

CELEBRATION AND WORSHIP

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, 2022

EAGLE GROVE AND GOLDFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES

GATHER

WELCOME

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRELUDE AND BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP ¹

It was the night when love was born. Just as now the world was torn.

But all was calm and all was bright. The star above gave out its light.

Dear people all around the world, let us unite.

We will show how love can change us, how love can help us grow.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

LITURGY OF LIGHTING

PRAYER

Uplifting God, we open ourselves to hear your call today to recognize your love all around us, and also see the potential to add to the love all around us – making our lives, our families, our communities, and our world a brighter place.

Fill us with your love and light, make the world so calm and bright.

***OPENING HYMN**

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

#206

PROCLAIM

DISCOVERING THE LIGHT

O Little Town of Bethlehem, v. 1,

#230

We build our visual in the chancel each week.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE MORNING

John 1:1-5, 14, 16-17

WITNESS TO THE LIGHT

Pastor Alaire

RESPOND

TIME OF PRAYER

Let us take a moment of silence, of calm, in order to center our hearts, let go of those things in our lives that we regret, asking God for the peace and joy of forgiveness. *Silence*

Know this, already your world is a little bit calmer and brighter having offered to God the bits of chaos clouding your life. Now the dark skies give way to beams of light illuminating your way. Move forward into God's future, forgiven and free...

Let us pray together:

Lord, we come to you in a time of coldness and darkness, Looking for warmth and light. There are those whose homes are physically freezing, and there are those whose lives are spiritually chilly.

We know that we can help warm people's homes. We also know you can warm people's lives. We pray that there will be no more gloom for those who were in anguish.

We pray that you lift away people's burdens. We pray you remove the things that oppress from people's lives. We pray you give courage to those who fear.

Lord, your light calls us forth to follow and serve you. Your light still shines for all to see in this world. May we continue to reflect your light in our lives, in our service, in our words and in our deeds. We pray together as Jesus taught:

LORD'S PRAYER

* GIVING OUR TITHES, OFFERINGS AND OURSELVES

*DOXOLOGY

#95

Go

*CLOSING SONG

Love Came Down at Christmas

#242

BEING AGENTS OF JOY IN THE WORLD

*BENEDICTION

Go with God into this day. May the Spirit guide your way.

Offer love to all you greet. Like Christ, see God in all you meet.

*WE FOLLOW THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD.

Bind Us Together

#2226

POSTLUDE

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

*Let us stand in body or in spirit

¹Liturgy today from Worship Design Studio

COMING UP

Wed, Dec 14, 2-5pm, Afterschool for K-4 and Middlers @ EGUMC

5:15-6:15pm – Family Night at EGUMC. Supper, carols, and a Christmas story.

Sat, Dec 17, 7am – Methodist Men meet @ Family Table. Invite a guest.

Tue, Dec 20, 6pm – Longest Night Service at Eagle Grove. The UCC will join us; everyone is invited to come to this time for reflection and remembrance in this season.

Christmas Eve - carols, candles, communion. Worship-5pm at Goldfield, 7pm at Eagle Grove.

There will NOT be worship in-house on Christmas Day. A service presented by our Iowa Conference Cabinet will be available online. The link will be sent to you, and posted on Facebook. Invite your family to join you at a convenient time.

We also will not worship in person on New Year's Day – Pastor will have a brief recorded message on Facebook. January 8, we will gather for a Wesley Covenant Service and Communion.

Pastor Alaire will be on vacation, spending time with her family from 12/25-1/6. Pastoral care has been arranged. Admin Amy Hunt will be on vacation 12/22-1/3. Contact Pat Manues, 515-570-6268 or Boyd/Del Crees, 515-571-7023 in an emergency.

The Eagle Grove UMC office will be open as usual the weeks until Christmas Eve, closing between Christmas and January 3. Plans are for the next newsletter to be sent out the week of January 10.