

ELM GROVE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

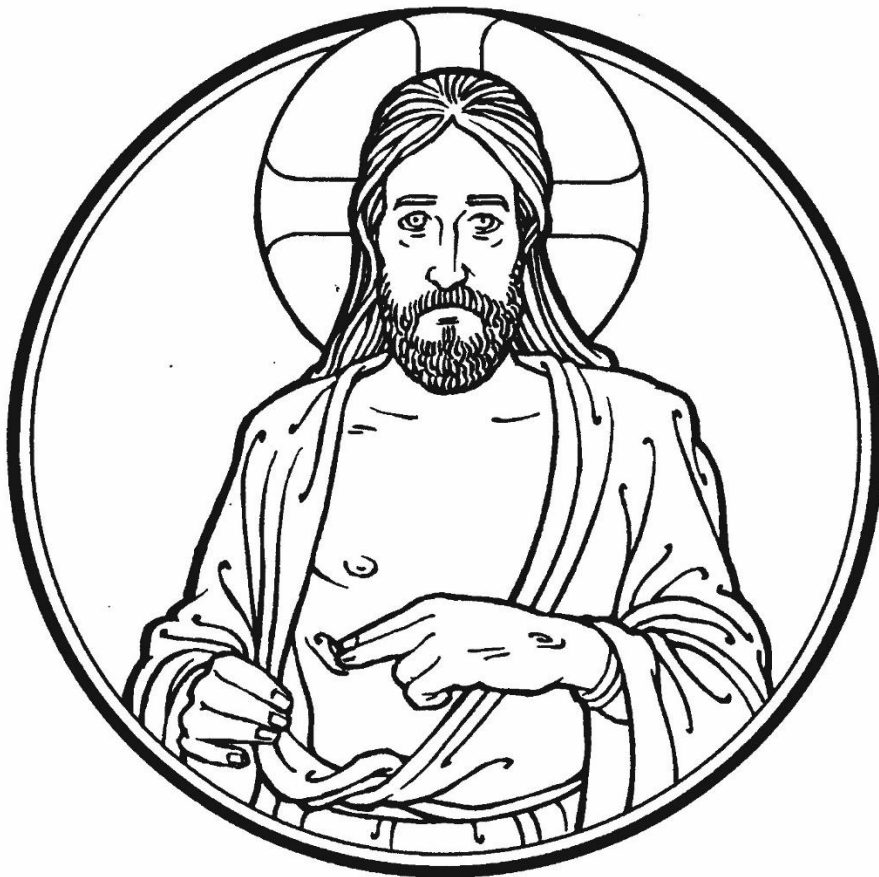
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

945 Terrace Dr., Elm Grove, WI 53122

Phone (262) 797-2970

Rev. Eric C. Skovgaard, Administrative Pastor

Rev. Joshua D. Teggatz, Associate Pastor



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday, April 12, 2026 - 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

Awake, My Heart, with Gladness – Paul O. Manz

Hymn of Invocation

467 Awake, My Heart, with Gladness (stz 1-5)

Confession and Absolution

p. 151

Introit

Psalm 105:1–5, 8; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2–3

P Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—

C if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

P Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;

C make known his deeds among the peoples!

P Sing to him, sing praises to him;

C tell of all his wondrous works!

P Glory in his holy name;

C let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

P Seek the LORD and his strength;

C seek his presence continually!

P Remember the wondrous works that he has done,

C his miracles, and the judgments he uttered.

P He remembers his covenant forever,

C the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.

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 Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—

C if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Kyrie – Collect of the Day

pp. 152 – 156

(Hymn of Praise – This Is the Feast)

First Reading

Acts 5:29–42

²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him." ³³When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. ³⁴But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. ³⁵And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. ³⁶For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. ³⁷After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the

days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. ³⁸So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; ³⁹but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!" So they took his advice, ⁴⁰and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. ⁴²And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

P Christ has risen from the dead.

C [God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor.

P He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;

C he has put all things under his feet.

Epistle

1 Peter 1:3–9

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

John 20:19–31

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe." ²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Office Hymn

1 Jesus Christ, my sure defense
And my Savior, now is living!
Knowing this, my confidence
Rests upon the hope here given,
Though the night of death be fraught
Still with many_an anxious thought.

3 No, too closely I am bound
By my hope to Christ forever;
Faith's strong hand the Rock has found,
Grasped it, and will leave it never;
Even death now cannot part
From its Lord the trusting heart.

Text: Otto von Schwerin, 1616-79; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
Text: Public domain

741 Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense (sts 1, 3, 6, 8)

6 Then take comfort and rejoice,
For His members Christ will cherish.
Fear not, they will hear His voice;
Dying, they will never perish;
For the very grave is stirred
When the trumpet's blast is heard.

8 O, then, draw away your hearts
From all pleasures base and hollow;
Strive to share what He imparts
While you here His footsteps follow.
As you now still wait to rise,
Fix your hearts beyond the skies!

Sermon

"We Have Seen the Lord!" (John 20:19-31)

Nicene Creed - Prayer of the Church

pp. 158-159

Offering

Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense – Roger T. Petrich

(Those who are not communing may put their attendance card in the offering plate.)

Offertory – Agnus Dei

pp. 159 – 163

Hymns During Distribution

**470 O Sons and Daughters of the King
481 Scatter the Darkness, Break the Gloom**

Post-Communion Canticle - Benediction

pp. 164 - 166

Closing Hymn

467 Awake, My Heart, with Gladness (stzs 6-7)

Postlude

Christus Resurrexit – Gordon Young

ALTAR PARAMENTS: White, the color of light and joy, adorns our chancel today. Christ, the Lamb of God, is victorious over sin, death, and the devil and so we rejoice!

Participants

Preacher
Assisting Minister
Organist
Elder
Chancel Assistant
Usher Team on duty

Altar Guild

Pastor Teggatz
Pastor Skovgaard
Richard C. Ewert
Doug Grek
Mark Ewert
Sharon Boudro, Kirk Midtbo, Emily Krueger,
Jason Krueger, Diane Olson, Jim Olson, Sam Thompson
Carol Ewert, Susan Schmalzer

SERVING NEXT WEEK
THURSDAY, APRIL 16 (6:30 P.M.)

ELDER: Bruce Bessert

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: Steve Hipenbecker

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

SUNDAY, APRIL 19 (9:00 A.M.)

ELDER: Eric Thompson

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

EGL in the Word (Second Sunday of Easter)

First Reading: Acts 5:29-42

The results of Pentecost (Acts 2) continue to spill forth in Acts 5 as the apostles continually gather and proclaim Jesus as the Christ, performing many signs and wonders in the process (Acts 5:12). We're told in verse 12 that the apostles are gathering in "Solomon's Portico," a gathering place in the temple. They are then arrested, released by the Lord in the night, and then arrested again when they are found proclaiming Christ in the temple yet again (Acts 5:17-28). When they are questioned about their teaching, Peter speaks once again as the apostles' representative and proclaims the death and resurrection of Christ and its purpose: "...to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins" (5:31). The religious leaders regroup through Gamaliel's advice (5:34-39), advice that reminds us that no man can overthrow God's kingdom (see Matthew 16:15-19). The apostles are beaten and go out, "rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name" (5:41). And this examination doesn't stop them. If anything, it further energizes their proclamation that "the Christ is Jesus" (5:42). Peter and the others are committed to their vocation as witnesses to Christ, a call they receive in our gospel.

Epistle: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Our epistle beautifully aligns with both Acts 5 and John 20 this morning. First of all, everything Peter says in these verses stems from "the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" (1:3). Jesus' resurrection allows us to be "born again to a living hope," to be resurrected "to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you," to be "guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time," to be filled with the joy and glory that is to come, "the salvation of your souls" (1:3-5,9). The resurrection truly changes everything. Grieving and trials will come (1:6) as Acts 5 shows us, and yet, such crosses pale in comparison with the glory that is to be revealed to us and the eternal joy such glory brings. Notice also how Peter echoes Jesus' beatitude in John 20, as he writes to persecuted Christians who never saw Jesus in the flesh: "Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy..." (1:8). Blessed are those who believe without sight, who long for the day when that faith will become sight, when the inheritance will fully be ours!

Gospel: John 20:19-31

Our gospel follows on the heels of Jesus' resurrection and appearance to Mary Magdalene (20:1-18) and has three distinct sections: Jesus' first appearance to the disciples (20:19-23), Jesus' second appearance/Thomas (20:24-29), and an epilogue (20:30-31). The first two sections mirror each other closely. Jesus not only speaks peace to his disciples but actually gives what he speaks through his wounds of salvation. He privately bestows the Holy Spirit on them and calls them as witnesses (see Acts 5 for this witness in action), a vocation he will publicly affirm on Pentecost. And, in the case of unbelieving Thomas, Jesus remarkably meets his demands and brings his disciple from a state of unbelief to the most remarkable confession in the whole gospel (20:29). That's the confession John wants the readers of his gospel to conclude with (20:30-31), those who have not seen Jesus in the flesh and yet have believed (that's us!). John wants his readers to believe in who Jesus is, to have life in his name, and to rejoice in that life even now (see 1 Pet 1:8).

Questions for Reflection This Week

Monday: Have any moments in the Bible caused you to have an “if only” moment? Why?

Tuesday: John tells us that the things written in his gospel are there so that we may believe. How does this affect our viewing of God’s Word and the need to receive it regularly? Consider your household habits regarding God’s Word. What are ways you can encourage and increase the role of God’s Word in your home?

Wednesday: We look at the daily tasks, routines, and activities of our lives through the lens of our worldview. How does the resurrection of Jesus impact how you see your life and everything in it? How should it?

Thursday: Read 2 Peter 1:16-21. This was a passage we reflected on earlier this year with the Transfiguration. How do these verses connect with the sermon this week? Note how the Word of God is described (and elevated!) in these verses.

Friday: Remember the question to ask whenever you open and read the Bible: how does this point me to Jesus? (And, by extension, what does this say about me as a result?).

Next Week’s Readings (Third Sunday of Easter)

Old Testament- Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Epistle- 1 Peter 1:17-25

Gospel- Luke 24:13-35

ELM GROVE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
945 Terrace Drive, Elm Grove, WI 53122
Phone: 262-797-2970 Fax: 262-797-2977 Website: www.egl.org
Second Sunday of Easter
Sunday, April 12, 2026 – Volume 78, Number 4.2
The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Elm Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church Calendar

S	9:00 a.m. Divine Service 10:30 a.m. Adoption Presentation 10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation 3:30 p.m. Pickleball (Gym) 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting (FH)	6:00 p.m. Empower Volleyball (Gym) 6:30 p.m. Visitation Team Meeting (BAAC) 6:30 p.m. TLCHS Board Meeting (228)
M	11:00 a.m. New Berlin PD Training 5:00 p.m. Intrada Ringers (MC) 6:00 p.m. Empower Volleyball (Gym) 7:00 p.m. Board of Directors (228) 7:00 p.m. Barbershop Group (FH)	W 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study (BAAC) 1:00 p.m. Sheepshead (BAAC) 7:00 p.m. Exultate Singers (MC)
T	7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (228) 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study 5:15 p.m. Exultate Ringers (MC)	T 9:30 a.m. Book Discussion (BAAC) 6:30 p.m. Divine Service 7:30 p.m. Stammtisch (BAAC) 7:30 p.m. Empower Volleyball (Gym)

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

IN THE LORD'S HOUSE: There were **551** people that attended services last week in person and **219** households streamed the services for a total of **770**. "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."

TUESDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY will resume on Tuesday, April 14 as we continue our Psalms study by jumping into Psalm 27. All ladies are welcome!

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU to Dennis Braun for all of his help with the solar panels. They were not working to their full benefit and after Dennis' diligence in this project the church is now getting full benefits in savings from the solar panels. Thank you Dennis; your work is appreciated!

MABAS LECTURE: Please join the Milwaukee Area Biblical Archaeology Society for a free public lecture on Tuesday, April 14, at 7:30 p.m. at Wisconsin Lutheran College, Fine Arts Building, Reichel Hall (FM15) and live on Zoom. **Written in**

Stone: The Significance of Inscriptions for Understanding the Ancient World, an illustrated lecture by Dr. Daniel Schowalter (Emeritus Professor of Classics and Religion at Carthage College).

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 **TODAY, 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.

ADOPTION: We've seen the scary numbers of ongoing abortion in our country. One of the consequences of the fight for life is that in our discourse we usually reduce the options to a binary choice between keeping the baby or aborting, when a beautiful, life-affirming choice remains -- to consider adoption. EGL is partnering with Lutheran Counseling and Family Services [LCFS] and other LCMS congregations in the Milwaukee area this fall to highlight the gift of adoption via billboards, social media, and radio. As part of that effort, Mrs Kathryn Lamb, the adoption coordinator at LCFS, will be with us on Sunday morning, April 12, during the Bible study hour to help us appreciate what LCFS can do for us in this arena.

ABORTION: According to the pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute, 1.12 million babies were lost to abortion in 2025. That number is roughly the same as in 2024. When you crunch the numbers, that comes out to roughly 3,000 a day every day of the year. To put that in perspective, that's more than was lost to Islamic terrorism on 9/11. The Guttmacher report documents a decline in interstate travel for abortions but an increase in telehealth abortions, essentially getting the pill through the mail. These numbers come almost four years after the Supreme Court decision, *Dobbs v. Jackson* ruling, which returned the topic of abortion to the States. The battle for pre-born life continues.

COFFEE DONATIONS: The money that is donated during the time of fellowship after Church on Sundays is being donated to the signage project.

EGL STAMMTISCH: Hey Guys! Well... April may bring showers but we have a warm and relaxing

place to celebrate! Join us for this month's EGL Stammtisch. We again will be in the Bartelt Center at EGL, so it still should be a little quieter and more conducive to great conversation and great libation... always lively, always timely, always lots of variety, in a fun atmosphere of Christian fellowship. If you are new to EGL and/or have not joined us before, please come on out and give it a try! Bartelt Adult Activities Center (North end of the EGL complex) Thursday, April 16, from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. (ish)... for more info, please text or call Bruce Bessert at 414-526-8430. Bring a friend and snacks to share! See you there!!! (Thursday, May 21 will be the next gathering... plan ahead!)

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. Thank you so much, currently we have already reached \$33,000 and will be able to begin this project starting with the sign in the front of the church. Graphic boards showing the proposed signs and locations are in the back of the church. "Let your light shine before others..." (Matthew 5:16)

LUNCH BUNCH will meet at Maxim's on April 16 at 11:45 a.m. Please RSVP to Claire Schuppner at 262-255-2671 by April 13.

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 Ramotswa and Mma Makutal take on this new intriguing case and uncover surprising results.

LWML ZONE 3 RALLY: Blessed Savior Lutheran LWML is hosting the Zone 3 LWML Rally on

Saturday April 25 beginning at 9:00 a.m. with registration and breakfast and the program and meeting starting at 9:45 a.m. Pastor Zachary DeArmond will lead the Bible study. Bennet Reisler the Mission Advocate, will speak on the topic, "Share the Work of our Synod." Gifts from the Heart will be given to A Place of Refuge. Items include children's books ages 2-5; Dr. Brown's baby bottles and nipples; lightweight blankets; 6-9 months sweater and sleepers; 6-9 months boys and girls outfits; and size 5 diapers. The address of Blessed Savior Lutheran Church is 15250 W. Cleveland Ave., New Berlin, WI. Plan to attend. Congregation members who would like to donate items for A Place of Refuge may place the items in the big Mite Box near the LWML Bulletin Board. Thank you.

THE LUTHERAN A CAPELLA CHOIR OF MILWAUKEE presents "Coming Home" featuring John Leavitt's "Missa Festiva" plus music by Brahms, Haydn, Craig Courtney, Stephen Paulus and more! There are two performances: Friday, April 24, at 7:30 p.m., Saint Monica Parish, 5681 North Santa Monica Boulevard, Whitefish Bay and Sunday, April 26 at 3:00 p.m., Mount Carmel Lutheran Church, 8424 W Center St., Milwaukee, WI 53222. Tickets are \$20 and students are FREE with student ID. Tickets are available for purchase in advance or at the door.
<https://lutheranacappella.org/>

VERSITI BLOOD DRIVE - Wednesday, May 6, 2:00 p.m.- 06:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. One blood donation can save up to 3 lives! Every donation creates a ripple of hope. Make a lifesaving difference today—schedule your appointment:

https://donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/11621257 or contact Rick Ewert: BloodDrive@eql.org/262-289-9333.



CHRIST FOR YOU THIS WEEK ON KFUA AM850 & kfuo.org: A blessed Easter to you! On Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8 a.m. CT), tune in as we pick up the account of Joseph in our study of Genesis! Tune in for Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11 a.m. CT) as we wrap up our study in Numbers. This week, we'll be continuing with chapter 33. Don't forget to join us for The Coffee Hour (weekdays at 9 a.m. CT)! We'll be checking in with the folks over at Lutheran Bible Translators, as well as continuing our new series, "Getting to Know the Council of Presidents." Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org or in the KFUA Radio app!