

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

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
Sunday, March 9, 2025 - 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

O Christ, You Walked the Road – Raymond H. Haan

Hymn of Invocation

424 O Christ, You Walked the Road

Confession and Absolution

p. 167

Introit

Psalm 91:9-13 (Antiphon Psalm 91:15-16)

P When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble;

C I will rescue him and honor him.

P With long life I will satisfy him

C and show him my salvation.

P Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place

C the Most High, who is my refuge

P no evil shall be allowed to befall you,

C no plague come near your tent.

P For he will command his angels concerning you

C to guard you in all your ways.

P On their hands they will bear you up,

C lest you strike your foot against a stone.

P You will tread on the lion and the adder;

C the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.

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 When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble;

C I will rescue him and honor him.

Kyrie - Collect of the Day

pp. 168-172

(No Hymn of Praise during Lent)

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 26:1–11

¹When you come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance and have taken possession of it and live in it, ²you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from your land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket, and you shall go to the place that the LORD your God will choose, to make his name to dwell there. ³And you shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, 'I declare today to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our fathers to give us.' ⁴Then the priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the LORD your God. ⁵And you shall make response before the LORD your God, 'A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. ⁶And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labor. ⁷Then we cried to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸And the LORD

brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. ⁹And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O LORD, have given me. And you shall set it down before the LORD your God and worship before the LORD your God. ¹¹And you shall rejoice in all the good that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house, you, and the Levite, and the sojourner who is among you."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Hebrews 12:2

P O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus,

C the founder and perfecter of our faith,

P who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame,

C and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Epistle

Romans 10:8b–13

"The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Lenten Verse

p. 173

Holy Gospel

Luke 4:1–13

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness ²for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. ³The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." ⁴And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone.'" ⁵And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, ⁶and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. ⁷If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸And Jesus answered him, "It is written, "'You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.'" ⁹And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰for it is written,

“He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,”¹¹ and “On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.”¹² And Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’”¹³ And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day

544 O Love, How Deep

Sermon

“Tempted For You” (Luke 4:1-13)

Apostles’ Creed

p. 175

Prayer of the Church

Offering

O Love, How Deep – Michael D. Costello



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

422 On My Heart Imprint Your Image



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



That life’s rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev - er may Your work e-raise;



Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



Is my life, my hope’s foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Peer O. Strømme, 1856–1921, alt.
Tune: Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758
Text and tune: Public domain

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

**727 On Eagle's Wings
600 Mark How the Lamb of God's Self-Offering**

Post-Communion Canticle - Benediction

pp.181-183

(Canticle: Nunc Dimittis)

Closing Hymn

718 Jesus, Lead Thou On

Postlude

On Eagle's Wings – John Carter

ALTAR PARAMENTS: Purple paraments suggest the somber, solemn mood of this penitential season while the symbols of torture bring to mind Christ's suffering and death to save us.

ALTAR FLOWERS: Placed by Arlene Malnar in loving memory of husband and father, Don Malnar.

Participants

Presiding Minister

Pastor Eric Skovgaard

Organist

Richard C. Ewert

Elder

John Wolck

Chancel Assistant

James Drabiszczak

Usher Team on duty

Chase Hipke, Connor Hipke, Rob Hipke, Thomas Hipke, Tyler Hipke,
Carter Klein, Ian Klein, Michael Klein, Ann Wilcox, Christine Wilcox

Altar Guild

Karen Clark, Julie Leaf

SERVING NEXT WEEK:

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12 (6:30 p.m.)

ELDER: Paul Haut

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: Steve Hipenbecker

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 16 (9:00 a.m.)

ELDER: Bruce Bessert

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: John Schaefer

USHER TEAM: (Team 4: Tom Brojanac, Ben Ewert, Emily Ewert, Matthew Ewert, Sam Ewert, Peter Holzwart, Ken Schuppner, Duane Wunsch)

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The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

Elm Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church Calendar

S	9:00 a.m. Worship (C)	10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study (BAAC)
	10:30 a.m. Bible Study and Sunday School	5:15 p.m. Exultate Ringers (Nave)
	6:30 p.m. Through the Bible in Two Hours (CLC)	W 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study (BAAC)
	7:00 p.m. AA Mtg (FH)	1:00 p.m. Sheepshead (BAAC)
M	5:00 p.m. Intrada Ringers (MC)	6:30 p.m. Worship
	6:30 p.m. LWML (FL)	6:30 p.m. Gym Rental
	7:00 p.m. Church Council (228)	7:00 p.m. Exultate Singers (MC)
	7:00 p.m. Barbershop Group (FH)	
T	7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (228)	

IN THE LORD'S HOUSE: There were **143** people that attended services last week in person and **112** households streamed the services for a total of **255**. "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."

REGULAR VOTERS' ASSEMBLY: On March 16 will be our regular quarterly Voters' Assembly after the Divine Service in the Nave.

EGL FOUNDATION GOLF OUTING: The EGL golf outing is back! Sponsored once again by the EGL Foundation. This year's *Drive to Thrive* Golf Outing and Dinner will be held on Friday, May 9. We will once again be holding a raffle instead of an auction as well as many other familiar things from years past. Along with various raffle items supplied by generous donors, there will be a wine pull, a chance to win a new iPad, heads and tails, and a dinner catered by Bunzels. If you aren't a golfer, please still join us for the evening festivities, including an amazing dinner! All money raised this year will go toward the roof repairs needed for Elm Grove Lutheran Church. If you are paying by check, please make them payable to the Elm Grove Lutheran Foundation. Sign up today! We look forward to seeing you on May 9!

THROUGH THE BIBLE IN TWO HOURS: We are pleased to announce a partnership with an LCMS Michigan non-profit, THROUGH THE BIBLE

IN TWO HOURS. We aim to "Cast the Gospel Net on the Facebook Net," specifically via Facebook [FB] Ads. These FB Ads' objective is to register people for a 2-hour presentation at our congregation in Elm Grove. The topic is the Bible's Unifying Central Theme. The presentation traces this theme throughout each of the Bible's 66 books. Pray that the Holy Spirit would bless many who want to understand the Bible's message. Our focus is on the "unchurched" and "dechurched," not LCMS members. Please contact the Church Office if you or your LCMS friends want to learn this Biblical Central Theme. Do not use the Registration Portal. Instead, express your interest in seeing the presentation so one can be scheduled. See the website: www.BibleInTwo.org and the Facebook Page: BibleInTwo. You are encouraged there to "Like" and "Follow."

DID YOU KNOW? We are continuing to celebrate EGL's 85th Anniversary Year! On March 19, 1940, we took another major step as a congregation. A Certificate of Incorporation with the Register of Deeds of Waukesha County was filed. Elm Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church would soon be formally accepted as a member of the Missouri Synod. You can join in this celebration! An 85th Anniversary cake will be served at the Lenten dinner on March 19 and also after church on March 23.

LENTEN FREE-WILL OFFERINGS: Thank you so much to the various volunteer groups who are preparing hearty meals for everyone on Wednesday evenings before the services! The free-will offerings received at the meals this year are being collected on behalf of two men in Africa that you've heard mentioned in prayers recently: Bienfait Romero and Jonah Khalid. Bienfait has finished his studies at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Pretoria, South Africa, and his vicarage, and is now back in his home country of the Democratic Republic of Congo, where he is seeking a way to the US where he plans to study at the LCMS seminary in Fort Wayne, IN. Jonah is a Sudanese Lutheran Pastor seeking to build a congregation and a school in the Nuba mountain region of Sudan. These two men have great potential in their service to church and God and we have an opportunity to help.

ALTAR FLOWERS: We are looking for people to sponsor the altar flowers on Sundays. Please contact Amy (astroh@egl.org/262-797-2970) to request a date.

LENTEN DINNER: We are planning to have dinner before the midweek Lenten services. If you or a board, group, or committee that you are a part of would like to sponsor a dinner please let Amy (astroh@egl.org/262-797-2970) know. The available dates are April 2, and 9.

LUNCH BUNCH: It's time to get together again. Let's meet at North Star Bistro, 19115 West Capitol

GROW IN GOD'S WORD IN 2025 – Join an EGL Bible Study!				
Day & Time	Location	Topic	Open To	Pastor Leader
Sun 10:30-11:30	Sanctuary		All	Skovgaard
Tues 7-8 a.m.	Rm 228	Ezekiel	Men	Skovgaard
Tues 10-11 a.m.	BAAC	1Corinthians	Women	Hipenbecker

Drive, Brookfield, on March 20, 11:45 a.m. Let Carole Braun (262-781-1494) know you can join us for good food and fellowship.

SOUTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT FINANCIAL AID applications are **due May 15**. Anyone attending a Concordia University or Seminary, is a member of an LCMS congregation in the SWD, and is preparing to be a full-time church worker (pastor, teacher, deaconess, DCE/DCO, DFLM, DPM, lay minister) is encouraged to apply. There are two applications required (District Financial Aid Application and Personal Aid Application). Both are available on the SWD website – www.swd.lcms.org/AID.

LWML: The evening group is scheduled to meet on Monday, March 10 in the Friendship Library at 6:30 p.m. and will be working on assembling the birthday kits, cutting fabric for the birthday bags and making "recipe cards" for the birthday kits.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP: March 20 at 9:30 a.m. in the BAAC is the date, time, and place for our next meeting. The book to be discussed is ***The Keeper of Hidden Books*** by Madeline Martin. The setting for this book takes place in Warsaw, Poland during World War II with an underground library as resistance to the Nazi occupation of Poland. We welcome new members. Questions? Contact Barb Kurth at 262-345-5083.

Wed 10-11 a.m. (except 1 st Wed. of Month)	BAAC	Acts	All	Skovgaard
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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 you richly" (Co.. 3:16) in 2025!

“ Under the assumption that there are many reasons for attending worship, here are my top 27 reasons for being in church, in no particular order. Perhaps you can add a few of your own ideas? As you think about it, you’ll quickly realize that gathering around God’s Word and Sacrament is the center of our Christian lives, and rightly so.

1. To receive the gifts of God that flow freely and lavishly from His grace.
2. Because you love the habitation of the Lord’s house, the place where His glory dwells.
3. For the sake of evangelism, to bear witness to your family and neighbors that regular worship of the Triune God is important, even when you’d rather sleep in!
4. Because you want to instill in your kids the habit of regular worship attendance.
5. Because you want your children and family members to know that your Pastors love them. (It’s true!)
6. To joyfully give your first fruits offering in person.
7. To get a hug from someone who loves you in Christ when you’re grieving the death of a loved one.
8. To thank God for another year of married life to your favorite person.
9. To find hope in the midst of a troubled marriage or relationship.
10. To sing the songs of the Church that proclaim Christ and Him crucified.
11. To hear the unique gift of Mr Ewert’s virtuosity on the organ.
12. Because you desire to listen attentively to God’s Word for direction in life.
13. To learn by word and example from older Christian men and women what it means to be a godly adult.
14. To look for ways to build up of the Kingdom of God in this place.
15. To thank God for a new job or a successful year at college.
16. Because God’s expects you not to forsake the gathering of the baptized on a weekly basis, and you can’t imagine disobeying God.
17. Because you want to intentionally be an ambassador of reconciliation in a world of conflict, knowing that God has richly forgiven you so that you might forgive others.
18. Because your heart aches for loved ones who have wandered from the Church and you want to lay their names down before God’s throne of grace.
19. To join the young and old in confessing the ancient creeds of the Christian faith.
20. To receive the Body and Blood of the Lord again on your lips for the assurance that the Lord is always with you.
21. To hear the words of absolution spoken into your ears when there’s a sin that troubles you.
22. Because you understand that worship allows you to join angels, archangels, and the whole host of heaven in God’s presence, including the faithful who have gone before us.
23. To sit next to that elderly Christian who is all alone and needs your encouragement.
24. To see young children giggling and squirming in church because it’s a reminder that a new generation will grow up to grasp the baton of faith from you.
25. Because you want to be around people who share the same Biblical values at a time when so much seems up for grabs in society.
26. To thank God with a special offering because He answered an extraordinary prayer request or blessed you financially in a way you didn’t anticipate.
27. Because you know that it encourages your Pastor to see you in worship. :0)

(This partial list of reasons to attend worship is reprinted in part from the July 2022 issue of Seasons.)