

## ELM GROVE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod  
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Rev. Eric C. Skovgaard, Administrative Pastor  
Rev. Joshua D. Teggatz, Associate Pastor

### FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST/CONFIRMATION

Sunday, June 28, 2026 – 9:00 a.m.

#### Welcome and Announcements

#### Prelude

**Our Father, by Whose Name – Charles Callahan**

#### Hymn of Invocation

**863 Our Father, by Whose Name**

#### Divine Service 4

**p. 203-212**

#### Introit

**Psalm 89:15-18; antiphon: v .1**

- P I will sing of the steadfast love of the Lord, forever;  
**C with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.**  
P Blessed are the people who know the festal shout,  
**C who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face,**  
P who exult in your name all the day  
**C and in your righteousness are exalted.**  
P For you are the glory of their strength;  
**C by your favor our horn is exalted.**  
P For our shield belongs to the Lord,  
**C our king to the Holy One of Israel.**  
**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 the steadfast love of the Lord, forever;  
**C with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.**

#### Old Testament Reading

**Jeremiah 28:5–9**

<sup>5</sup>Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to Hananiah the prophet in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord, <sup>6</sup>and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the Lord do so; may the Lord make the words that you have prophesied come true, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the Lord, and all the exiles. <sup>7</sup>Yet hear now this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. <sup>8</sup>The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. <sup>9</sup>As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes to pass, then it will be known that the Lord has truly sent the prophet."

#### Gradual

**Psalm 145:3, 5b, 6b**

- A Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised,  
**C and his greatness is unsearchable.**  
A On your wondrous works, I will meditate,  
**C and I will declare your greatness**

**Epistle****Romans 7:1–13**

<sup>1</sup>Or do you not know, brothers—for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives? <sup>2</sup>Thus a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage. <sup>3</sup>Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress.

<sup>4</sup>Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. <sup>5</sup>For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. <sup>6</sup>But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve not under the old written code but in the new life of the Spirit.

<sup>7</sup>What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, "You shall not covet." <sup>8</sup>But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. Apart from the law, sin lies dead. <sup>9</sup>I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died. <sup>10</sup>The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me. <sup>11</sup>For sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. <sup>12</sup>So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.

<sup>13</sup>Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure.

**Holy Gospel****Matthew 10:34–42**

<sup>34</sup>[Jesus said:] "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. <sup>35</sup>For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. <sup>36</sup>And a person's enemies will be those of his own household. <sup>37</sup>Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. <sup>38</sup>And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup>Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

<sup>40</sup>"Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. <sup>41</sup>The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. <sup>42</sup>And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward."

**Hymn of the Day****688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake****Sermon****"The Lonely Road of Discipleship" (Matthew 10:34-42)****Confirmation****+ Lea Ann Soderland +****p. 272-274****Hymn****687 Thine Forever, God of Love****Prayer of the Church****p. 207****Offering****Thine Forever, God of Love – Stephen P. Johnson**

Hymns During Distribution

753 All for Christ I Have Forsaken  
682 God of the Prophets, Bless the Prophets' Sons  
865 Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain  
664 Fight the Good Fight

Closing Hymn

Postlude

Prelude in Classic Style – Gordon Young

Acknowledgements

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ALTAR PARAMENTS: Red symbolizes the Holy Spirit, fire, and courage, representing the gifts of the Spirit given to the confirmands as they publicly affirm their baptismal faith.

ALTAR FLOWERS: Placed by Barbara Kurth and family in memory of Fred Kurth, who was called to his heavenly home 14 years ago on June 28, 2012. To God be the glory!

Participants

Presiding Minister  
Organist  
Elder  
Chancel Assistant  
Usher Team  
  
Altar Guild

Pastor Skovgaard  
Richard C. Ewert  
Bruce Bessert  
Jim Olson  
Chase Hipke, Connor Hipke, Rob Hipke, Thomas Hipke, Tyler Hipke, Carter Klein,  
Ian Klein, Michael Klein, Ann Wilcox, Christine Wilcox  
Helen Moore, Luanne Schaefer

EGL in the Word (Fifth Sunday After Pentecost)

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 28:5-9

These verses are a snippet of a larger conversation between Jeremiah the true prophet and Hananiah the false prophet in the days of the final king of Judah, Zedekiah (Jeremiah 27-28), concerning the future return from Babylonian exile. Hananiah, at the beginning of Jeremiah 28, falsely speaks on the Lord's behalf and promises a return within two years. Jeremiah, in response, concludes that a prophet's authenticity is marked by his word becoming true and prophecies that return will indeed happen (see Jeremiah 27), though only in Yahweh's timing.

Epistle Reading: Romans 7:1-13

"Until death do us part" is something we vow when we enter a covenant of marriage. That's the image Paul uses in the first section of this text (7:1-6) to describe our current relationship with the law. As marriage is broken at death, so we have died to the law through the redemption of Christ, to the point that we "belong to another" (7:4) and are not under law but under grace (Rom 6:14). That's not to say that God's law is bad; in fact, as our second section teaches us, "the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good" (7:12). Yet, for the poor, miserable sinner who cannot possibly keep the law, sin works through it to deceive, kill, and enslave. Thanks be to God that our relationship with God is not based on law but grace!

Gospel Reading: Matthew 10:34-42

Jesus is the Prince of Peace, though in a very real sense, that eternal peace brings earthly division. In our Old Testament reading, Hananiah prophesies peace and Jeremiah, while desiring peace, realizes the need for Yahweh's justice and truth to be meted out, what Jesus calls a "sword." This sword will bring division at points, especially among family and friends, as Jeremiah himself experienced. Jesus' call is a hard one: to find our life in him, to bear the cross, and to receive His words, over and against the ways of the world. Such is Jeremiah's call to the people of Jerusalem as well: to receive God's true Word, a word that brings repentance and faith, a word that doesn't fit the ways of the world, a word that marks out true discipleship.

### Questions for Reflection This Week

**Monday:** This Sunday we rejoice in the confirmation of one of our youth. Do you remember your confirmation day?

Do you remember your confirmation verse? Has it been a passage you've meditated on over the years?

**Tuesday:** The Small Catechism teaches us that confirmation is a time of instruction meant to help the baptized Christian identity with the life and mission of the Church. As you've matured in the faith, what areas of the Church's life have become more important to you? Are there areas you want to continue exploring?

**Wednesday:** The vows that we take at confirmation are serious ones. We promise to remain faithful for our whole lives, precisely because we have come to appreciate how faithful our Lord is to us and we can't imagine ever wanting to separate ourselves from such divine love. Having said that, reflecting on your own life, what would you say are some of the greatest threats to remaining a faithful Christian?

**Thursday:** Today (if you're in worship on June 25) is the 496 anniversary of the Augsburg Confession. This document was read out loud to Charles V, emperor of the Holy Roman Empire, on June 25, 1530, in the city of Augsburg in Bavaria. It explains what we believe, teach, and confess as Biblical, confessional Lutherans. What have you discovered over the years are some of the distinctive teachings Lutherans have that make us different from other Christian bodies?

**Friday:** This past week the LCMS elected Matthew Harrison as Synod President for his sixth term by a razor-thin majority. If you had the opportunity to talk with him, what would you like to see the Synod and her President doing or focusing on?