

# **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**

**Rev. Joshua D. Teggatz, Associate Pastor**

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
HOLY CROSS DAY

Sunday, September 14, 2025 – 9:00 a.m.

## **Divine Service 1**



### **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.

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

### **Children in Worship**

"Let the little children come to me." Jesus delights in faithful parents bringing their children to hear His Word. EGL gladly joins Christ in that joy! Thank you for bringing your children with you to worship! You are welcome to sit wherever you want. While some find it best to sit in the back with their children, for easy access to the cry room, others find their children are better behaved when sitting near the front so that they can see what is happening in the chancel. If your child needs a moment to settle down, ask an usher to point you to the nursery or cry room. But please bring your child back soon so that he or she can be with us as we receive Christ's gifts and as we collectively raise our voice in prayer and song. Be sure to sing the hymns and join the liturgy's responses so that your child learns from you what should be done in church. If you are without children, encourage parents with little ones and offer assistance as needed.

## Welcome and Announcements

### Prelude

**Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us – Emma Lou Diemer**

### Hymn of Invocation

**711 Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us**

### Confession and Absolution

**p. 151**

### Introit

**Psalm 30:2–5; antiphon: vv. 11a, 12b**

P You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;

**C O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever!**

P O LORD my God, I cried to you for help,

**C and you have healed me.**

P O LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol;

**C you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.**

P Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints,

**C and give thanks to his holy name.**

P For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime.

**C Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.**

**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 You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;

**C O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever!**

### Kyrie – Collect of the Day

**pp. 152-156**

*(Hymn of Praise – Gloria in Excelsis)*

### Old Testament Reading

**Ezekiel 34:11–24**

<sup>11</sup>For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. <sup>12</sup>As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup>And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. <sup>14</sup>I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup>I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. <sup>16</sup>I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice. <sup>17</sup>As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. <sup>18</sup>Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture; and to drink of clear water, that you must muddy the rest of the water with your feet? <sup>19</sup>And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet? <sup>20</sup>Therefore,

thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. <sup>21</sup>Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, <sup>22</sup>I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. <sup>23</sup>And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup>And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### **Gradual**

**Psalms 34:9, 19, alt.**

P Fear the LORD, you his saints,

**C for those who fear him lack nothing!**

P Many are the afflictions of the righteous,

**C but the LORD delivers him out of them all.**

### **Epistle**

**1 Timothy 1:12–17**

<sup>12</sup>I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, <sup>13</sup>though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, <sup>14</sup>and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup>The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. <sup>16</sup>But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. <sup>17</sup>To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### **Alleluia and Verse**

**p. 156**

### **Holy Gospel**

**Luke 15:1–10**

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

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

<sup>1</sup>Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them." <sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup>"What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? <sup>5</sup>And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. <sup>6</sup>And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' <sup>7</sup>Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who

repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. <sup>8</sup>Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? <sup>9</sup>And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' <sup>10</sup>Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Hymn of the Day

## 974 Jesus Sinners Doth Receive



1 Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive; Oh, may all this  
 2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet His words, rich  
 3 Sheep that from the fold did stray No true shep - herd  
 4 I, a sin - ner, come to Thee With a pen - i -



say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions  
 grace re - veal - ing, Par - don, peace, and life pro -  
 e'er for - sak - eth; Wea - ry souls that lost their  
 tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, mer - cy show to



live And from God and heav - en wan - der! Here is  
 claim; Here our ills have per - fect heal - ing. Firm - ly  
 way Christ, the Shep - herd, gent - ly tak - eth In His  
 me; Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these



hope for all who grieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.  
 in these words be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.  
 arms that they may live: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.  
 words my soul re - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.

5 Oh, how blest it is to know:  
 Were as scarlet my transgression,  
 It shall be as white as snow  
 By Thy blood and bitter passion;  
 For these words I now believe:  
 Jesus sinners doth receive.

6 Now my conscience is at peace;  
 From the Law I stand acquitted.  
 Christ hath purchased my release  
 And my ev'ry sin remitted.  
 Naught remains my soul to grieve:  
 Jesus sinners doth receive.

7 Jesus sinners doth receive;  
Also I have been forgiven;  
And when I this earth must leave,  
I shall find an open heaven.  
Dying, still to Him I cleave:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.  
Tune: Johann Ulrich, 1634–1712  
Text and tune: Public domain

## **Apostles' Creed**

**p. 159**

## **Sermon**

**"Who Are You?" (Luke 15:1-2)**

*Pr. Skovgaard*

## **Prayer of the Church**

**p. 159**

## **Offering**

**Jesus Sinners Doth Receive – Kristina Langlois**

(After the offering please pass you attendance card toward the center aisle  
to be collected by an usher)

## **Offertory – Agnus Dei**

**pp. 159 – 163**

*The Lord's Prayer sung to LSB 958*

*Refrain*

*All 3 stanzas*

*Refrain*

*Amen Sung*

## **Hymns During Distribution**

**710 The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want**

**839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light**

**550 Lamb of God**

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

**pp.164-166**

*(Canticle – Thank the Lord)*

## **Closing Hymn**

**864 Shepherd of Tender Youth (stanzas 1, 4, & 5)**

## **Postlude**

**Shepherd of Tender Youth – Albert L. Travis**

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 Jim and Diane Olson for blessings received.

## Participants

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

Pastor Skovgaard  
Pastor Teggatz  
Richard C. Ewert  
John Wolck  
Mark Ewert

Sharon Boudro, Kirk Midtbo, Emily Krueger  
Jason Krueger, Diane Olson, Jim Olson, Sam Thompson

### **SERVING NEXT WEEK** **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 (6:30 P.M.)**

ELDER: Paul Haut

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: Steve Hipenbecker

USHER TEAM 1: Anthony Bagwell, Pam Ganswindt, Andrea Kysely, Steve Nelson, Shelly Skovgaard, Cathy Tuttrup, Matt Zientek, Mikayla Zientek

### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 (9:00 A.M.)**

ELDER: Doug Grelk

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: Jim Olson

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

On July 1 EGL embarked on a new adventure -- policy-based governance, which is different from the Abingdon model of board-based governance that we had employed for decades. Lutheran congregations over the centuries have employed different models depending on their needs and resources. What hasn't changed is the relationship between Pastor and people around Word and Sacrament, but the structure for managing the left-hand kingdom, ie finances, property, school administration, etc, can and has changed. In May under our new constitution and bylaws EGL voters elected a new 7-man Board of Directors to oversee the total life of the congregation and her resources. The seven officers on the Board of Directors are: **Ron Harmeyer, James Drabiszczak, Laura Traas, Karla Bessert, Dan Berry, Paul Haut** (representing the Committee of Elders), **and Mark Ewert**. We also elected a 7-man standing Committee of Elders to support and hold accountable the ministry of the Pastors. These seven Elders are: **Paul Haut, Rick Wegner, Matt Stroh, Doug Grelk, Eric Thompson, John Wolck, and Bruce Bessert**.

In addition to these constitutionally mandated officers, there are appointed committees that the Executive has established for the sake of good order and the needed support. Among these committees you'll find the Finance Committee composed of Christine Wilcox, Tyler Hipke, Emily Ewert, and Sue Wilcox (also our comptroller); the Trustees Committee composed of Jim Olson, Peter Holzwart, and Matt Stroh; and the Evangelism Committee composed of Ben Ewert, Paula Kiefer, Shelly Skovgaard, and Meg Grelk. These committees don't have regular meetings as the old boards did, but rather they oversee various projects, advise and report to the Executive. Much of the same work continues to be done as the former boards did, and volunteers are still needed and appreciated; there simply aren't specific terms of office. The number and description of these appointed committees can vary as needs arise.

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**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**Sunday, September 14, 2025 – Volume 77, Number 9.2**  
**The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod**

**Elm Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church Calendar**

S	9:00 a.m. Worship – C	5:15 p.m. Exultate Ringers (MC)
	10:30 a.m. Bible Study	6:30 p.m. EGFD Annual Fire Hose
	10:30 a.m. Confirmation/Sunday School	Testing (Large Parking Log)
	10:30 a.m. Flu Clinic (FH)	W 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study (BAAC)
	7:00 p.m. AA Meeting (FH)	1:00 p.m. Sheepshead (BAAC)
M	1:00 p.m. LWML (BAAC)	7:00 p.m. Exultate Singers (MC)
	5:00 p.m. Intrada Ringers (MC)	T 9:30 a.m. Book Discussion (BAAC)
	7:00 p.m. Barbershop Group (FH)	1:00 p.m. WFLAG Meeting (BAAC)
T	7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (228)	6:30 p.m. Worship – C
	10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study (BAAC)	7:30 p.m. Stammtisch (BAAC)

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**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday – Friday 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

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**IN THE LORD'S HOUSE:** There were **168** people that attended services last week in person and **64** households streamed the services for a total of **232**. "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."

**SAVE THE DATE:** Come and celebrate Pastor Skovgaard's 25 years in the Ministry on October 26 at New Berlin Hills Golf Club. More information will be coming soon.

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL** invites you to join them in their morning Matins service at 7:30 a.m. and their afternoon Vespers service at 3:10 p.m. each school day. Enter through the church office doors please.

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP:** Thursday, Sept 18, at 9:30 a.m., our group will meet in the BAAC to discuss the book, ***Switchboard Soldiers***, by Jennifer Chiaverini.

**LUNCH BUNCH:** Come and join us on Thursday, Sept 18, at 11:45 a.m. at the Outback Steakhouse located at 295 S. Moreland Road in Brookfield for

fun, fellowship and delicious food. Call Barb Kurth at 262-345-5083 to make reservations.

**EGL STAMMTISCH HAS RETURNED:** Guys! Fall's just around the corner...please don't forget to include EGL Stammtisch in your monthly schedule! Take a break and kick back with us on Thursday, Sept 18, from 7:30-9:00 p.m. (ish) for great libation and lively conversation that runs the gamut, but always in a fun, informal atmosphere of Christian fellowship. Perhaps a few new things to enjoy this fall? Come and find out! Join us in the Bartelt Adult Activities Center (BAAC) at EGL. Bring your favorite brew and some snacks to share and a friend! Any questions? Contact Bruce Bessert by phone/text at 414-526-8430, or by email at [bruce.bessert@gmail.com](mailto:bruce.bessert@gmail.com)

**CIRCUIT 5 FORUM:** Newly elected Circuit 5 Visitor Rev David Paape has called a forum for the congregations of the Circuit to be held at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Brookfield on Sunday afternoon, Sept 21. The congregations in our circuit are Elm Grove Lutheran, Brookfield Lutheran, Blessed Savior in New Berlin, Beautiful Savior in Waukesha, Christ the Life in Waukesha,



Peace in Sussex, Lamb of God in Pewaukee, and Immanuel in Brookfield. Forums are usually called for the sake of a specific item of business. At these meetings each congregation has two votes -- a pastoral and lay vote. This forum has been called to elect Circuit 5 delegates to the Synod convention in Phoenix, Arizona next July 18-23 (sic!). Each circuit throughout the Synod is entitled to elect a pastoral and a lay delegate to represent them at the convention. Alternates will also be elected. None of the delegates or alternates, however, can be from the same congregation. Your EGL voting delegates at the Forum are Pastor Skovgaard and Mrs Laura Traas.

**CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM:** I encourage you to listen to the moderated debate between Pastor David Ramirez and Concordia Seminary St Louis Professor Dr Joel Biermann during the Monday, August 25, ON THE LINE podcast. It is long, 2 1/2 hours, but is very good for thinking through the relationship between the Christian and the local community or government. This is not an angry, back and forth, no-holds-barred engagement. Both LCMS men stick pretty close to the center of our Lutheran identity but do offer thoughtful reasons for how we engage the world around us, and what exactly that engagement ought to look like. Here's the YouTube link - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sIru3RAff28>.

**CONSIDER THIS APP FOR DAILY NEWS:** If you'd like to get your news delivered a little bit straighter and from a decidedly Christian perspective, I can recommend the app ***The World and Everything in It.*** Monday through Friday you will find a 25-30 minute report of important news, plus regular segments on the market and economy (Mondays), developments around the world (Wednesdays), and cultural events and movies (Fridays). It is safe to have on in the car while driving kids also.

**HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH EVENT NEXT SUMMER:** After a hiatus of several years EGL is planning to attend another High Things youth conference next summer. Make a mental note of June 23-26 in St Louis. These events are aimed at confirming high school age youth -- those going into high school next fall or even those who will

have just graduated in June. More details to follow. Check out this link for an introductory video: <https://higherthings.org/dcrh/>.

**SUNDAY MORNING ADULT STUDY:** Beginning on Sept 14, Holy Cross Day, your Pastors will begin a new Sunday morning study after the Divine Service on the names/titles of Jesus. Each Sunday morning a different name or title for Jesus will be unpacked, looking at various Biblical passages, as we understand ever more deeply the person and work of Jesus, the eternal Son of God made flesh for our salvation. Your Pastors will take turns leading this class and the youth confirmation class, which meets at the same time.

**LADIES PM STUDY:** "Where Love Abides" based on John 15:1-17. This 8-week study will meet on Wed evenings, 5:30-6:45, in the BAAC, beginning Oct 1 and finishing Nov 19. Join the "She Shed" gals as we dig into scripture together, with LWML speaker Donna Pyle's insights on Jesus as the Vine. Contact Amy to order the workbook as a group (save shipping), but do so by Sept 24. Before the first meeting, an introductory video should be viewed (ask Nancy Wolck for it) and the FIRST week's study completed if possible. Contact Nancy Wolck or Susan Schmalzer with questions. See you on the VINE!

**LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES:** The annual convention for the South Wisconsin District Lutheran Laymen's League/Lutheran Hour Ministries will be held on Saturday, Sept 27, at Peace Lutheran Church in Neenah. LHM Speaker Rev Dr Michael Zeigler will give the keynote address. You can register for this event at [lhm.org/no-sowisc-III](http://lhm.org/no-sowisc-III). You may also reach out to the new President, Mark Roeder, at [rooandsue13@yahoo.com](mailto:rooandsue13@yahoo.com) or 770-891-3978.

**SONG OF SONGS SEMINAR:** Why is the Song of Songs in the Bible? What does it have to do with the Christian life? Come see God's love for you like you've never seen it before with Rev Dr Brian German, Chairman of the Theology Department and Director of the Concordia Bible Institute at Concordia University Wisconsin, on Saturday, Oct 4, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, West Bend. Register for this free seminar at 262-334-0375. A light lunch will be provided.

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