

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 ♦ Rev. Aaron J. Reseburg, Associate Pastor
Vicar Sam Lee ♦ Rev. Carl J. Egloff, Pastor Emeritus ♦ Miss Stephanie Bahr, Interim Principal

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Thursday, September 16, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.
Sunday, September 19, 2021 – 8:00 a.m.

Divine Service 4



"O Christ, Wisdom from above, you came to bring peace between man and God. Reap among your people a harvest of righteousness. Create in us peaceable, gentle, and reasonable hearts which are full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. Amen."

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth – Wayne Barlow

Opening Hymn

438 A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

STAND

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.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

STAND

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

STAND

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 37:5-7 (Antiphon Psalm 37:4)

P Delight yourself in the LORD,

C and he will give you the desires of your heart.

P Commit your way to the LORD;

C trust in him, and he will act.

P He will bring forth your righteousness as the light,

C and your justice as the noonday.

P Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him;

C fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices!

ALL Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P Delight yourself in the LORD,

C and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, whose strength is made perfect in weakness, grant us humility and childlike faith that we may please You in both will and deed; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

SIT

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 11:18–20

¹⁸The LORD made it known to me and I knew; then you showed me their deeds. ¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. I did not know it was against me they devised schemes, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, that his name be remembered no more." ²⁰But, O LORD of hosts, who judges righteously, who tests the heart and the mind, let me see your vengeance upon them, for to you have I committed my cause.

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

Psalm

Psalm 54; antiphon: v. 4

P O God, save me, by your name,

C and vindicate me by your might.

P O God, hear my prayer;

C give ear to the words of my mouth.

P For strangers have risen against me; ruthless men seek my life;

C they do not set God before themselves.

P Behold, God is my helper;

C the Lord is the upholder of my life.

P He will return the evil to my enemies;

C in your faithfulness put an end to them.

P With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you;

C I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for it is good.

P For he has delivered me from every trouble,

C and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.

ALL Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Epistle

James 3:13—4:10

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. ¹⁵This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace. ¹What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? ²You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. ⁴You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. ⁵Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, "He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"? ⁶But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

STAND

Alleluia and Verse



Holy Gospel

Mark 9:30–37

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

³⁰[The disciples] went on from there and passed through Galilee. And [Jesus] did not want anyone to know, ³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise." ³²But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him. ³³And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you discussing on the way?" ³⁴But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. ³⁵And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, "If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all." ³⁶And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷"Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

**C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

SIT

Hymn of the Day

437 Our Paschal Lamb, That Sets Us Free

Sermon

“Servant of All!” (Mark 9:30-37)

STAND

Prayer of the Church

Sit

Offering

The Son of God Goes Forth to War – Flor Peeters

(Those who are not communing may place their cards in the offering plate.)

Service of the Sacrament

STAND

Preface

LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

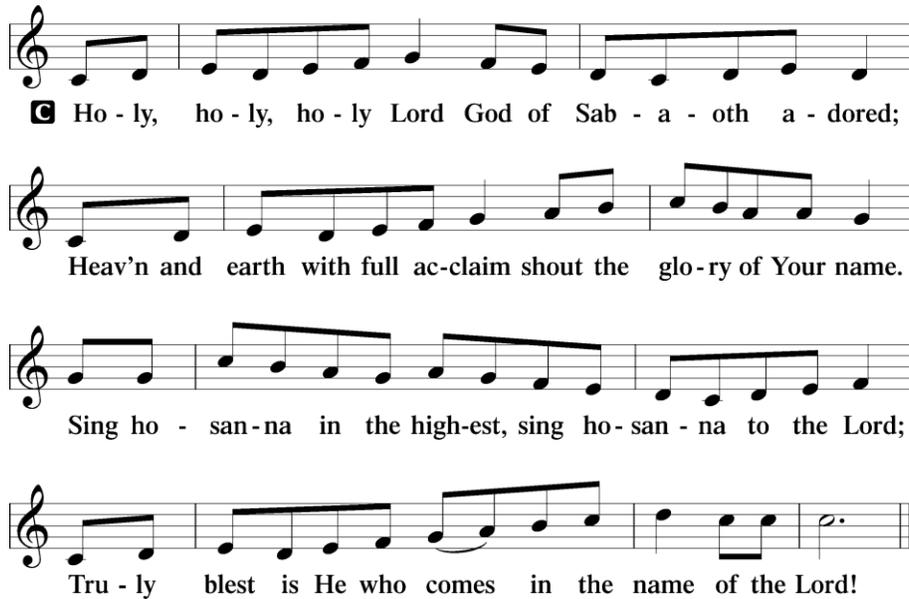
P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
 Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
 Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;
 Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him. We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

C **Our Father who art in heaven,
 hallowed be Thy name,
 Thy kingdom come,
 Thy will be done on earth
 as it is in heaven;
 give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For Thine is the kingdom
 and the power and the glory
 forever and ever. Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Hymns During Communion Distribution

637 Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

628 Your Table I Approach

STAND

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 212

A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn

661 The Son of God Goes Forth To War

Postlude

The Son of God Goes Forth to War – Gordon Young

ALTAR PARAMENTS: The green paraments of the Pentecost season prompt us to remember that our life in Christ is one of growth, as branches connected to the Vine produce good fruit.

ALTAR FLOWERS: Placed by Kevin & Andrea Kysely in honor of their 32nd wedding anniversary

Participants

Presiding Minister
Assisting Minister
Organist
Elder
Chancel Assistant
Usher Team on duty

Pastor Aaron Reseburg
Pastor Eric Skovgaard
Richard C. Ewert

(6:30) Doug Grelk, (8:00) James Aldinger
(6:30) John Schaefer, (8:00) Jim Olson

(6:30) Dan Berry, Aaron DeWitt, Dick Knutson, Caleb Nelson,
Shelly Skovgaard, Athanasius Speck, Jael Speck, Justin Speck,
Henry Van Schaick, Ann Wilcox, Christine Wilcox, Bruce Wilcox

(8:00) Grace Dennis, William Dennis, Matt Diven, Ben Thompson, Aislyn Wegner,
Jake Wegner, Rick Wegner, Ryan Wegner, Lily Wilinski, Jeff Wilinski, Luke Wilinski

(6:30) Nancy Ewert, Sue Schmalzer, (8:00) Arlene Malnar, JoAnn Randall

Altar Guild

ELM GROVE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

945 Terrace Drive, Elm Grove, WI 53122

Phone: 262-797-2970 Fax: 262-797-2977 Website: www.egl.org

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 19, 2021 – Volume 73, Number 9.3

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

Elm Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church Calendar

S	8:00 a.m. Worship (DS4) 9:15 a.m. Bible Study – Hebrews (Nave) 9:15 a.m. Key to Life (229) 9:15 a.m. Sunday School (various rooms) 10:45 a.m. Worship – (SOPP) 7:30 p.m. AA Mtg (CLC)
M	3:00 p.m. Piano Lesson (MC) 5:00 p.m. Public School Confirmation (228) 7:00 p.m. Ganswindt Barbershop Rental (FH) 7:00 p.m. Voters' Assembly
W	10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study (BAAC) 1:00 p.m. Sheepshead Players (BAAC) 7:00 p.m. Exultate Singers (MC)
TH	9:00 a.m. Library Committee (FL) 6:30 p.m. Worship

IN THE LORD'S HOUSE: 222 attended services last Thursday and Sunday in person. **95** households streamed the service for a total of **317**. "Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!"

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHIES: We mourn with the family of Marge Abresch who died last Friday, September 10, at her apartment at Luther Manor. The details for her memorial service are not yet known.

THANKS: We were humbled and amazed by all the people who turned out for the open house to celebrate our golden wedding anniversary Sunday, September 5. Elm Grove Lutheran is truly an exemplary body of Christ in which: "If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together." (1 Corinthians 12:26) Thank you to Pastor Skovgaard for leading the prayers and praises, to all who attended and for the many beautiful cards and messages we received. All praise to our gracious God who has blessed us beyond measure over five decades of marriage and still richly and daily provides us with all we need to support this body and life through the help and support we receive from so many - including you! - Harold and Jane Senkbeil

NEW WOMEN'S GROUP: Please join us! A new women's group is forming and we would love to have you join us. Our first meeting is Thursday, September 23 at 7 p.m. at Cafe Hollander at the Corners of Brookfield. This will be a social and planning meeting to discuss what we'd like to do and how often we should get together etc. I'll bring my ideas but please bring yours along too! Pastor Skovgaard suggested we need a catchy namenot sure that we can beat "Theological Man Cave" but some of you creative ladies might have some ideas? Please RSVP to Deb Weller at 262-290-8665.

OFFICE HOURS

The offices are open Mondays-Fridays, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

SERVICE SCHEDULE

**Thursday, Sept. 23, 6:30 p.m. (Evening Prayer),
Sunday, Sept. 26, 8:00 a.m. (Matins) & 10:45
a.m. (DS4) "The Commander of the LORD's Army"
(Joshua 5:13-15) – Pastor Skovgaard, Preacher**

Key:

CLC – Christian Life Center
FH – Fellowship Hall
BAAC – Bartelt Adult Activity Center
MC – Music Center
FL – Friendship Library

VOTERS' ASSEMBLY will be on September 20 at 7:00 p.m.

FUNDRAISER: Tuesday, October 5, from 4-8 p.m., Chipotle on Bluemound is donating 33% to anyone who shows or references our Elm Grove Lutheran Flyer. For online orders, please enter NZGZFH2 into the promo box to ensure our school gets the percentage donated. Flyers can be found in the back of Church.

PARENTS OF COLLEGE STUDENTS: Pastor Reseburg is looking to connect with your college students. Please email Pastor Reseburg (areseburg@egl.org) with your students mailing address and email address.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY will start on September 12 between services. Pastor Skovgaard will be leading a Key to Life class in Room 228 and Pastor Reseburg will be leading a study on Hebrews in the Nave.

LWML will be packing Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes again to be given to children in need worldwide. Along with a booklet telling of Jesus' life and ministry, new school supplies, hygiene items and small toys are sent. You can help by purchasing Crayola crayons (24 count), pencils, markers, pens, erasers, notebooks, etc and placing them in the LWML box near the blue door entrance. Thank you for your help, now, and in the past! Questions? Call Jean Kruse (262-786-4520) or Carole Braun (262-781-1494).

VOLUNTEERS: We are looking for volunteers to pick up hot lunches from Revere's in Delafield on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and deliver them to the school those days by 11:15 a.m. The kids would really appreciate it! Thank you in advance! We will have a sign-up sheet if you would only like to do a few days here and there. Any day you choose will help us! If you or

someone that you know would be interested, please contact me at sbrown@egl.org.

NEW MEMBER WELCOME RECEPTION: Join us in welcoming new members at a reception this morning. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall between the services and enjoy coffee, juice, and light snacks. Children may grab snacks and head to Sunday School, while adults enjoy an extended fellowship time before Bible Class.

NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY: EGL is updating their pictorial directory. For 3 weeks (Sept. 19, 26, & Oct. 3) a photo station will be set up in the West Fellowship Hall between the services. Stop by, update your directory information, and have your picture taken. *If you are unable to get the family together, or make it in during those weeks, check the October Seasons for details on submitting a photo.

32ND ANNUAL MILWAUKEE AREA LIFECHAIN: Sunday, October 3, 2:00-3:30 p.m. Please join your fellow EGL members as we prayerfully stand in support of the unborn. Young and old alike can participate by standing or sitting and holding the now familiar signs-- Abortion Kills Children, Jesus Forgives and Heals and Abortion Hurts Women. Our location is the northwest corner of Bluemound and Pilgrim. Meet in the North Shore Bank parking lot at 1:50 p.m. Signs will be provided. Please pray for the babies and their families, the LifeChain organizers, all who will stand in the LifeChain and those who will witness it. And finally, please pray for God's mercy on our land. Rescue those being led away to death; hold back those staggering toward slaughter. If you say, "But we knew nothing about this," does not he who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not he who guards your life know it? Will he not repay each person according to what he has done? Proverbs 24:11-12 Please contact Sue Schmalzer, 414-313-3888 with questions.

HURRICANE IDA: We have all seen the images of destruction and disruption from the Gulf Coast due to Hurricane Ida. As the new Executive Assistant to the President for Mission and Mercy, I am learning about the ways we have available to us as a District, individual congregations and individual stewards to respond in an organized manner to assist in the care of our neighbors to the south. Here are the best ways that you can respond: If you would like to make a monetary contribution to the recovery effort: <https://www.lcms.org/givenow/disaster>. If you would like to volunteer your time and efforts: <https://www.lcms-lert.org/> - Rev. Nathan Meador

FLU VACCINE CLINIC is again being offered Oct 10 between services in the Fellowship Hall. This is the normal influenza vaccine and will not offer protection from COVID-19. However, it is still very important to vaccinate in order to stay as healthy as possible during the cold and flu season! Please let JoAnn Randall or Martha D'Agostino know if you will be there. Let us know if you have any questions.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Jacob struggled against man and God for his birthright. On the cross, Jesus struggled against sin and death win our heavenly birthright. Genesis 31:3;32-33

5-8 GRADE YOUTH EVENT AT CUW: Save the date, Saturday, Sept 25, from 9 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Here's a free, yet great opportunity for our young people to wrestle with some of the challenges that our culture is throwing at them. This Servants of Christ Conference -- at Concordia University Wisconsin -- will ground youth in the grace of their baptism, teach them about the doctrine of vocation, give them information about college and careers, and allow them to take part in breakaway sessions led by CUW professors and other guest speakers. These sessions are designed to strengthen their faith and help them to live as servants of Christ in our challenging world. Lunch will be provided at no cost. Registration material will be made available soon. Ask either one of your pastors for additional information.

EDUCATION & EDIFICATION: This week listen to an Issues Etc. podcast on one of the following topics: Growing Up in Nazi Germany and Communist East Germany; A Theology of the Body; St. Michael and All Angels; Vaccine Mandates and more. Grow in your appreciation for how theology (what we believe) affects every aspect of our lives. (www.issuesetc.org)

SERVICES AVAILABLE on YOUTUBE: Because of the efforts of many people, the Sunday services are available on YouTube on Sunday mornings starting at 8:00 a.m. The service folders for each service are available online at www.egl.org in order for you to follow and participate.

KFUO Radio, a media ministry extension of LCMS congregations, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on **KFUO.org** via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. You can find programs on demand at kfuoradio.org and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: **@KFUOradio** on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/kfuoradio), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/kfuoradio), and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/kfuoradio).

PLEASE PRAY FOR and remember these members of EGL who are confined to bed or to their homes. Addresses and telephone #'s are in the church directory.

Zack Horrell
Nina Kaul
Ruth Huwiler
Inge Klammer

Remember those serving in the Armed Forces:

Rebecca (Burhop) Butler – Hawaii
Katherine Leaf – Middle East
Alex Ohde – USS Key West, Guam
Jacob Stolte - Okinawa
Joshua Tesch – Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina

FINANCIAL UPDATE – AUGUST 2021

WE THANK YOU AND PRAISE OUR LORD FOR HIS MANY BLESSINGS AND PRAY FOR FAITHFULNESS FROM EACH STEWARD OF HIS GIFTS.

OFFERINGS RECEIVED IN AUGUST	\$84,985
OFFERINGS ANTICIPATED IN AUGUST	\$84,885

About the Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Theme: The Cross, God's Sign of Love
+ *highlighting the Scriptures for the week* +

The LORD's prophet faced persecution at the hands of His enemies. (Jeremiah) He did not retaliate, but entrusted himself to the Righteous Judge of all. So it is in every age; wherever there is envy and selfish ambition, there is every kind of disorder and evil. (James) Yet those who know the LORD's Christ by faith have the Wisdom come down from heaven: they find peace and mercy in His saving Love. Such love is then extended within the Christian fellowship; they are friends of God, not of the world. Though Jesus was betrayed by the enemies of God, He promised victory in the end. (Mark) So also the cross marks relationships among His disciples; the greatest among them show their greatness in serving all the rest – thus the cross marks the life of all the baptized children of God.

WEEKLY BIBLE READING SCHEDULE

Use the schedule below in your personal devotion. The first three readings are the lessons read today; the last three will be read next Sunday. The Wednesday reading is the psalmody for the week. Each day you may want to pray that psalm or the prayer printed in our service folder today, followed by the suggested reading and your personal requests and thanksgivings to our heavenly Father.

- Sunday** Jeremiah 11:18-20 What were the enemies of Jeremiah plotting? What was their plan? What did Jeremiah pray for in the face of this plot? How did our Savior respond in a parallel way to His enemies? What does this mean?
- Monday** James 3:13-4:10 What is the cause of disorder and evil practices? What characterizes the wisdom coming down from heaven? Who is it that brought such wisdom down to earth? What causes of fights and quarrels among Christians? What is our core problem? What gets in the way of proper prayer? Why is friendship with the world enmity against God? Where and how does the world pull you away from God? Whom does God oppose? To whom does He give His undeserved love (grace)? What does this mean?
- Tuesday** Mark 9:30-37 What did the disciples not understand? Why is this hard to understand? What were the disciples arguing about? What did Jesus teach them about leadership in the church? Who is the greatest in the kingdom? How is Jesus welcomed among the baptized faithful? What does this mean?
- Wednesday** Psalm 54 How was this psalm to be sung (see the heading)? Why (i.e., what is the historical context of this psalm)? In what way(s) was God the "helper" of David? In what way(s) is God your "helper"? How might you, therefore, give thanks to God?
- Thursday** Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29 What were the people of Israel complaining about? How did Moses respond? What was the LORD's solution? Why did the LORD share His Spirit with the elders? For what purpose? Why do we have pastors? How does the LORD carry out His ministry among us?
- Friday** James 5:(1-12) 13-20 What does this section in James teach us about prayer? Is there power in prayer? . . . or in something else? What is the "something else"? What does this mean?
- Saturday** Mark 9:38-50 Who is "against" the Kingdom of God? Who therefore are "for" the Kingdom? What is the motivation for all works of Christian love? Why must sin be dealt with radically? How is this done? What is the preservative ("salt") in every Christian? What is the effect of this salt within the Christian community? What does this mean?