

# 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 LENT

Sunday, March 23, 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

What Ordains Is Always Good – Paul O. Manz

### Hymn of Invocation

760 What Ordains Is Always Good

### Confession and Absolution

p. 167

### Introit

Psalm 5:4-8 (Antiphon Psalm 1:16)

P For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,

**C but the way of the wicked will perish.**

P For you are not a God who delights in wickedness;

**C evil may not dwell with you.**

P The boastful shall not stand before your eyes;

**C you hate all evildoers.**

P You destroy those who speak lies;

**C the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.**

P But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house.

**C I will bow down toward your holy temple in the fear of you.**

P Lead me, O LORD, in your righteousness because of my enemies;

**C make your way straight before me.**

**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 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,

**C but the way of the wicked will perish.**

### Kyrie - Collect of the Day

pp. 168-172

*(No Hymn of Praise during Lent)*

### Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 33:7–20

<sup>7</sup>So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup>If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. <sup>9</sup>But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul. <sup>10</sup>And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: 'Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?' <sup>11</sup>Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel? <sup>12</sup>And you, son of man, say to your people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him when he transgresses, and as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall by it when he turns from his wickedness, and the righteous shall not be able to live by his righteousness when he sins. <sup>13</sup>Though I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, yet if he trusts in his righteousness and does injustice, none of his righteous deeds shall be remembered, but in his injustice that he has done he shall die. <sup>14</sup>Again, though I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' yet if he turns from his sin and does what is just and right, <sup>15</sup>if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he

has taken by robbery, and walks in the statutes of life, not doing injustice, he shall surely live; he shall not die. <sup>16</sup>None of the sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him. He has done what is just and right; he shall surely live. <sup>17</sup>Yet your people say, 'The way of the Lord is not just,' when it is their own way that is not just. <sup>18</sup>When the righteous turns from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it. <sup>19</sup>And when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he shall live by them. <sup>20</sup>Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, I will judge each of you according to his ways."

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**

**1 Corinthians 10:1–13**

<sup>1</sup>I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup>and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup>and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup>and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup>Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness. <sup>6</sup>Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. <sup>7</sup>Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play." <sup>8</sup>We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. <sup>9</sup>We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, <sup>10</sup>nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. <sup>11</sup>Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. <sup>12</sup>Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. <sup>13</sup>No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### **Lenten Verse**

**p. 173**

### **Holy Gospel**

**Luke 13:1–9**

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

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

<sup>1</sup>There were some present at that very time who told [Jesus] about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup>And he answered them, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? <sup>3</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. <sup>4</sup>Or those eighteen on whom the

tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.” <sup>6</sup>And he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup>And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ <sup>8</sup>And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. <sup>9</sup>Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Hymn of the Day**

**756 Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me**

**Sermon**

**“A Come-To-Jesus Moment” (Luke 13:1-5)**

**Nicene Creed**

**p. 174**

**Prayer of the Church**

**Offering**

**Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me – David N. Johnson**



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

*This hymn is the center stanza of a twenty-nine-stanza Passion hymn, "Bryder frame, I hule Sukke," by Danish hymn writer Thomas Kingo (1634-1703). Only this stanza of the hymn has found continued usage in English, but some of the other stanzas from Kingo's Passion hymns were used among Danish and Norwegian Lutherans in America in translation. The hymn invites people to ponder Christ's suffering for the sin of the world, to follow on the way to the cross, to see "God's unspotted Lamb lifted on the cursed tree."*

## **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**

**762 There Is a Time for Everything  
752 Be Still My Soul**

**Post-Communion Canticle - Benediction**

**pp.181-183**

*(Canticle: Nunc Dimittis)*

**Closing Hymn**

**765 God Moves in a Mysterious Way**

**Postlude**

**God Moves in a Mysterious Way – Flor Peeters**

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 Kevin and Andrea Kysely in loving memory of Patricia Kysely and Kimberly Radtke.

Participants

Presiding Minister

Pastor Eric Skovgaard

Organist

Richard C. Ewert

Elder

Matthew Stroh

Chancel Assistant

Doug Greik

Usher Team on duty

Anthony Bagwell, Aaron DeWitt, Pam Ganswindt, Andrea Kysely,  
Steve Nelson, Shelly Skovgaard, Matt Zientek, Mikayla Zientek

Altar Guild

Sharon Boudro, Nancy Ewert

**SERVING NEXT WEEK:**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26 (6:30 p.m.)**

ELDER: Mattias Goldenstein

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: Jim Olson

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, MARCH 30 (9:00 a.m.)**

ELDER: Eric Thompson

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: Kirk Midtbo

USHER TEAM: (Team 3: Dan Berry, Caleb Nelson, 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 Lent**  
**Sunday, March 23, 2025 – Volume 77, Number 3.4**  
**The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod**

**Elm Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church Calendar**

S	9:00 a.m. Worship (C)	1:00 p.m. Sheepshead (BAAC)	
	10:30 a.m. "Pericope Plunge" and Sunday School	5:30 p.m. Lenten Dinner (Jambalaya)	
	7:00 p.m. AA Mtg (FH)	6:30 p.m. Worship	
M	5:00 p.m. Intrada Ringers (MC)	6:30 p.m. Gym Rental	
	7:00 p.m. Barbershop Group (FH)	7:00 p.m. Exultate Singers (MC)	
T	7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (228)	T	7:00 p.m. Brookfield Civic Band Rehearsal (FH)
	10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study (BAAC)		
	5:15 p.m. Exultate Ringers (Nave)		
W	10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study (BAAC)		

**IN THE LORD'S HOUSE:** There were **178** people that attended services last week in person and **91** households streamed the services for a total of **269**. "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."

**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!

**VOTE APRIL 1:** Early voting has already started but the actual spring election day is Tuesday, April 1. You can go to this link and find out what's on your local ballot: <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/Whats-On-My-Ballot>. Romans 13 mentions our obligation to submit to the government in our land. Here in the United States that means being

informed and participating in the election of a Wisconsin State Supreme Court justice, local school board members for the public schools, the superintendent for the Department of Public Instruction, a referendum on taxes in the Brookfield area, etc.

**BASKETS OF BLESSINGS 2025:** Would you like to bring some cheer and Easter blessings to a fellow EGL member who finds it difficult to get to church? We will again provide the baskets for you to pick up with the name and contact information, and suggested list of small items on Sunday, April 6 and 13. (Note the new pick up location: Upper level, outside the coffee fellowship area) Please fill them and deliver them before Easter with blessings from all of us. Questions? Please call Barb Thompson (262-784-3886) or Carole Braun (262-781-1494).

**RAMADAN:** This year, as we Christians make our Lenten journey to Easter, the Muslim world, even here in Brookfield, is marking their season of Ramadan. If you'd like to know more about their season of fasting and focusing on the false doctrines of Muhammad, listen to the Issues Etc interview with Pr Hesham Shehab of Peace Lutheran Church in Lombard, IL, on February 28. Ramadan ends on March 30. Of course, this is a great time for us who have our Baptismal identity rooted in Jesus Christ, the Messiah, to pray for them, that our gracious God would open their eyes

in repentance to the person and work of the Son of God for our salvation.

**EASTER BRUNCH FOOD SIGN UP:** Following the 7:00 a.m. Easter morning service, we will be providing an Easter Brunch. If you are able to contribute some of the needed food items or if you are able to help with clean-up after the breakfast, please sign up using this SignUpGenius Link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A4DA8A-D2EA5FD0-55641352-easter>. There is also a paper sign-up sheet available in the back of the church.

**SAVE THE DATE** for a "Better Late Than Never" evening to celebrate and thank EGLS' formally called teachers (ending in June 2024 school year), Amy Weymier, Laura Patterson, and Kenzie (Peters) Peterson. Please mark your calendars for Saturday, June 28, at New Berlin Hills Golf Course. Watch SEASONS and the weekly newsletters for more details.

**EGL STAINED GLASS WINDOWS:** If you haven't noticed yet, the LCMS website has a link to various photos taken at a number of LCMS congregations. Under the title of Treasures of the Church, EGL's own stained glass windows are featured. Have a look here: <https://www.lcms.org/church-art-gallery>. A section of one of our stained glass windows will be featured on the cover of Seasons.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** will not meet on April 20, Easter. Let's celebrate the Lord's resurrection in Church with your family!

**WOMEN'S EVENING BIBLE STUDY:** All women are invited to join us (She Shed gals) in studying "Promised Rest: Finding Peace in God's Presence," by Michelle Diercks. We will meet **every** Wednesday evening starting April 23, 5:30-6:45 p.m. in the BAAC for eight weeks through June 11. We will be flexible to include those who cannot join every week, of course. Each weekly lesson has 5 daily readings. The study is available through CPH or Amazon. Please join us around God's Word, seeking His Peace in Christ together! Ask Nancy Wolck if you have any questions.

**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.

**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](mailto:astroh@egl.org)) know. The available dates are April 2, and 9.

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP:** Thursday, April 17 at 9:30 a.m. in the BAAC is our next meeting. The book to be discussed is *The Aviator's Wife* by Melanie Benjamin. It is historical fiction about Anne Morrow Lindbergh. If you like to read, please join us.

**LWML:** During the month of March, the LWML women of EGL are celebrating our congregation's 85<sup>th</sup> birthday by sponsoring "Birthday Bag Kits". We are asking for the congregation to help with this project by purchasing cake mixes, frosting, and birthday candles. There is a plastic tote near the LWML bulletin board (wall across from the lower Parking lot doors) for you to place your donations. If you happen to have leftover birthday napkins, plates, sprinkles, streamers, etc. taking up space in a closet, we will include those in some of the kits as well. Please place them in the plastic tote along with your other donations.