

The background of the entire image is a close-up, slightly blurred view of the American flag. The blue field with white stars is prominent on the left side, while the red and white stripes are visible on the right and bottom. The text is overlaid on the right side of the flag.

***A Concert
Celebrating the 250th
Anniversary of American
Independence***

**Elm Grove Ev. Lutheran Church
Elm Grove, Wisconsin
3:00 p.m.**

Saturday, June 20, 2026

**Mr. Richard C. Ewert, organ
Dr. Aaron M. Wunsch, piano**

Welcome

Elm Grove Lutheran Church (EGL) is pleased to welcome you to this celebration of our nation's 250th Birthday with a concert of uplifting and joyous music with an American flair. No audio or video recordings, please, as a professionally produced video with high resolution audio will be posted at our website in the weeks ahead: www.egl.org

Instrument Details

Organ: Casavant / Rodgers

Casavant Opus 3081 (built 1970)

Rodgers Opus 1747 (built 2008)

Piano: Steinway & Sons Baby Grand (1891, rebuilt)

Reception

After the concert all are cordially invited to the lower level Fellowship Hall for refreshments and the opportunity to greet our artists.

Restrooms

Women's restroom in the lower level Fellowship Hall; Men's in the lower level hallway. Accessible restrooms also available on upper Sanctuary level: Ask an usher for directions.

Elevator

A lift is available for your use between the lower level and the church sanctuary.

Donations

Though this concert was underwritten by donors, free will donations for the sacred music program at EGL help maintain our instruments and provide concerts like this one. Place your gift in a designated basket or utilize this QR code for an online donation.



Concert

Welcome – Pastor Eric Skovgaard

Please silence all devices.

Toccata and Fugue in D minor, BWV 565

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Clouds

Florence Price (1887-1953)

Variations on 'America'

Charles Ives (1874-1954)

Introduction & Theme

Variation I - *Moderato*

Variation II - *Andante*

Interlude

Variation III - *Allegro*

Variation IV - *Polonaise*

Interlude

Variation V - *Allegro*

Coda

Rhapsody in Blue

George Gershwin (1898-1937)

Lotus

William (Billy) Thomas Strayhorn (1915-1967)

arr. Alec Wyton (1921-2007)

Concerto for Organ and Piano, op. 74

Flor Peeters (1903-1986)

I. *Introduzione ed Allegro*

II. *Arioso*

III. *Cadenza e Final*

Closing Announcements – Pastor Joshua Teggatz

God of Our Fathers

Text: Daniel C. Roberts, 1841-1907, *alt.* Tune: George W. Warren, 1828-1902

1. God of our fathers, whose almighty hand
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies:
Our grateful songs before your throne arise.

2. Your love divine has led us in the past;
In this free land by you our lot is cast;
Oh, be our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay;
Your Word our law, your paths our chosen way.

3. From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence
Make your strong arm our ever-sure defense.
Your true religion in our hearts increase;
Your bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

4. Refresh your people on their toilsome way;
Lead us from night to never-ending day;
Fill all our lives with heav'n-born love and grace
Until at last we meet before your face.

Prayer for the Nation

P: Almighty God, You have given us this good land as our heritage. Grant that we remember Your generosity and constantly do Your will. Bless our land with honest industry, truthful education and an honorable way of life. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil course of action. Grant that we, who came from many nations with many different languages, may become a united people. Support us in defending our liberties, and give those to whom we have entrusted the authority of government the spirit of wisdom, that there may be justice and peace in our land. When times are prosperous, may our hearts be thankful, and in troubled times do not let our trust in You fail, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.¹

C: AMEN

God Bless Our Native Land

Text: Charles T. Brooks, 1813-83, st. 1, *alt.*; John S. Dwight, 1813-93, st. 2, *alt.*

Tune: *Thesaurus Musicus*, London. c. 1740; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941

1. God bless our native land;

Firm may she ever stand Through storm and night,

When the wild tempests rave, Ruler of wind and wave

Do thou our country save By Thy great might.

2. So shall our prayers arise

To God above the skies; On Him we wait.

Thou who art ever nigh, Guarding with watchful eye,

To Thee aloud we cry: God save the state!

Please Greet the Artists at the Reception Downstairs

¹ *Lutheran Service Book Pastoral Care Companion*, CPH: 2007, p.637

Concert Notes

Toccata and Fugue in D minor – Bach

Clouds – Price

Variations on America – Ives

Rhapsody in Blue – Gershwin

Lotus – Strayhorn / Wyton

Concerto for Organ and Piano – Peeters

Meet your Neighbors at Elm Grove Lutheran

Elm Grove Ev. Lutheran Church is pleased to open its doors to the community for a concert of organ and piano favorites in celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America.

Elm Grove Lutheran was founded in 1940. Its first location was at 13885 Watertown Plank Road, presently the home of the Elm Grove Women's Club. Trinity Lutheran Classical High School is housed in our building. Please visit www.egl.org for information and resources on both Trinity and our congregation.

Since its inception, our church has centered its life in God's Son Jesus Christ and his gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation. If you have no church home, we invite you to visit one of our services. Presently our congregation meets for worship at 9:00 a.m. every Sunday with a midweek service at 6:30 p.m. Thursdays.

Worship at Elm Grove Lutheran includes the proclamation of God's Word, robust song, and fervent prayer patterned after the historic Christian liturgy. The Lord's Supper is offered every Lord's Day to those prepared for its faithful reception.

Instruction in the Christian faith is regularly given by our pastors. Lutheran teaching is both catholic (historic, universal) and evangelical (focused the gospel of Jesus Christ). In our worship services we offer forgiveness for the past, hope for the future, comfort for the wounded, and purpose for this life and the next. If you have no church of your own, we hope you meet new friendly faces today and will soon visit one of our services to get to know us better.

Life in our world has its ups and downs. If you have no spiritual advisor, our pastors are ready to serve you.

Rev. Eric Skovgaard, Administrative Pastor: ESkovgaard@egl.org

Rev. Joshua Teggatz, Associate Pastor: JTeggatz@egl.org

Artist Biographies

Richard C. Ewert

Richard C. Ewert, organist and music director at Elm Grove Ev. Lutheran Church, holds the bachelor's degree in organ performance from Carroll University in Waukesha and the Master of Church Music degree from Concordia University Wisconsin. He is an active leader in the Milwaukee Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. His skills in organ performance and hymn interpretation are widely admired. Mr. Ewert has served as organist at several regional and national conventions of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod and has been a dedication recitalist and led hymn festivals locally and in Kenya.



Aaron M. Wunsch

Aaron M. Wunsch was confirmed at Elm Grove Lutheran Church, where he first heard Richard Ewert play great organ works by Bach and others. He earned the Bachelor of Arts *cum laude* at Yale University. His graduate studies were at the Mozarteum in Salzburg (Fulbright Fellowship) and the Juilliard School in New York (M.M. and D.M.A.).

His principal teachers in piano included Sister Marion Verhaalen, Robert Moeling, and Stefanie Jacob (at the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music), Peter Frankl, Karlheinz Kämmerling, and Robert McDonald, and he also worked with András Schiff, Jerome Lowenthal, and Claude Frank. Presently he teaches master classes in piano and other music classes at Juilliard and performs as a concert soloist and with ensembles around the world. He is artistic director of the acclaimed Music Mondays concert series at Advent Lutheran Church in New York City and co-artistic director of the Skaneateles Festival in the Finger Lakes region of New York.

