



Holy Hygge Worship
Seward United Methodist Church
February 19, 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

Alex Sommerfeld

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

Open the Eyes of My Heart

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You

To see You high and lifted up
Shinin' in the light of Your glory
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy, holy, holy

Holy, holy, holy
We cry holy, holy, holy
You are holy, holy, holy
I want to see you

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 of Dawson Anderson

Hymn

God Claims You

TFWS 2249

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

1. We this day do all agree a child of God you'll always be.
2. We your family love you so, we vow to help your faith to grow.
3. We are here to say this day that we will help you on your way.

Reception of Members – Trent & Paige Anderson

Scripture Lesson Psalm 23

¹The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;

³ he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths

for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I fear no evil,

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff,

they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of God

my whole life long.

Hymn

O Thou, in Whose Presence

UMH 518

1. O Thou, in whose presence my soul takes delight,
on whom in affliction I call,
my comfort by day and my song in the night,
my hope, my salvation, my all!

2. Where dost thou, dear Shepherd, resort with thy sheep,
to feed them in pastures of love?
Say, why in the valley of death should I weep,
or alone in the wilderness rove?

3. O why should I wander, an alien from thee,
or cry in the desert for bread?
Thy foes will rejoice when my sorrows they see,
and smile at the tears I have shed.

4. Restore, my dear Savior, the light of thy face,
thy soul-cheering comfort impart;
and let the sweet tokens of pardoning grace
bring joy to my desolate heart.

5. He looks! and ten thousands of angels rejoice,
and myriads wait for his word.
He speaks! and eternity, filled with his voice,
re-echoes the praise of the Lord.

Sermon “My Comfort by Day and My Song in the Night”

Rev. Dr. Mary Kay Totty

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

Shepherd Me, O God

TFWS 2058

Shepherd me, O God,
Beyond my wants,
Beyond my fears,
From death into life.

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

Goodness, Love, and Mercy

Oh Lord, You're my Shepherd
You make me lie in fields of green
You lead me by the still waters
You restore righteousness to me
Though I walk through the valley
I will fear no evil thing
For You are with me
And You comfort me

Surely goodness, love and mercy
Will follow wherever I go
Surely goodness, love and mercy
Will follow wherever I go
Surely goodness, love and mercy
Will follow wherever I go

I'm gonna dwell in the house of the Lord forever
I'm gonna dwell in the house of the Lord forever
I'm gonna dwell in the house of the Lord forever
Wherever I go

Surely goodness, love and mercy
Will follow wherever I go
Surely goodness, love and mercy
Will follow wherever I go
Surely goodness, love and mercy
Will follow wherever I go

Benediction

Postlude

Alex Sommerfeld