

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. Tegatz, Associate Pastor



FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Sunday, March 22, 2026 – 9:00 a.m.

Divine Service 3

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."

Lenten Services

During this year's Lenten journey to Easter, we will eavesdrop on Job's experience and often faithful response. The Book of Job will serve as the theme for the midweek and Holy Week services as we see the "bet" between God and Satan play out in the Bible's greatest book of wisdom. We all suffer – personally and privately. We also suffer in more public ways: jobs are lost, relationships fall apart, loved ones die, laws go unenforced and communities flounder. Martin Luther once claimed that "Job is magnificent and sublime like no other book of Scripture." We gather each week for a short, devotional type of service, focusing on one particular passage in Job. Each Wednesday night will feature a light meal, prepared by different individuals and groups, also before the 6:30 p.m. worship service. Come be strengthened by God's Word in the pages of Job, and then strengthened, encourage one another to pursue the way of Christian discipleship.

Welcome and Announcements

Preservice

Canticle of Hope – Cynthia Dobrinski

Prelude

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus – David Schack

Hymn of Invocation

685 Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

Confession and Absolution

p. 184

Introit

Psalm 116:1–4, 8; antiphon: v. 15



P Precious in the sight | of the LORD*
is the death | of his saints.

**C I love the LORD, because | he has heard*
my voice and my pleas for | mercy.**

P Because he inclined his | ear to me,*
therefore I will call on him as long | as I live.

**C The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid | hold on me;*
I suffered distress and | anguish.**

P Then I called on the name | of the LORD:*
"O LORD, I pray, deliv- | er my soul!"

**C For you have delivered my | soul from death,*
my eyes from tears, my feet from | stumbling.**



☞ Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

P Precious in the sight | of the LORD*
is the death | of his saints.

Kyrie – Collect of the Day

(No Hymn of Praise during Lent)

pp. 186-189

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 37:1–14

¹The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ²And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD." ⁷So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

¹¹Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.' ¹²Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Choral Response

Ezekiel Saw Them Dry Bones – David A. deSilva

Epistle

Romans 8:1–11

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised

Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(During Lent, the Alleluia is omitted)

Holy Gospel

John 11:1–45

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

¹Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. ¹⁰But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." ¹¹After saying these things, he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." ¹²The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." ¹³Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died, ¹⁵and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

¹⁷Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.

¹⁸Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. ²⁰So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

²⁸When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him.

³¹When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go

out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. ³⁴And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵Jesus wept. ³⁶So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?"

³⁸Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. ³⁹Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." ⁴⁴The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." ⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

p. 191

Hymn of the Day

552 O Christ, Who Shared Our Mortal Life (stzs 1, 9, & 10, 4)

Sermon

"Grieving in Hope" (John 11:1-45)

Offertory

pp. 192-193

Offering

Meditation on Finlandia (Be Still, My Soul) – Raymond H. Herbek



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.)

Prayer of the Church

Preface – Agnus Dei

pp. 194-198

Hymns During Distribution

I Am The Resurrection

Chorus

I am the resurrection and the life
He who believes in Me
Will never die
I am the resurrection and the life
He who believes in Me
Will live (will live) a new life

Verse 1

I have come to bring the truth
I have come to bring you life
If you believe then you shall live (*Chorus*)

Verse 2

In My word all men will come to know
It is love which makes the spirit grow
If you believe then you shall live (*Chorus*)

Verse 3

Keep in mind the things that I have said
Remember Me in the breaking of the bread
If you believe then you shall live (*Chorus*)

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**752 Be Still, My Soul
543 What Wondrous Love Is This**

Nunc Dimittis - Benediction

pp. 199-202

Stewardship Talk

Closing Hymn

548 Thanks to Thee, O Christ Victorious

Postlude

Thanks to Thee, O Christ Victorious – Anton W. Leupold

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 Cindy Buss in celebration of Beverly Mueller's 98th birthday on March 20.

Participants

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

Pastor Teggatz
Pastor Skovgaard
Richard C. Ewert
Exultate Ringers
Exultate Singers
Karla Bessert
Rick Wegner
Mark Ewert
Nancy Ewert, Julie Leaf

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

SERVING NEXT WEEK

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25 (6:30 P.M.)

ELDER: Paul Haut

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: James Drabiszczak

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 29 (9:00 A.M.)

ELDER: Doug Grek

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: Jim Olson

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

EGL in the Word (Fifth Sunday in Lent)

Old Testament: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Where is the doctrine of the resurrection of the body in the Old Testament? Ezekiel 37 is a pretty good place to start. Up to this point in Ezekiel, there hasn't been much hope. The judgments against Judah have built up to chapter 33, which brings the report of Jerusalem's destruction. As God's people process this devastating news in Babylon, God sends words of hope through His prophet. Here, God makes it abundantly clear that his people are completely hopeless apart from the life He alone can give. There are "very many" dry bones that are "very dry" (37:2). The big question? "Son of man, can these bones live?" (37:3). God allows us to ponder this vision in all its detail: bones and sinews come together, flesh covers them, and last but certainly not least, breath enters them once again in a scene echoing God's creation of Adam (see Genesis 2:7). And the end result? "...an exceedingly great army" (37:10). Such is the eternal hope of God's people who cling to Him in faith: their hearts will be transformed (see Ezek 36:22-38), their bodies will be raised, and they shall return to God forever.

Epistle: Romans 8:1-11

In the culminating chapter of the first section of Romans (ch.1-8), Paul reassures God's people that there is "no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" (8:1). But why? Certainly not because of our worthiness or fleshly achievements, but only because the Spirit of God, given by Christ, dwells in us (8:9-10). The Holy Spirit is a guarantee of the inheritance in store for us on the Last Day (see Ephesians 1:13-14). And this is no ordinary Spirit within us. This is the "Spirit of him who raised Christ Jesus from the dead" (8:11). This is the Spirit of the One who gave life to Adam in the garden and breathed life and hope into God's people in Ezekiel's day. This is the Spirit of the One who is the resurrection and the life (John 11:25). And because Jesus lives, we too shall live, for we are in Him (8:1).

New Testament: John 11:1-45

We see lots of "signs" in the Gospel of John; this is the last. Mary and Martha don't understand Jesus' delay. Jesus' disciples don't understand his insistence on returning to enemy territory (see John 10:22-42). But Jesus? He rejoices (11:15), knowing that through Lazarus' resurrection, the Son of God will be glorified and believed (11:4,15). As God displayed his works through healing the blind man (see John 9:3), so God will glorify His only-begotten Son, he who does not simply raise the dead but is himself "the resurrection and the life" (11:25). The one who believes in Jesus will "by no means die forever" (11:26), another example of the strongest negation in Greek (see John 4:14). Even as we see Jesus display His divine power by not only knowing about Lazarus' condition from a distance but then coming to call him out of death, so we see Jesus display his full humanity as he enters into the grief and tears of those whom he loves to walk alongside them and redeem that grief, giving us a foretaste of when death, sorrow, and tears shall be no more (Revelation 21:4). He intentionally waits until Lazarus is supposedly beyond hope, actively decomposing in his tomb (sound like Ezekiel 37?) to call Lazarus out of death into life with a word; after all, he is the Word made flesh (1:14)! Many believe in him because of this sign. Others intensify their plans to capture, condemn, and kill him, leading to the city of Jerusalem being filled with expectation as the Passover draws near (John 11:45-57).

Questions for Reflection This Week

Monday: We're told that Jesus bears our illnesses and diseases (and certainly see examples of that as he heals). But, as we've walked through John's gospel, we also see Jesus bear people's experiences and emotions, whether it be confusion, shame, or grief. Which moment in the gospel has stuck out the most to you these last several weeks? Why? Ask this question around the dinner table tonight.

Tuesday: Think about some of your personal experiences with grief. What was that journey like for you? What happened that was expected? What surprised you? How did the Church and God's Word intersect with your grief?

Wednesday: Which side of the paradox are you prone to resolving (see charts below)? Why do you feel tempted to resolve the paradox?

Thursday: In John 11, we see both the human and divine natures of Christ on full display. As we walk to the cross this coming week, how do we see these human and divine natures continue to be on display?

Friday: Read John 16:33. This is the last word Jesus speaks at the Last Supper before saying a prayer for his followers (John 17) and entering into his Passion. How does this verse relate to the paradox of grieving with hope we pondered in the sermon?

Resolving the Paradox: "Grieving with Hope"

"We Grieve" (And That's It)	"We Hope" (And That's It)
The story isn't completed (no Easter).	The story is bypassed (no cross).
The resurrection doesn't count for anything.	The resurrection wipes out the grief.
There's no lasting comfort (gospel is forgotten).	There's no lasting comfort (gospel is watered down).

Preserving the Paradox: "Grieving with Hope"

The story includes both Good Friday and Easter Sunday.
Resurrection redeems grief (and both are remembered this side of eternity).
There is lasting comfort, even in the paradox.

Next Week's Readings (Palm Sunday)

New Testament- John 12:12-43

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Fifth Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 22, 2026 – Volume 78, Number 3.3
The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Elm Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church Calendar

S	9:00 a.m. Divine Service 10:30 a.m. Bible Study, Confirmation, Sunday School 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting (FH)	5:15 p.m. Exultate Ringers (Church) 6:00 p.m. Empower Volleyball (Gym)
M	11:00 a.m. New Berlin PD Training 5:00 p.m. Intrada Ringers (Church) 6:00 p.m. Empower Volleyball (Gym) 7:00 p.m. Barbershop Group (FH)	W 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study (BAAC) 1:00 p.m. Sheepshead (BAAC) 5:30 p.m. Lenten Dinner 6:30 p.m. Midweek Lenten Worship 7:30 p.m. Exultate Singers (MC)
T	7:00 a.m. Men’s Bible Study (228) 10:00 a.m. Women’s Bible Study (BAAC)	T 6:00 p.m. Empower Volleyball (Gym) S Wedding

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

IN THE LORD’S HOUSE: There were **193** people that attended services last week in person and **81** households streamed the services for a total of **274**. “And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”

EASTER BRUNCH: Make plans to join us for brunch on Easter Sunday. We will have an assortment of fantastic food items and will be serving in the Fellowship Hall from 8:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

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 cleanup after the breakfast, please sign up using this SignUpGenius Link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A4DA8AD2EA5FD0-62812204-easter#/> There is also a paper sign-up sheet available in the back of the church.

EGL FOUNDATION GOLF OUTING: Mark your calendars for Friday, May 8! The EGL Foundation is once again hosting a golf outing, dinner and

raffle. All proceeds from this event will go to support Trinity Lutheran Classical High School. Sign-up forms are now available in the back of the church along with donor/sponsor forms. You can drop off completed forms in the golf outing mailbox in the mailbox room. The deadline for sign-up this year is April 24!

THE EGL FOUNDATION is looking for donations of money to be put toward purchasing a premium raffle item for the Drive to Thrive golf outing. Any donations which go past the price point of that item will be put toward purchasing gift cards for the raffle. If you have any questions, please contact Ann Wilcox at 262-409-5888.

PICKLEBALL KICKOFF: Our first pickleball session will be **Sunday, April 12 from 3:30-5:00 p.m. in the gym** (please enter through the external youth room doors). We will have several nets and paddles ready to go and all are welcome! Rules will be discussed so don't worry if this is your first time, we'd love to have you! If you own paddles, please bring them.

NOMINATIONS FOR EGL LEADERSHIP: At the Sunday morning, May 17, Voters Assembly we

will elect new leadership to both the Elders Committee and the Board of Directors. You have the opportunity to nominate godly men to the Elders Committee as well as godly men and/or women to the Board of Directors. There are two positions on both open for election on May 17. Please submit any nominations to the Church Office or one of the Pastors by Easter Sunday, April 5.

MISSION TRIP PRESENTATION: During the bible study hour on Sunday, March 29, Matt Ewert will be giving a presentation about his mission trip to Panama. He joined a group from Peace Lutheran Campus Center, the LCMS campus ministry for UW-Stevens Point, for a 9-day mission trip at the beginning of January 2026. Thank you to the EGL members that supported the team financially and through prayer!

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE SIGNAGE PROJECT: EGL is preparing to enhance signage throughout our campus to better welcome visitors, provide clear direction, and reflect our identity in Christ. Our goal is to raise **\$75,000** to fund new monument signs, updated lettering, directional signage, and necessary electrical work. The Foundation is providing a matching gift of \$1 for every \$2 raised to support this effort. Graphic boards showing the proposed signs and locations are in the back of the church. "Let your light shine before others..." (Matthew 5:16)

LIST OF LENTEN MEALS: Thank you so much to everyone who has offered to host meals this Lenten season. All of the dates have been spoken for. March 18 hosted by the Evangelism Committee (baked potatoes); and March 25 hosted by the Finance Committee (jambalaya). The free will offering at the Lenten dinners will go toward the Let Your Light Shine Signage Project.

LOCAL ELECTION WORKERS NEEDED: Brookfield City Clerk Sara Bruckman recently put out an appeal for volunteer election workers. With the April Spring Election, August Partisan Primary, and November General Election in 2026 just around the corner, the City Clerk's Office is actively seeking individuals of all backgrounds. You must

be an U.S. citizen, at least 18 years old, able to read and write fluently in English, not be a candidate in that election, and able to perform a variety of duties that keep voting operations running smoothly. Such work is part of our responsibility as citizens, and it has to be done for the sake of free and fair elections, so why not by you? Here's another opportunity for faithful Lutherans to get involved and serve their neighbors. Interested? Go

to www.ci.brookfield.wi.us/1036/Poll-Worker-Information or call 262-787-3550.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP: The group will meet on Thursday, April 16 at 9:30 a.m. in the BAAC to discuss the book, *The Great Hippopotamus Hotel: No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* written by Alexander McCall Smith. This spacious hotel near a grove of Acacia trees in the Botswanan countryside has had a good reputation for weary travelers until strange things start happening. Detectives Mma Ramotswe and Mma Makutal take on this new intriguing case and uncover surprising results.

SET APART TO SERVE (SAS): Where do we get pastors who preach and care for us with God's Word? Where do we get teachers who teach our children about Jesus in our Lutheran schools? Where do we get our directors of Christian education, deaconesses and directors of parish music? Set Apart to Serve (SAS) is partnering with our seminaries, Concordia universities, districts, congregations and many other to build a Synodwide culture of church work formation and recruitment. You can contribute toward this effort **by taking this brief online survey** at lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve-survey. Please let us know how all of us can make SAS more beneficial to your congregation. It is important we hear what you have to say.