

Elm Grove United Methodist Church



January 21, 2024

2nd Sunday after the Epiphany

Welcome
Announcements

Prelude

Anita Chops

*Call to Worship

Leader: God has been our dwelling place in all generations.

***All:* Before the mountains were brought forth,**

Leader: before the earth and sky were formed,

***All:* God was from everlasting to everlasting.**

Leader: We come to worship this day,

***All:* that God may gather us in.**

Leader: We will be close to God's heart,

***All:* and we will dwell in God's grace.**

Leader: We will love God fully,

***All:* and we will love one another well.**

*Hymn

"The Gift of Love"

UMH #408

*Opening Prayer

LORD of the morning we awake to this new day with all of its possibilities, its uncertainties, its many faces, and its underlying mystery.

May we be able— in your strength— to move through this day free of anger or bitterness, so that when we meet our neighbor or encounter the stranger, we may recognize your face. 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

"Answer to Our Prayer"
Chancel Choir

by McDonald/Aspinall
(11:00)

Presentation of our Gifts

*Doxology

"Bless Thou the Gifts"

UMH #587

*Prayer of Dedication

Nurturing God, let us not grow weary in our task of making disciples of Jesus Christ.

We thank you for this opportunity— the offering— to work for the good of all.

We pray especially for this family of faith and for the family of the church universal.

May these gifts of money strengthen our ministry in making and maturing disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Hymn

"Rule of Life"

W/S #3117

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

11:00

Scripture

Matthew 22:37-41 & 28:18-20

Prayer of Confession

God of Mercy, we hear your command to love one another.

These words are easy to say, yet so difficult to do.

If only loving could be as natural as breathing, but it takes work and dedication.

Even when we think we are following you, God, it is easy to get distracted, overwhelmed, turned around, even lost.

We turn to the loud praise of the world, rather than the quiet whisper of your blessing.

We do the simple, the least-resistant, and leave the difficult behind.

Turn us around God. Turn us back to you when we have wandered, when we have suffered, or when we bring suffering on others.

Show us once more what love looks like and send us into the world to try again. Amen.

Words of Assurance

When we lose our way; when we are confused and confounded, God waits with compassion, to turn us back to love, to grace, to God’s own face.

Even before we ask for mercy, God has already forgiven us.

God sweeps away our mistakes and misdeeds and calls us home.

*Hymn

“Go, Make of All Disciples”

UMH #571

*Sending Forth

People of God, go forth into the world.

Love God. Love your neighbors. Love yourselves.

Go forth as people of love. **Amen.**

*Postlude

Anita Chops

“The United Methodist Hymnal” © 1989

“The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023” © 2022

“Worship & Song” © 2011

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.



Please submit your articles, bragging rights, events & pictures to

Joyce Kimpel by Jan. 25th.

Please cover all events through May 15th.

*Call the office if you need Joyce's email.

The 2023 Annual Giving Statements are ready to be picked up.

If you would like your statement, please call or stop by the office during regular office hours.