, dare to hope. Dare to believe.

Hear what God, the Living God, will speak, for God will speak peace to the people. Salvation is at hand for those who say, "Hallowed be your Name."

Prelude Anita Chops

Advent Candle Lighting

Hymn "Christ, Be Our Light!" on screen

Litany

Leader: The Light shines in the darkness, All: but the darkness has not overcome it.

Leader: During Advent our weary souls seek God's daily strength.

All: The LORD gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

Leader: We grow weary when fear overshadows faith.

All: The LORD gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

Leader: We grow weary when destructive actions erupt in the world around us.

All: The LORD gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

Leader: For all of us feeling weary this Advent season:

All: Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act, and the grace of Christ as we speak.

Lighting the 1st & 2nd candles of Advent

Congregation Sings (on screen)

*Hymn

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

UMH #211, vs. 1, 2, 6, 7

*Opening Prayer

LORD, we thank you for when our yoke is easy and our burden is light.

You promise to give those who feel worried, hurried, pressured, and weary deep rest and peace for our souls.

Open our weariness to your words of hope and peace as we worship you.

In Jesus' name we pray. 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

"Sleep Little Lamb" Anita Chops, Alice Runkle & David Waddell by J. Martin (8:30)

"Mary, Did You Know?" Chancel Choir by Lowry & Green (11:00)

Presentation of our Gifts

*Doxology

"In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful"

TFWS #2195

*Prayer of Dedication

Shepherd of love, all you have given us is good: love and justice, peace and righteousness, faith and hope.

May the gifts we now give back to you become gifts of love and justice, peace and righteousness, faith and hope. Amen.

*Hymn "Awa

"Away in a Manger"

UMH #217

Dismissal for Children's Church (ages infant to 5th grade)

11:00am service

Scripture

Luke 2:25-35

Message

"When Christmas Doesn't Go According to the Plan"

Rev. Debra Dague

Prayer of Confession

LORD God, my heart is torn. I want to only focus on you and the birth of your Son, the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and the Prince of Peace.

My mind, however, so easily wanders away from you in my weariness.

Help me, LORD, to redirect my focus back to you.

Let my heart find hope and peace in you this Advent Season. Amen.

Words of Assurance

God will feed you with goodness and grace.

God will give you what is good— mercy and forgiveness, love and acceptance, an eternity of justice and peace.

*Hymn

"There's a Song in the Air"

UMH #249

*Benediction

God of mercy and compassion, scripture says that if we draw near to you, you will draw near to us.

In a shadowy world where human weakness and weariness reside, we ask for you to draw near and dispel the darkness around us.

May the light of this season illuminate our hope, strength, and steadfast endurance as we await the coming Savior.

We pray this in the name of Christ, our LORD. Amen.

*Postlude Anita Chops

December Worship Schedule

17th - 8:30am & 11:00am Sunday Worship 7:00pm Blue Christmas Service

24th - 10:30am Communion Service 7:00pm Christmas Cantata Service

31st - 10:30am Sunday Worship Service

MISSION OF THE MONTH



House of the Carpenter And Street Moms

Hats, Scarves & Gloves



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".

[&]quot;The United Methodist Hymnal" © 1989

[&]quot;The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023" © 2022

[&]quot;Advent Christmas and Epiphany" © 2008

[&]quot;Christ, Be Our Light!" by Bernadette Farrell and Joel Raney © 2013

Nancy King is making church t-shirts again.

If you would like to order a t-shirt, please sign-up at the Welcome Desk in the Narthex.



We are still in need of volunteers for Children's Church/Nursery Care

Please choose a Sunday and sign-up at the Welcome Desk.

We appreciate your willingness to help grow your church.



The United Women in Faith are having a Christmas Luncheon December 14th at 12:00pm.

If you are interested in attending, please sign-up at the Welcome desk in the Narthex.