



Holy Hygge Worship
Seward United Methodist Church
February 12, 2023

Introduction:

Seward UMC will have a winter worship series entitled “Holy Hygge.” Hygge (pronounced HYOO-guh) is a Danish word which means cozy contentment, comfort & well-being. Holy Hygge is the comfort and reassurance we find in faith through our relationship with God, through words of scripture, through church rituals. This series will delve into scripture texts which offer comfort. Fuzzy socks, warm sweaters, and soft blankets are all welcome at worship!

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Passing the Peace

Call to Worship

L: From the chill of winter weather, we seek light and warmth.

P: From the starkness of life today, we seek comfort and reassurance.

L: The God of the cosmos is also the God of this very moment and dwells closer to us than our own breath.

P: God’s steadfast, abiding love brings comfort and light.

L: Thanks be to God.

P: Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

UMH 384

1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down;
fix in us thy humble dwelling;
all thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation;
enter every trembling heart.

2. Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
into every troubled breast!
Let us all in thee inherit;
let us find that second rest.
Take away our bent to sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.

3. Come, Almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

4. Finish, then, thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Common Prayer (adapted from St. Patrick)

May our days be many and our troubles be few.

May all God's blessings descend upon us.

May peace be within us, may our hearts be strong.

May we find what we're seeking wherever we roam.

May the strength of God pilot us, may the wisdom of God instruct us.

May the hand of God protect us, may the word of God direct us.

May thy Salvation, O God, be always ours this day and for evermore.

Amen.

Children's Time

Pastor Jo Ellen Axthelm

Baptism and Reception of Members

Baptism: J.R. & Joey Venekamp

New Members: J.R. & Lindsey Venekamp

Children: Addisyn, Kinley, & Joey Venekamp

Hymn

God Claims You

TFWS 2249

(R) J.R. and Joey, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you, too.

²We your family love you so, we vow to help your faith to grow.

³We are here to say this day that we will help you on your way.

Scripture Lesson John 14:23-27

²³ Jesus answered, "Those who love me will keep my word, and God will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words, and the word that you hear is not mine but is from God who sent me.

²⁵ "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom God will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you.

²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

Hymn

Of All the Spirit's Gifts to Me

UMH 336

1 Of all the Spirit's gifts to me,
I pray that I may never cease
to take and treasure most these three:
love, joy, and peace.

2 The Spirit shows me love's the root
of every gift sent from above,
of every flower, of every fruit,
that God is love.

3 The Spirit shows if I possess
a love no evil can destroy;
however great is my distress,
then this is joy.

4 Though what's ahead is mystery,
and life itself is ours on lease,
each day the Spirit says to me,
"Go forth in peace!"

5 We go in peace, but made aware that,
in a needy world like this,
our clearest purpose is to share
love, joy, and peace.

Scriptural Affirmation of Faith

from the UMH 887

L: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?
Shall tribulation or distress,
or persecution or famine,
or nakedness or peril or sword?

P: No!

**In all things we are more than conquerors
through the One who loved us.**

**We are sure that neither
death nor life,
nor angels, nor principalities,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Prayer Hymn

Spirit Song

UMH 347

¹ O let the Son of God
enfold you with his Spirit and his love.
Let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.
O let him have the things that hold you,
and his Spirit like a dove
will descend upon your life
and make you whole. (R)

² O come and sing this song
with gladness as your hearts are filled with joy.
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name.
O give him all your tears and sadness;
give him all your years of pain,
and you'll enter into life
In Jesus' name. (R)

Refrain

Jesus, O Jesus,
Come and fill your lambs.
Jesus, O Jesus,
Come and fill your lambs.

Sharing Joys and Concerns
Pastoral Prayer/Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory
Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

Almighty God, giver of every good and perfect gift, teach us to offer to you all that we have and all that we are, that we may praise you, not with our lips only, but with our whole lives, turning the duties, the

sorrows, and the joys of all our days into a living sacrifice for you; through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hymn

Jesus, Thine All-Victorious Love

UMH 422

1. Jesus, thine all-victorious love
shed in my heart abroad;
then shall my feet no longer rove,
rooted and fixed in God.

2. O that in me the sacred fire
might now begin to glow;
burn up the dross of base desire
and make the mountains flow!

3. O that it now from heaven might fall
and all my sins consume!
Come, Holy Ghost, for thee I call,
Spirit of burning, come!

4. Refining fire, go through my heart,
illuminate my soul;
scatter thy life through every part
and sanctify the whole.

Benediction

Postlude