

## CELEBRATION AND WORSHIP

JANUARY 8, 2023

EAGLE GROVE UMC AND GOLDFIELD UMC

### GATHERING

WELCOME AND SHARING

PRELUDE AND BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

**Those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them has the light shined!**

There was an evening when creation stood still and held its breath,  
for God was doing the most unbelievable, dangerous thing.

**That was the night when God embraced humanity from the inside,  
as one of us, from birth to death.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

**And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.**

**We come to worship our God. Let us raise our voices in joy and love and open our hearts.**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*Hark, the Herald Angels Sing*

#240

**PRAYER FOR THE DAY**

Great God of our lives, you have been faithful in years past. We thank you for your goodness towards us and for your grace which has sustained us. For the gifts of life and vitality, for friends and loved ones, thank you.

Above all, we thank you for Jesus Christ, who is the foundation of our hope and the one who leads us in your way. May your purpose be seen in our lives and your grace and hope shine bright in this world. Through Jesus Christ the Lord, Amen.

**TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

*Remembering a Silent Night*

### PROCLAMATION

**SCRIPTURE AND MORNING REFLECTION** *The Work of Christmas* John 3:16-17, Jeremiah 31:31,33

*A Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition is on pg 607.*

*Below is a 2020 interpretation of that prayer that we will use in the service:*

I am not my own self-made, self-reliant human being. In truth, O God, I am Yours.

Make me into what You will. Make me a neighbor with those whom You will.

Guide me on the easy path for You. Guide me on the rocky road for You.

Whether I am to step up for You or step aside for You;

Whether I am to be lifted high for You or brought low for You;

Whether I become full or empty, with all things or with nothing;

I give all that I have and all that I am for You.

So be it.

And may I always remember that you, O God, and I belong to each other. Amen

## RESPONSE

**\*HYMN OF PREPARATION**     *Come, Sinners, to the Gospel Feast, vs 1*     #616

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**     Full text will be on the screen

*In the UMC, the Lord's Table is open to everyone. You may leave your tithes and offerings in the basket at the front. Come by the center aisle, with open hands and receive. You may stop at the communion rail. Return to you pews via the side.*

The Lord be with you.     **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.     **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise!**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

after each petition, your response is     **We praise your holy name, O God.**

...we proclaim the mystery of faith:     **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Prayer after all have Received

Ever-faithful God...and pray together as Jesus taught us:

**The Lord's Prayer**

**\*CLOSING HYMN**     *Forth in Thy Name, O Lord*     #438

**WE GO TO SERVE**

**BENEDICTION**     *Bind Us Together*     #2226

**POSTLUDE**

### WE GO TO SERVE

Wednesday afterschool will resume on January 18, 2-5pm. All kids, K-8 are invited. Additional adult volunteers will be appreciated...come had have some fun as you get to know some fantastic children and youth. Confirmation will also meet January 18, 5:15pm

Newsletter will be sent out next week, with the list of poinsettias and who gave them. Deadline is Tuesday January 10<sup>th</sup> for articles. It is late this month because of us being on vacation.