

EAGLE GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CELEBRATION AND WORSHIP **ADVENT 1, NOVEMBER 28, 2021**

Welcome

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Centering Prayer and Bringing in the Light

Call to Worship

Can one be homesick for something you've never known?

We are homesick for a just world, for peace like rivers, for the end of suffering.

Yes, we are homesick—

for joy that is contagious, for nations that feel like neighbors, and for hospitals that run empty.

We are homesick for the world God promises.

We are homesick, but we are on our way. God is here. God is still creating. Let us worship God.

Hymn

I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light

#206

Light the Advent Candles

Our Response

to tune: Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence, #626

As we light the candle of hope,

We await the Christ yet to come.

Hoping for a world of shalom,

One where we are closely known.

Christ come to us, upon our earth do dwell,

May we carry hope close to home.

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Gracious God, we find ourselves with two options every day— to stay homesick for the world you had in mind, or to allow cynicism to win. Do we hope against hope, or do we throw in the towel? Do we insist on a better world, or do we assume it's impossible?

Forgive us for the days when cynicism wins. Forgive us for numbing our homesick hurt instead of using it to fuel a better world. Kindle in us a hope that won't let go. Hear our prayer...

Silent reflection...

We are welcomed home. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Special Music

Be Still and Know

Lincoln Bartley

RECEIVING AND RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Scripture and Reflection

Pastor Alaire

The Sacrament of Baptism

Baptism bulletin

Dedication of our gifts and ourselves

We pray together as Jesus taught...

Lord's Prayer

Hymn of Response

See Fig Tree Leaves Now Sprouting

insert

SENT INTO GOD'S WORLD

How we can serve

Benediction

Response as we are sent

Sanctuary

#2164

Postlude

✠✠✠ *We follow the Light of Christ into the World* ✠✠✠

Liturgy today used with permission from *Sanctified Art*. Baptismal liturgy from UMC Book of Worship. Used with permission

COMING UP

Today Following worship, Fellowship time for everyone in the Fireside Room/Chapel.
Alt family dinner in Fellowship Hall

Wed, Dec 1 After school – 5pm, M&M (Methodist Middlers) and Dynamic Disciples (gr K-4), Ed Bldg

Thur, Dec 2 9:30am, United Women of Faith, Fellowship Hall

Sun, Dec 5 10am, Worship with baptisms and communion

Wed, Dec 8 After early dismissal – 5pm, M&M and Dynamic Disciples, extended time with more games and arts and crafts. Snacks, of course.

TO TAKE WITH YOU TODAY, OR WATCH ON FACEBOOK

Daily devotional thoughts are posted each morning on the church Facebook page. If you'd like a printed copy of these, they are available on the Advent table in a basket. Blue cover.

On the table in the back is a copy of a poem related to today's worship, and a print copy of the Advent candle lighting liturgy for you to use at home. Take a copy with you.

Thanks to all who came and helped decorate our sanctuary. We'll be adding poinsettias in mid-December. To order one, contact the Eagle Grove Greenhouse directly.