

EAGLE GROVE AND GOLDFIELD UMC

WE GATHER

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND CENTERING PRAYER

PRELUDE AND BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

***CALLING OURSELVES TO WORSHIP**

Are you awake? Are you alert?

Christ is coming into our lives in a new way.

Are you watching the signs? Are you interpreting what is happening today?

Christ is coming into our lives in a new way.

Do you see opportunities for ministry?

Do you see the poor, the homeless, the hungry, the needy?

Christ is coming into our lives in a new way.

Come, let us worship and let us work in the reign of God.

Christ has extended the invitation: let us work together in the reign of God on earth.

***OPENING HYMN**

Take Time To Be Holy

#395

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord, there never seems to be enough time to do all the things that are demanded of us. Schedules become crowded. We live by the clock. We think we are ready for all events that will come our way. But we are rarely ready for you. We would like you to come to us at a planned time so that we can fit you into our busy lives.

Forgive us, Lord, for trying to make you a scheduled event. We have moved you to a time on our weekly calendars. Yet you are the eternal God who has always loved us and been ready to receive us.

Help us to learn that, with you as our foundation, we can handle anything that comes our way. With you as our focus, all things pale in comparison. Let us look at the priorities in our lives and see where we have placed service to you.¹ *Time of silent reflection*

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

In the deepest darkness, in the times when all seems lost, we are not lost to God. God calls us to be ready for God's new kingdom. In all this God is with us.¹ AMEN.

WE PROCLAIM

SCRIPTURE FOR TODAY

Matthew 25:1-13

REFLECTION

Pastor Alaire

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

WE RESPOND

WE GIVE OUR TITHES, OFFERINGS AND OURSELVES

*DOXOLOGY

#95

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Blessing upon blessing has been given to us, O Lord, from your great bounty. Now we return these gifts to you. Bless these gifts and the lives that they represent and cause them to work for you in this world which you have loaned to us. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.¹

WE GO FORTH

*HYMN OF SENDING

Seek Ye First

#405

WE GO TO PRACTICE LOVE

Ready! Set! Go!

Wait a minute! Ready for what?

The Lord is coming to us. We need to be ready

Just a minute. What is the date? Do you have an arrival time?

That's not important. We just need to be ready!

Listen! That's not the way the world works. You have to plan these things out.

But it is the way the Lord works.

And this "set" business.....what is that all about?

Taking stock of our lives, healing old wounds, reconciling relationships, forgiveness, service to others, most of all practicing God's love as Jesus taught us.

Right now, I have all I can handle. Relationships, old wounds, angers, work for God. I have to see if I can fit it into my schedule. Anyway, won't God give me a little "grace" period?

God has always given you a "grace" period. It is your life!

What do you mean?

God has offered you blessings and given you gifts. God asks you to be ready to serve, to make a choice.

Ready to serve God or my schedule?

Ready to place God first in your life. If you do this, the other things will fall into place.

I need to reconsider the choices I have made.

Choose God. Be ready to Go into God's world to serve.

Ready: the Lord is Coming. Set: Get your priorities in order, placing God first. Go: serve God. I can do that. AMEN.¹

*BENEDICTION

Go Now In Peace

#665

*POSTLUDE

¹Liturgy today from Ministry Matters, a UMC resource

WE GO INTO THE WORLD TO PRACTICE LOVE

Wed, Nov 15 5:15pm Youth Group. (Activities for younger kids on hiatus)

Wed, Nov 16 3pm UWF host fellowship time @ Rotary.

Sat, Nov 18 7am Methodist Men gather at Family Table

Prayer Requests: Mary Derscheid, Charlotte Rasmussen