

Elm Grove United Methodist Church



December 31, 2023

1st Sunday after Christmas Day

Welcome
Announcements

Prelude

Anita Chops

*Call to Worship

Leader: We meet to worship God and to remember, tell, and show God's love.

***All:* Like a bright star in the night sky, the life of Christ lights up the whole world.**

Leader: The star of hope shines on, and no darkness will overcome it.

***All:* The light of Christ shows us who we are and what we can be, where we have been and where we should go.**

Leader: Let us walk in the light and give thanks to God.

*Hymn

"The First Noel"

UMH #245

*Opening Prayer

Infant Christ, star of hope, whose light brought seekers of wisdom and murders with swords, shine among us, here and now, that seekers may be touched by your presence and agents of hate may meet, in us, forgiving, persistent peace in your name. 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

Presentation of our Gifts

*Doxology

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

UMH #94

*Prayer of Dedication

God of the heavens and the earth, we come before you in celebration, bringing gifts for those who cannot celebrate with us.

Our songs of praise are for your name and honor.

May these gifts give others the opportunity to sing praises to your name as they come to know the endless love you have for each of your children. Amen.

*Hymn

"There's a Song in the Air"

UMH #249

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

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 2:1-23

Message

"The Safest Place to Be is Where God Leads Us"

Rev. Debra Dague

*Hymn

"Auld Lang Syne"

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*Sending Forth

People of God, go out!

Cradle in your hearts the great mystery of reconciling love, that it may take root and flourish, within you, among you, and beyond you, through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*Postlude

Anita Chops

"The United Methodist Hymnal" © 1989
"The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023" © 2022
"Advent Christmas and Epiphany" © 2008

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".

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.



Dec. 20 - Jan. 2