

Welcome to Elizabethtown United Methodist Church



Sunday, December 1, 2024

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Prelude

Greeting and Announcements

Centering Words

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

As we journey through the Sundays of Advent, listen to the promises of God:

a righteous branch springs forth.

A promise of justice and righteousness,

a promise of safety.

Listen to the promise of Jesus:

the kingdom of God draws near.

Keep alert watch for signs of hope.

Our Advent journey begins.

Opening Prayer¹

Lighting of Advent Candle (Reader parts, Congregation part)

Reader One: From deep in the past, Jeremiah calls to us, “The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah” (Jeremiah 33:14). Beloved, the days are surely coming when the yearning of the land; the longing of the sun, moon, and stars; the desperate need of the people of earth for flourishing and peace will receive their fulfillment.

Congregation: While fear, anxiety, misinformation, and suspicion surround us on every side, we choose to watch and wait in hope, preparing our hearts to notice and cooperate with God’s grace already at work in our midst.

Reader Two: We light this candle of hope as a sign of our commitment to pay attention and prepare for the days that

are surely coming and are already here—the days when God’s kin-dom of love, justice, and mercy will reign.

-Light the first candle of the Advent wreath.

***Opening Hymn**

UMH #694

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Prayer of Yearning¹ (Unison)

Compassionate God, show us your ways.

Guide us in your paths and lead us in your truth.

For your love is faithful, and your will brings us abundant life.

It is easy to be distracted during this busy time of year.

The worries of life threaten to overwhelm us.

Remind us of who we are meant to be: merciful, faithful, patient, and loving.

We will place our trust in you, no matter what happens.

May we forget our past mistakes and live into a future filled with love. Amen.

Words of Assurance¹ (Leader)

Time of Thanksgiving and Prayer

Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Lord’s Prayer

***Hymn of Preparation**

UMH #581

Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service

Scripture:

Jeremiah 33:14-16, Luke 21:25-36

Message

Always on the Watch

Offertory

Doxology

UMH #95

Offertory Prayer¹

***Closing Hymn**

UMH #202
People, Look East

Benediction and Dismissal

***Hymn of Sending Forth**

UMH# 672
God Be With You

Postlude¹

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Announcements

- Hanging of the Greens
 - Today, right after service
- EWOWS (yarn group)
 - Saturday, December 14, 10am-12pm
- Hayride Caroling
 - Saturday, December 14, 6pm
- Community Christmas Tree Lighting
 - Saturday, December 14, 7pm
- Do you have anything to add?

Upcoming Birthdays & Anniversaries

- November 15 - Hazel's Birthday
- November 17 - Dennis' Birthday
- November 25 - Dennis & Denise's Anniversary
- December 12 - Jon's Birthday
- Let us know if we missed your special day

If there's a way the church can serve you, and our community, we want to talk. Call or text us at 513-253-4510.