

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



SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
Sunday, May 17, 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.



Scan the QR code (left) to give online to Elm Grove Lutheran Church, or visit egl.org/give.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing – Miles I’A Martin

Hymn of Invocation

493 A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing (stzs 1, 5, 6)

Confession and Absolution

p. 151

Introit

Psalm 100; antiphon: Psalm 101:1

P I will sing of steadfast love and justice;

C to you, O LORD, I will make music.

P Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

C Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!

P Know that the LORD, he is God!

C It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

P Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!

C Give thanks to him; bless his name!

P For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever,

C and his faithfulness to all 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 I will sing of steadfast love and justice;

C to you, O LORD, I will make music.

Kyrie – Collect of the Day

pp. 152-156

(Hymn of Praise – This Is the Feast)

First Reading

Acts 1:12–26

¹²Then [the apostles] returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. ¹⁴All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers. ¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, ¹⁶“Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” ¹⁸(Now this man bought a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. ¹⁹And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) ²⁰For it is written in the Book of Psalms, “May his camp become desolate, and let there be no one to dwell in it”; and “Let another take his office.” ²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that

the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection.” ²³And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴And they prayed and said, “You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

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 4:12–19; 5:6–11

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice insofar as you share Christ’s sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. ¹⁵But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. ¹⁶Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. ¹⁷For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸And “If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?” ¹⁹Therefore let those who suffer according to God’s will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good. . . . ⁶Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, ⁷casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. ¹⁰And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

p. 156

Holy Gospel**John 17:1–11**

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. ⁵And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed. ⁶I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. ⁸For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. ¹¹And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Office Hymn**716 I Walk in Danger All the Way****Sermon****"A Prayer for You" (John 17:1-11)****Nicene Creed - Prayer of the Church****pp. 158-159****Offering****I Walk in Danger All the Way – Martin Gotthard Schneider**

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

Offertory – Agnus Dei**pp. 159 – 163****Hymns During Distribution****764 When Aimless Violence Takes Those We Love****652 Father, We Thank Thee****774 Feed Thy Children, God Most Holy****Post-Communion Canticle - Benediction****pp. 164 – 166**

(Post-Communion Canticle – Thank the Lord)

Closing Hymn**477 Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven****Postlude****Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven – Matt Limbaugh**

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

Presiding Minister
Assisting Minister
Organist
Elder
Chancel Assistant
Usher Team
Altar Guild

Pastor Skovgaard
Pastor Teggatz
Richard C. Ewert
John Wolck
Mark Ewert
Sharon Boudro, Kirk Midtbo, Diane Olson, Jim Olson
Carol Ewert, Julie Leaf

SERVING NEXT WEEK
THURSDAY, MAY 21 (6:30 P.M.)

ELDER: Jason Krueger

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: Mark Ewert

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

SUNDAY, MAY 24 (9:00 A.M.)

ELDER: Rick Wegner

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: Dan Berry

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 (Seventh Sunday of Easter)

First Reading- Acts 1:12-26

The first chapter of Acts has two movements: the ascension of Jesus (1:1-11) and the choosing of Judas' replacement (1:12-26) before the day of Pentecost and the spread of the Church (Acts 2 and onward). In these verses, the remaining apostles and company of witnesses to the ministry of Jesus gather together to pray for and choose a replacement for Judas. Peter quotes a few psalms (Psalm 69:25 and Psalm 109:8 specifically) describing both the betrayal of Judas and the need for his office to be filled. Matthias, one of two put forward, is chosen and the number 12 is once again reached, symbolic of the fullness of the Church, prior to Pentecost.

Epistle- 1 Peter 4:12-19; 5:6-11

With these verses, our time in 1 Peter draws to a close. We see many of the same encouragements Peter has discussed in previous sections of the letter. Satan is out there, desiring to devour us (5:8-9). Bearing the cross isn't alien to the Christian life; it *is* the Christian life (4:12-18). We don't seek out or idolize our suffering, especially if it's a result of our own sin or evil, but rather, we do good, knowing that God will vindicate and deliver His people in Christ. And, as we suffer, we "entrust our souls to a faithful Creator while doing good," knowing that he cares for us, takes all our anxieties upon himself, and will "himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish" us (4:19,5:6-7,10-11). As great as the suffering may be, even greater is our Lord.

Gospel- John 17:1-11

This is the first section of Jesus' "high priestly prayer" in John 17, the culmination of his Last Supper discourse (John 13-17). "The hour has come," Jesus says (17:1). This hour, alluded to throughout John's gospel, is his crucifixion, when sin's power, death's tyranny, and Satan's deception are defeated once for all. According to Jesus' prayer, to have eternal life is simply to know the Father and his Son Jesus Christ (knowing here isn't simply intellectual assent but faith). But the bigger focus of the prayer is on the mission of the apostles once Jesus has departed. They will go out (Acts). All will suffer, most will die for their testimony (see our epistle). And here, Jesus prays for them. Jesus protects them in their witness. Note that the last words they heard Jesus speak before he begins this prayer are the closing words of John 16: "In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world" (16:33b).

Questions for Reflection This Week

Monday: As you begin a new work week doing the things God has placed in your hands to do, in what ways is it comforting to know that Christ is praying for you specifically as one of His disciples?

Tuesday: In the Book of Acts we are given the example of the Church calling a new apostle to fill the spot left vacant by Judas. The Church set aside two men who were qualified, prayed, and then cast lots to determine which man would enter the office. Do you know the process by which God places men into the Pastoral Office nowadays? We don't cast lots but we have the same confidence that the man is there by the decision of God.

Wednesday: James tells us that God tempts no one but He does test us. No one likes those fiery trials Peter refers to in his epistle. Are there times when you wished God would lighten the load He has placed on your shoulders?

Thursday: As we near the end of the work week, many temptations and distractions have come our way. Have you seen specific ways in which God has "kept" you, in answer to Christ's prayer?

Friday: The Introit for this Sunday commands us to come into Church with a joyful spirit, singing and giving thanks because His steadfast love endures forever. Do you ever find yourself simply going through the motions by attending worship? Why do you suppose we are prone to forget the abundant blessings God so richly pours out on us?

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Phone: 262-797-2970 Fax: 262-797-2977 Website: www.egl.org
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 17, 2026 – Volume 78, Number 5.3
The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Elm Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church Calendar

S	9:00 a.m. Divine Service 10:30 a.m. Annual Voters' Assembly 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting (FH)	W	10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study (BAAC) 1:00 p.m. Sheepshead (BAAC)
M	6:00 p.m. Empower Volleyball (Gym) 7:00 p.m. Barbershop Group (FH)	T	9:30 a.m. Book Discussion Group (BAAC) 6:30 p.m. Divine Service
T	7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (228) 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Empower Volleyball (Gym)		7:30 p.m. Stammtisch (BAAC)

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

IN THE LORD'S HOUSE: There were **151** people that attended services last week in person and **87** households streamed the services for a total of **238**. "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHIES are extended to the family and friends of Arnie Will. Arnie's memorial service will be on May 20 at 5:00 p.m. here at Elm Grove Lutheran. "I know that My Redeemer lives..."

PICKLEBALL: Our next pickleball open gym is **Sunday, May 17, from 3:30-5:00 p.m.** Please stay tuned for future dates as we revise the schedule a bit!

UPCOMING VOTERS' ASSEMBLY: On May 17 we will have our annual Voters' Assembly following the 9:00 a.m. worship service during the Bible Study hour. Copies of the proposed 2026-27 budget are available on the credenza in the back of the church.

CELEBRATE OUR NATION'S BIRTHDAY: In July we have a great opportunity to invite friends, coworkers, and neighbors to visit our church for a special musical event scheduled for 3 p.m. Saturday afternoon, June 20. Our own Rick Ewert

and former EGLer Prof. Aaron Wunsch from the Julliard School will team up for a program of music celebrating our nation's independence. We hope to welcome many visitors from our community and the region to a concert of organ and piano favorites plus some hymn singing. Open up this code below on your smartphone and copy it into emails or social media posts, together with your personal invitation.



CONFRONTING DEATH AS A CHRISTIAN: The TV program 60 Minutes broadcast an interview on April 26 with former Nebraska Sentaor Ben Sasse (R). What makes this interview unique among the regular parade of talking heads on TV is that Sasse is a conservative, confessing Christian who is in the final stages (apparently) of metastatic pancreatic cancer. He addresses his upcoming death with a level of honesty rarely seen in public life, balancing his regrets of not being there for his daughters as they get married and his

teenage son as he grows up with a recognition that his cancer is not an accident (because "there are no maverick molecules in the universe"). In fact he articulates the point that his cancer is actually an opportunity to think about ultimate things. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WcT9O5Sjmd0>

LUTHERAN WITNESS: It is that time of year again where Lutheran Witness is looking for new subscribers and current subscribers to renew. If you currently are receiving Lutheran Witness at your home please let Amy Stroh (astroh@egl.org) know you would like to continue receiving or would like to start receiving this no later than May 18. Please also give a check (made payable to Elm Grove Lutheran) or cash in the amount of \$23.50 to the church office. Please contact the Church office with any questions.

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

GREEN TEAM: Spring has arrived. Flowers are blooming and grass is growing. The Green Team here at EGL is always looking for helpers to cut grass, or assist with trimming and landscaping the campus of our church. Please consider volunteering, even if it's just acting as a fill in or back up for our cutting crew, or possibly assisting our gardening ladies with their planting areas. If interested, please contact Jim Olson at 262-501-2818 or email at jolson830@gmail.com. Thank you!

USHER HELP NEEDED: We are in need of help with ushering during our worship services. If you are interested in joining an usher team please contact the Church office.

LUNCH BUNCH will meet at 11:45 a.m. on Thursday, May 21, at Bravo restaurant in Brookfield Square. Please call JoAnn Randall at 262-782-6085 for reservations.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP: Thursday, May 21 at 9:30 a.m. in the BAAC is the next meeting of our group. The book to be discussed is *The Frozen River* written by Ariel Lawhon, a historical

mystery taking place in Maine in 1789. It is about a midwife Martha Ballard who investigates the murder of a man frozen to death in the Kennebec River. The author used the diary of Martha Ballard to create this suspenseful mystery. If you like to read, please join us. We welcome new members. Remember to bring suggestions for the 2026-2027 voting to take place in our June meeting. One suggestion for a fiction book and one suggestion for a non-fiction/historical fiction book.

LWML: Heart to Heart Sisters of All Nations Event is scheduled on May 30 at Trinity Lutheran Church, 10729 Freistadt Road, Mequon, WI 53097. The speaker is Rev Dr Tom Park, LCMS Missionary in Taiwan. This event will start at 8:30 a.m. and end at 2:00 p.m. Ethnic foods will be served for the luncheon. Plan to attend.

EGL STAMMTISCH: Happy May, Guys! Spring is in full swing (if we don't get flooded away!), with all the usual activities (i.e. outside chores!), so take a break from your yard work and join your friends at May's EGL Stammtisch for our monthly "Guys Night Out!" We again will meet in the Bartelt Center (N side of the EGL facilities) for great conversation and great libation... 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! Bring a friend and snacks to share! See you there!!! Thursday May 21 from 7:30 – 9:00 (ish)... for more info, please text or call Bruce Bessert at 414-526-8430.

ROCK OF AGES CLASSIC CAR AND BIKE SHOW on Saturday, May 30 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Blessed Savior Lutheran Church (15250 West Cleveland Avenue, New Berlin, WI 53151) Food and refreshments will be available. Proceeds are donated to the New Berlin Food Pantry.

LIVESTREAM HELP NEEDED: Are you interested in helping our livestream ministry advancing the slides or being the producer/camera operator? Please contact Mark Ewert or Pam Ganswindt for more information. Knowing our service flow is a plus.

MINISTRY TO THE ARMED FORCES

YOUR GENEROSITY WILL: //

- » **HELP SUPPORT THE RECRUITING, TRAINING AND ENDORSING** of our LCMS military chaplains. We have numerous chaplains who serve on active duty, the Reserve component, the National Guard, the Civil Air Patrol and the Coast Guard auxiliary. Your gift will ensure they receive valuable Lutheran resources, training and support.
- » **HELP PROTECT THE RELIGIOUS LIBERTY** – of our chaplains and LCMS military members. We have always been — and will continue to be — a strong advocate and defender for chaplains to preach and teach in accordance with the tenets of their faith. We work tirelessly to ensure that all military members retain their God-given right and constitutionally protected freedom of religion.
- » **HELP SUSTAIN OPERATION BARNABAS** – a network of care that trains and equips LCMS congregations and individuals to assist all military-connected people in our congregations and communities in getting the support and assistance they need. Learn how you can get involved by visiting lcms.org/operationbarnabas.
- » **HELP ENABLE THE MINISTRY-BY-MAIL PROGRAM TO CONTINUE** as we send Lutheran devotional materials and resources (including Portals of Prayer) to all Lutheran military personnel and their families stationed around the world. Please send military contact information to lcmschaps@lcms.org.
- » **HELP FACILITATE CHAPLAIN AND FAMILY WELLNESS** by funding the travel and expenses for chaplains and their wives to attend our annual training seminars. These seminars allow them to reconnect, network and receive pastoral care and support from their church — things they need and deserve.
- » **HELP GROW A CONTINUING EDUCATION FUND** that enables our chaplains to complete a Doctor of Ministry degree to sharpen their skills.



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