

# **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**

**THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT**  
*Sunday, December 15, 2024 - 9:00 a.m.*

## **Divine Service 2**



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

## Welcome and Announcements

**Prelude**

**The Advent of Our King – Matthew H. Corl**

**Hymn of Invocation**

**331, The Advent of Our King**

**Confession and Absolution**

**p. 167**

**Introit**

**Psalm 146:5-8 (Antiphon Philippians 4:4)**

P Rejoice in the Lord always;

**C again I will say, Rejoice.**

P Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

**C whose hope is in the LORD his God,**

P who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,

**C who keeps faith forever;**

P who executes justice for the oppressed,

**C who gives food to the hungry.**

P The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

**C The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**

**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 Rejoice in the Lord always;

**C again I will say, Rejoice.**

**Kyrie**

**943 Kyrie — I**

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**pp. 172**

*(Hymn of Praise is omitted during Advent)*

**Old Testament Reading**

**Zephaniah 3:14–20**

<sup>14</sup>Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! <sup>15</sup>The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil.

<sup>16</sup>On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak.

<sup>17</sup>The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. <sup>18</sup>I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. <sup>19</sup>Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. <sup>20</sup>At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the LORD.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## Choral Response

## An Advent Acclamation – Stacey Nordmeyer

### Epistle

**Philippians 4:4–7**

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup>do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### Alleluia and Verse

**p. 173**

### Holy Gospel

**Luke 7:18–28**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventh chapter.

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

<sup>18</sup>The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, <sup>19</sup>calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" <sup>20</sup>And when the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?'" <sup>21</sup>In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. <sup>22</sup>And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. <sup>23</sup>And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

<sup>24</sup>When John's messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>25</sup>What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings' courts. <sup>26</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>27</sup>This is he of whom it is written, "'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'" <sup>28</sup>I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

### Hymn of the Day

**354, Arise, O Christian People**

### Sermon

**"The LORD Rejoices Over You With Singing" (Zephaniah 3:17)**

### Apostles' Creed

**p. 175**

## Prayer of the Church

### Offering

**Arise, O Christian People – Johann Gottfried Walther**



To give to Elm Grove Lutheran Church, you can scan the QR code (left) to go to our online giving site.

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

### Offertory

**p. 176**

## 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**

**345, Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding  
515, Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers  
737, Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing**

### **Post-Communion Canticle - Benediction**

**pp.181-183**

*(Post-Communion Canticle: Nunc Dimittis)*

### **Closing Hymn**

**349, Hark the Glad Sound**

### **Postlude**

**Hark the Glad Sound – Benjamin M. Culli**

ALTAR PARAMENTS: The blue paraments announce a new church year and hope with the coming of the King of Kings – as Baby in Bethlehem, as Savior in Word and Sacrament, and as Judge of all.

ALTAR FLOWERS: Placed by Rev. Harold Senkbeil in thanksgiving for Jane Nessel Senkbeil (Jan 1, 1947 – Dec 20, 2021) who awaits the resurrection in glory. Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord! (Rev 14:13).

### Participants

Presiding Minister  
Organist  
Choir  
Piano  
Elder  
Chancel Assistant  
Usher Team on duty  
  
Altar Guild

Pastor Eric Skovgaard  
Richard C. Ewert  
Exultate Singers  
Karla Bessert  
Rick Wegner  
Jim Olson  
  
Aaron DeWitt, Pam Ganswindt, Andrea Kysely, Steve Nelson,  
Shelly Skovgaard, Cathy Tuttrup, Matt Zientek, Mikayla Zientek  
Helen Moore, Diane Olson

#### **SERVING NEXT WEEK:**

#### **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18 (6:30 p.m.)**

ELDER: John Wolck

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: Kirk Midtbo

USHER TEAM: (Team 2: Chase Hipke, Connor Hipke, Rob Hipke, Thomas Hipke, Tyler Hipke, Carter Klein, Ian Klein, Michael Klein, Ann Wilcox, Christine Wilcox)

#### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22 (9:00 a.m.)**

ELDER: Bruce Bessert

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: John Schaefer

USHER TEAM: (Team 3: Dan Berry, Caleb Nelson, Laura Traas, Aislyn Wegner, Jake Wegner, Randy Wegner, Rick Wegner, Ryan Wegner)

**ELM GROVE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**945 Terrace Drive, Elm Grove, WI 53122**  
**Phone: 262-797-2970 Fax: 262-797-2977 Website: [www.egl.org](http://www.egl.org)**  
**Third Sunday in Advent**  
**Sunday, December 15, 2024 – Volume 76, Number 12.3**  
**The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod**

**Elm Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church Calendar**

S	9:00 a.m. Worship (DS2)	1:00 p.m. Sheepshead Players (BAAC)
	10:30 a.m. Voters' Assembly	5:00 p.m. HA Gym Rental
	10:30 a.m. Sunday School	6:30 p.m. Worship
	7:00 p.m. AA Mtg (FH)	6:30 p.m. Gym Rental
M	5:00 p.m. HA Gym Rental	7:30 p.m. Exultate Singers (MC)
	5:00 p.m. Intrada Ringers (Church)	T 9:30 a.m. Book Discussion Group (BAAC)
T	7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (Romans) (228)	F 6:30 p.m. Board of Evangelism Movie Night (CLC)
	10:00 a.m. Women's Study (Romans) (BAAC)	
	5:15 p.m. Exultate Ringers and Singers (Church)	
W	10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study (BAAC)	

**IN THE LORD'S HOUSE:** There were **165** people that attended services last week in person and **50** households streamed the services for a total of **215**. "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."

**SANCTUARY CHRISTMAS TREES:** Please join us on Saturday, December 21, at 9:00 a.m. to help set up and decorate the EGL Chancel Christmas Trees.

**FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT:** Join us for pizza dinner, drinks, and popcorn with the movie. Friday, December 20, 6:30 p.m. in the CLC. The cost is a free-will offering. We will watch a live-action Christmas musical adventure that combines classic Christmas melodies with humor, faith, and pop songs in a retelling of Mary and Joseph and the birth of Jesus. Feel free to bring a comfy movie chair. RSVP by December 18 to [evangelism@egl.org](mailto:evangelism@egl.org)

**SWD CONVENTION NOMINATIONS:** The South Wisconsin District meets in convention June 9-10, 2025, at Concordia University Wisconsin in Mequon under the theme of "Nicaea at 1700." The regular business of the convention includes the election of officers -- President, regional Vice Presidents, Circuit Visitors, CUW Board of Regents, District Board of Directors, and District Convention Nomination Committee. Nominations for District President and Vice President must be made by congregational action and the nomination forms available on the convention web page must be signed by the President/Chairman and the Secretary of the congregation, by March 10, 2025. These original forms are to be mailed to Secretary Knuth at the SWD office by the appropriate deadline. The other recommendation forms should also be completed, signed, and returned to the District for the other various offices by January 31, 2025. Copies of the instructions and various nomination

forms can be found on the credenza in the back of the nave. You may also go here to read the same material: <https://swd.lcms.org/president/convention.html>

**OFFERING ENVELOPES:** Offering envelopes have been put in Church mailboxes for those individuals/families who have requested them. If you have not received envelopes and would like to have them please let Amy know ([astroh@egl.org](mailto:astroh@egl.org)/262-797-2970). Thank you!

**EGL YOUTH BAKE SALE:** EGL Youth Ministry is holding a bake sale the next 2 Sundays (December 15 and 22) after church in the Friendship Library. Stop by to pick up some sweets and baked goods. All proceeds will support the participants attending the LCMS Youth Gathering in July 2025.

**INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH:** Here's some nice publicity about Pr Lee's work at CUW. We rejoice in this opportunity to see the Gospel proclaimed among international students at CUW (as well as University of Wisconsin-Madison.) <https://blog.cuw.edu/rev-dr-samuel-lee/>

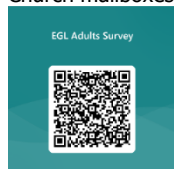
**DEUTSCHE GOTTESDIENST:** Benediction Lutheran Church is sponsoring a German Christmas Service again this year on December 15 at 1:30 p.m. The church is located at 8475 W. Fond du Lac Ave. in Milwaukee. Benediction offers a monthly German service (Gottesdienst) in the afternoons, and a weekly German radio devotion on WJOI 1340 am at 4:30 p.m.

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP:** We plan to meet on Thursday, December 19 at 9:30 a.m. in the BAAC to discuss the book, *The Five Wishes of Mr. Murray McBride* written by Joe Sipel. This will also be our

Christmas party. Rember to bring what you volunteered at the November meeting. Questions? Please call Barb Kurth at 262-345-5083.

**LWML RETREAT:** If you are planning to attend the LWML SWD Winter Getaway, please note that the deadline for reserving rooms at the Cranberry Country Lodge for the LWML room rate is December 31, and the deadline for registering for this retreat is January 17. Check the LWML bulletin board in the lower entrance of the church for details.

**ADULT SURVEY:** The Elders are requesting that adults in our congregation complete a survey. You may complete the survey by following the QR code below or there are hard copies in the back of Church. Please complete them and put them in the red mailbox near the Church mailboxes. Thank you very much for your time!



<b>GROW IN GOD'S WORD IN 2025 – Join an EGL Bible Study!</b>				
<b>Day &amp; Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Open To</b>	<b>Pastor Leader</b>
Sun 10:30-11:30	Sanctuary	Formula of Concord	All	Skovgaard
Tues 7-8 a.m.	Rm 228	Romans	Men	Skovgaard
Tues 10-11 a.m.	BAAC	Romans	Women	Hipenbecker
Wed 10-11 a.m. (except 1 <sup>st</sup> Wed. of Month)	BAAC	Acts	All	Skovgaard
ALSO CALLING ALL HOME BIBLE STUDY GROUPS: If you are willing to invite new members, contact the BOCE so we can promote it and encourage EVERYONE in our EGL family to "let the Word of Christ dwell in ypu richly" (Co.. 3:16) in 2025!				

<b>This Advent Season the Sunday sermons will focus on the Old Testament Prophets while the Midweek sermons will focus on the "I Am" statements of Jesus.</b>		
December 15, 9:00 a.m.	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent	"The LORD Rejoices Over You With Singing" (Zeph. 3:17)
December 18, 6:30 p.m.	Midweek Advent	"I Am the Good Shepherd" (John 10:11, 14)
December 22, 9:00 a.m.	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent	"He Will Be Their Peace" (Micah 5:5)
December 24, 5:00 & 8:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve	"I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life" (John 14:6)
December 25, 10:00 a.m.	Christmas Day	"The Piling Up of Goodness and Mercy" (John 1:16)