

**ELM GROVE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod**  
**945 Terrace Dr., Elm Grove, WI 53122**  
**Phone (262) 797-2970**

**Rev. Eric C. Skovgaard, Administrative Pastor ♦ Vicar Sam Lee**  
**Rev. Carl J. Egloff, Pastor Emeritus ♦ Miss Stephanie Bahr, Interim Principal**

**Midweek Advent Service**  
**Wednesday, December 2, 2020 – 6:30 p.m.**

**Bells Call to Worship**

**Invocation**

*The sign of the Cross † may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

**Phos Hilarion**

**P** Let my prayer rise before You as incense,

**C the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

**P** Joyous light of glory:

**C of the immortal Father; heavenly, holy blessed Jesus Christ. We have come to the setting of the sun, and we look to the evening light. We sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: You are worthy of being praised with pure voices forever. O Son of God, O giver of life: the universe proclaims Your glory.**

**Hymn**

**357, O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

**1** O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

**4** O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,  
Free them from Satan's tyranny  
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,  
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*

**ref** Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

**5** O come, Thou Key of David, come,  
And open wide our heav'nly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
And close the path to misery. *Refrain*

**2** O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,  
Who ord'rest all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show,  
And teach us in her ways to go. *Refrain*

**6** O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,  
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain*

**3** O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,  
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height  
In ancient times didst give the Law  
In cloud and majesty and awe. *Refrain*

**7** O come, Desire of nations, bind  
In one the hearts of all mankind;  
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,  
And be Thyself our King of Peace. *Refrain*

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**Reading**

**Romans 13:1-10**

<sup>1</sup>Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. <sup>2</sup>Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. <sup>3</sup>For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, <sup>4</sup>for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup>Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. <sup>6</sup>For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. <sup>7</sup>Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. <sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

**(1991 Small Catechism Q&A 49-51, 53)**

**P** What does God forbid in the Fourth Commandment?

**C God forbids us to despise our parents and other authorities by not respecting them or angering them by our disobedience or by any other kind of sin.**

P What does God require of us in the Fourth Commandment?

**C God requires us A. to honor our parents and other authorities by regarding them as God's representatives; B. to serve our parents and other authorities by gladly providing what they need or require; C. to obey our parents and other authorities in everything in which God has placed them over us; D. to love and cherish our parents and other authorities as precious gifts of gifts of God; and E. to show respect to the aged.**

P What promise does God attach to this commandment?

**C ... that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.**

P Does anyone have authority to take another person's life?

**C Yes, lawful government, as God's servant, may execute criminals and fight just wars.**

## Sermon

**"What's the Significance of the Incarnation for Life in the Left-Hand Kingdom"**

## Lord's Prayer

## Prayers for others

## Concluding Prayer

P Lord Jesus, stay with us, for the evening is at hand and the day is past. Be our constant companion on the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope among us, that we may recognize You as You are revealed in the Scriptures and in the breaking of the bread. Grant this for Your name's sake.

**C Amen**

## Benedicamus

P Let us bless the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## Closing Hymn

1 Why should cross and trial grieve me?  
Christ is near  
With His cheer;  
Never will He leave me.  
Who can rob me of the heaven  
That God's Son  
For me won  
When His life was given?

2 When life's troubles rise to meet me,  
Though their weight  
May be great,  
They will not defeat me.  
God, my loving Savior, sends them;  
He who knows  
All my woes  
Knows how best to end them.

5 Now in Christ, death cannot slay me,  
Though it might,  
Day and night,  
Trouble and dismay me.  
Christ has made my death a portal  
From the strife  
Of this life  
To His joy immortal!

## 756, Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me

3 God gives me my days of gladness,  
And I will  
Trust Him still  
When He sends me sadness.  
God is good; His love attends me  
Day by day,  
Come what may,  
Guides me and defends me.

4 From God's joy can nothing sever,  
For I am  
His dear lamb,  
He, my Shepherd ever.  
I am His because He gave me  
His own blood  
For my good,  
By His death to save me.

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## Postlude

## Participants

Presiding Minister  
Organist  
Elder  
Chancel Assistant  
Usher Team on duty

Pastor Eric Skovgaard  
Richard C. Ewert  
Justin Speck  
James Drabiszczak  
Ryan Beckley, Tyler Beckley, Chase Hipke, Connor Hipke,  
Rob Hipke, Tyler Hipke, Thomas Hipke, Peter Holzawart,  
Ian Klein, Michael Klein, Andrew Weymier, Hannah Weymier