

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

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Sunday, November 30, 2025 – 9:00 a.m.

Matins



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

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending – Timothy Shaw

Opening Hymn

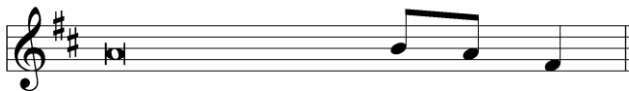
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Versicles

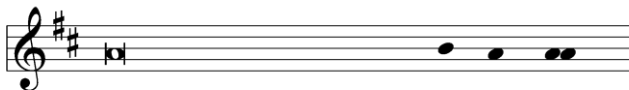
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L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.



Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.

Antiphon



L Behold, the Lord comes to save us.



C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Venite (*Sung*)

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Antiphon



L Behold, the Lord comes to save us.



C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Psalm

Psalm 122

P I was glad when they said to me,

C "Let us go to the house of the LORD!"

P Our feet have been standing

C within your gates, O Jerusalem!

P Jerusalem—built as a city

C that is bound firmly together,

P to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, as was decreed for Israel,

C to give thanks to the name of the LORD.

P There thrones for judgment were set,

C the thrones of the house of David.

P Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!

C "May they be secure who love you!

P Peace be within your walls

C and security within your towers!"

P For my brothers and companions' sake

C I will say, "Peace be within you!"

P For the sake of the house of the LORD our God,

C I will seek your good.

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.

Office Hymn

353 Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring

Reading

Isaiah 2:1–5

¹The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. ²It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, ³and many peoples shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. ⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Reading

Romans 13:8–14

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the

fulfilling of the law. ¹¹Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. ¹²The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Reading

Matthew 24:36–44

³⁶[Jesus said:] "But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. ³⁷As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. ⁴²Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Responsory

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Sermon

"The Suddenness of Christ's Return" (Matthew 24:36-24)

Canticle

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(Canticle – Te Deum)

Offering

Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring – Flor Peeters



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.)

Kyrie – Benediction

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Closing Hymn

341 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Postlude

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates – John A. Behnke

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.

Participants

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

Pastor Eric Skovgaard
Pastor Joshua Teggatz
Richard C. Ewert
Paul Haut
Doug Grelk

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

SERVING NEXT WEEK

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3 (6:30 P.M.)

ELDER: Doug Grelk

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: James Drabiszczak

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7 (9:00 A.M.)

ELDER: Bruce Bessert

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: Mark Ewert

USHER TEAM 4: Tom Brojanac, Ben Ewert, Emily Ewert, Peter Holzwart, Ken Schuppner, Duane Wunsch

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945 Terrace Drive, Elm Grove, WI 53122
Phone: 262-797-2970 Fax: 262-797-2977 Website: www.egl.org
First Sunday in Advent
Sunday, November 30, 2025 – Volume 77, Number 11.5
The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Elm Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church Calendar

S	9:00 a.m. Matins		10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study (BAAC)
	10:30 a.m. Bible Study		5:15 p.m. Exultate Ringers (MC)
	10:30 a.m. Confirmation/Sunday School		6:00 p.m Empower Volleyball (Gym)
	3:30 p.m. Advent by Candlelight (FH)	W	10:00 a.m. LWML (BAAC)
	7:00 p.m. AA Meeting (FH)		1:00 p.m. Sheepshead (BAAC)
M	5:00 p.m. Intrada Ringers (MC)		6:30 p.m. Midweek Advent Service
	6:00 p.m. Empower Volleyball (Gym)		7:30 p.m. Exultate Singers (MC)
	7:00 p.m. Barbershop Group (FH)	T	7:30 p.m. Empower Volleyball (Gym)
T	7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (228)		

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday – Friday 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

IN THE LORD'S HOUSE: There were **150** people that attended services last week in person and **92** households streamed the services for a total of **242**. "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."

THANK-YOU! That's the consensus of messages the Church Office is hearing from those who received cookie care packages. Those recipients included college kids (for whom we had addresses) and homebound members. Several church ladies made the fresh-baked cookies and the Zienteks put the boxes together for mailing. It's always great to be remembered by your Church family, especially at this time of year.

EGL TOWNHALL: We're almost six months into our new governance model. One of the features is that we don't have nearly as many Voters Assemblies because you have entrusted your elected Board of Directors with the direction of the Church. However, in an effort to keep the membership informed, we are scheduling a townhall meeting for Sunday, Jan 11, right after worship to update the congregation on developments and to solicit input.

ADVENT ANTICIPATION: We are now in the Advent season. Per our tradition, Elm Grove Lutheran has changed its midweek service schedule from Thursday evenings to Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. The Wednesday services in December (3, 10, 17) will focus on faith's eager anticipation of our Lord's return in glory, while the Sunday morning services will follow the regular lectionary readings. These midweek services will not be live-streamed, so see you there in person!

ADVENT DEVOTIONS: This year we are again offering congregational members three different Advent devotional booklets, which you can find just outside the west entrance into the nave: "Wait for the Lord" by Rev William Weedon, who is often heard on Issues Etc; "Reflections" by Pastors connected with the youth organization, Higher Things; and "Born to You ... a Savior" by Dr Vo from Lutheran Hour Ministries. May God richly bless your additional study of His Word in this Advent season!

AI WONDERS: It's not possible to walk away from this video without a sense of amazement. If you're curious what AI is capable of -- and I'm a complete greenhorn here -- listen to this interview between Calvin Smith, a Christian apologist, and Grok4, Elon

Musk's AI platform. Elon says its knowledge base is better than all PhDs in their fields at the same time. At one level, as an old guy, I am fascinated by the sheer depth of conversation that can be had here with a "machine". This is light years beyond what I expected. Yes, a hologram is added to convey the sense of two individuals talking. As a Christian, however, I love hearing this particular conversation on the likelihood of abiogenesis or chemical evolution. Smith frames his questions to Grok4 with these parameters: mathematical probability, observational science, and strict logic. Assuming no one is pulling the wool over our eyes, the answers Grok4 gives are stunning.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ga7m14CAymo>

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP: Meet the BAAC on Thursday, December 18 at 9:30 a.m. to discuss the book, ***The Santa Suit***, by Mary Kay Andrews. The plot revolves around a decades old Santa Suit found in a recently purchased farm house by the new owner who finds a note from a young girl in the pocket of the suit asking for her daddy to come home from war. We will also have our Christmas Party at this meeting.

LWML: The morning group of LWML will meet on Wednesday, December 3 at 10:00 a.m. in the BAAC for its Christmas party. Instead of a Bible study, we will all participate in a Christmas devotion with singing of Christmas songs, reading scripture verses, reading of Jesus' birth in Luke 2 and praying. For the luncheon, each lady is asked to bring 6 cookies and a sandwich. We look forward to sharing the joy of the Christmas season.

CONCORDIA PUBLISHING HOUSE is having their annual Black Friday sale running now through December 1, with sales on resources for all ages. One new resource is a Bible Study workbook series that outlines the larger blue Concordia Commentaries (some of which are in our church library). The first workbook, Matthew 1:1-11:1, is available and on sale for \$14.99. This would be a great resource if you'd like a chance to slowly work through a gospel, getting some historical context, textual insights, connections to other portions of God's Word, and room for journaling/reflection.

VISITATION TEAM: We are hoping to begin a visitation team here at EGL, where team members make visits with our homebound and other members who are in need of emotional and spiritual support. In many cases, these dear members of our church simply need a listening ear and a tangible, ongoing connection to our life together as a congregation. If this is an opportunity that interests you or simply something you'd like to learn more about, there will be an informational gathering on **Tuesday, December 9 at 6:30 p.m.** in the church office conference room. We hope to see you there!

THE LUTHERAN A CAPPELLA CHOIR OF MILWAUKEE presents *"The Glorias of Christmas,"* featuring "Gloria" by Antonio Vivaldi, accompanied by chamber orchestra and Richard Ewert. There are two performances: Friday, December 5, at 7:30 p.m., St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, 12700 W Howard Ave, New Berlin, WI 53151 and Sunday, December 7, at 3:00 p.m. Mount Carmel Lutheran Church, 8424 W Center St., Milwaukee, WI 53222. Tickets are \$20 and students are FREE with an ID. Tickets are available for purchase in advance or at the door. <https://lutheranacappella.org/>

VERSITI BLOOD DRIVE RESULTS: Thank you for your blood donation. We had a very successful blood drive Wednesday, November 12, 2025. There were 27 registered donors; 27 units of blood were collected. One unit can impact as many as three lives, meaning EGL's blood drive will impact as many as 81 lives. Next blood drive is Thursday, February 26, 2026, 2:00-6:30 P.M. Please schedule your appointment online using the QR below or contact Rick Ewert 262.289.9333 / BloodDrive@egl.org

