

Welcome to Elizabethtown United Methodist Church



Sunday, November 12, 2023

Greeting and Announcements

Centering Words

***Call to Worship¹ (Leader part, Congregation part)**

God is from everlasting to everlasting.

The Holy One inhabits all eternity and everything that is, or was, or ever will be.

God is the source, guide, and goal of our lives.

We acknowledge God as the center of our lives and of our world, not ourselves.

We come today to worship God.

We come with thanks and praise.

Let us humble ourselves before God's holy presence.

May God teach us the ways of life as we pray.

Opening Prayer¹

***Opening Hymn**

UMH #454

Open My Eyes, That I May See

Prayer of Confession¹ (Unison)

Christ Jesus, we want to believe in your kingdom – a kingdom that is already, but not yet, in our midst.

It seems so far off as we bear our load of suffering and grief.

Some days it's easier to get discouraged and distracted, even to give in to the long, dark nights of our worries and fears.

**Sometimes it's easier to grow numb and lose hope,
even to forget we even know you.**

We want to trust that you haven't forgotten us.

**We want to wake up and choose to live our lives
inside the rule of your love.**

We want to hope.

**We want to offer wisdom and encouragement to
the generations to come.**

But we need your help.

In your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen

Words of Assurance¹ (Responsive)

Beloved of Christ, get up and get dressed, it is time to
go to a wedding!

Trade your sweats for your fancy clothes.

Kick off our well-worn sneakers and lace up your
dancing shoes!

Christ has already chosen you!

Will you choose to live in Christ's love?

**We choose God's saving love again. We choose
holy joy for our lives. We choose the Risen Christ.**

Halleluia! Amen!

A Time of Thanksgiving and Prayer

Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

***Hymn of Preparation** *UMH #534*

Be Still, My Soul

Scripture: *Matthew 25:11-13*

Message Be Prepared

Offertory

Doxology UMH #95

Offertory Prayer¹

***Closing Hymn** *UMH #368*

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Benediction¹

***Hymn of Sending Forth** UMH# 665

Go Now in Peace

Postlude

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Announcements

- Church Conference & Board Meeting
 - TODAY, 2pm
- EWOWS (yarn group)
 - Saturday, November 25, 10am-noon
- Advent Bible Study!
 - Tuesdays, 7pm-8pm
 - Nov 28, Dec 5, 12,19
 - Studying "An Unlikely Advent"
- Do you have an idea, or need, for a small group?
Let us know
- Do you have anything to add?

Birthdays/Anniversaries

- Birthday
 - Nov. 15 - Hazel Brebberman
 - Nov 17 - Dennis Simpson
- Anniversaries
 - Nov. 12 - Andy & Abby Folke