

# **ELM GROVE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod**

**945 Terrace Dr., Elm Grove, WI 53122**

**Phone (262) 797-2970**

**Rev. Eric C. Skovgaard, Administrative Pastor**

*THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD (CHRISTMAS DAY)*

*Wednesday, December 25, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.*

## **Divine Service 2**



EGL WHY Statement: "God has established EGL to proclaim Christ, receiving and sharing His gifts in Word and Sacrament."

**Preservice**

**Go Tell It on the Mountain – For King & Country**  
**Il est né – Betty B. Garee**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude**

**Joy to the World – Alfred V. Fedak**

**Hymn of Invocation**

**387, Joy to the World**

**Confession and Absolution**

**p. 167**

**Introit**

**Psalm 93:1–2, 5; antiphon: Isaiah 9:2**

P The people who walked in darkness

**C have seen a great light;**

P those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,

**C on them has light shined.**

P The LORD reigns; he is robed in majesty;

**C the LORD is robed; he has put on strength as his belt.**

P Yes, the world is established;

**C it shall never be moved.**

P Your throne is established from of old;

**C you are from everlasting.**

P Your decrees are very trustworthy;

**C holiness befits your house, O LORD, forevermore.**

**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 The people who walked in darkness

**C have seen a great light;**

P those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,

**C on them has light shined.**

**Kyrie**

**p. 168**

**Hymn of Praise**

**368, Angels We Have Heard on High**

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**pp. 172**

**Old Testament Reading**

**Isaiah 52:7–10**

<sup>7</sup>How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." <sup>8</sup>The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion. <sup>9</sup>Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. <sup>10</sup>The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual

**Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26**

P To us a child is born, to us a son is given;

**C and the government shall be upon his shoulder.**

P And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

**C Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

P Sing to the Lord a new song,

**C for he has done marvelous things!**

## Epistle

**Hebrews 1:1–6**

<sup>1</sup>Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. <sup>3</sup>He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. <sup>5</sup>For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"? <sup>6</sup>And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## Alleluia and Verse

**Alleluia! Sing Praise BWV 142 – Johann S. Bach**

*Congregation remains seated.*

## Holy Gospel

**John 1:1–16**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

**C Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. <sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. <sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup>(John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") <sup>16</sup>And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Hymn of the Day**

**384, Of the Father's Love Begotten**

**Sermon**

**"Grace Upon Grace" (John 1:16)**

**Nicene Creed**

**p. 174**

**Prayer of the Church**

**Offering**

**Do You Hear What I Hear? – Emily Crocker**

*Offerings from Christmas Day are being designated by the Board of Evangelism to  
A Place of Refuge.*

## **Service of the Sacrament**

### **EGLC Communion Statement**

The Lord's Supper is celebrated here in the glad confidence that those who commune actually eat and drink the true Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in, with, and under the bread and the wine. Only those communicants who believe this and who repent of their sins receive forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. Those who do not believe this or who do not repent of their sins will commune to their harm. Because Holy Communion is a confession of the specific teachings of the faith which is confessed in this congregation, those who are not in agreement with this understanding of the Lord's Supper, or who belong to a religious community that is not in Altar & Pulpit Fellowship with The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, are requested to consult with the presiding minister before communing.

**Preface – Agnus Dei**

**pp. 177-180**

**Hymns During Distribution**

**362, O Sing of Christ  
364, Away in a Manger  
393, Infant Holy, Infant Lowly  
388, Go Tell It on the Mountain**

**Post-Communion Canticle – Benediction**

**pp. 181-183**

*(Post-Communion Canticle: 937, Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace)*

**Closing Hymn**

**380, Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

**Postlude**

**Go Tell It on the Mountain – Victor C. Johnson**

ALTAR PARAMENTS: White paraments adorn the chancel throughout the Christmas season emphasizing God's (white) greatest gift to the world (earth tones), Jesus Christ incarnate.

ALTAR FLOWERS: Placed by Michael & Carrie Marble in loving memory of Russ & Rose Marie Marble. *"I know that my Redeemer lives..."*

### Participants

Presiding Minister

Pastor Eric Skovgaard

Organist

Richard C. Ewert

Handbells

Exultate Ringers

Choir

Exultate Singers

Instrumentalists

Andrew Ewert (Trombone), Benjamin Ewert (Trumpet), Matthew Ewert (Trumpet),  
Samuel Ewert (Saxophone), Kierstan Leaf (Trumpet), Carol Jagusch (Violin),  
Bettina Ruhnau (French Horn), Gene Traas (Keyboard (Harpsichord))

Elder

Paul Haut

Chancel Assistant

Steve Hipenbecker

Usher Team on duty

Aaron DeWitt, Pam Ganswindt, Andrea Kysely, Steve Nelson,  
Shelly Skovgaard, Cathy Tuttrup, Matt Zientek, Mikayla Zientek

Altar Guild

Sherri Bond, Jean Kruse