

ELM GROVE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

945 Terrace Dr., Elm Grove, WI 53122

Phone: 262-797-2970 Website: www.egl.org

Rev. Eric C. Skovgaard, Administrative Pastor

Rev. Joshua D. Teggatz, Associate Pastor



14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, August 30 – 9:00 a.m.

MATINS

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

Christ Be My Leader – Charles W. Ore

Opening Hymn

861 Christ Be My Leader

Common Versicles -Psalmody

pp. 219-221

Psalm 26

L Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity,

C and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.

L Prove me, O LORD, and try me;

C test my heart and my mind.

L For your steadfast love is before my eyes,

C and I walk in your faithfulness.

L I do not sit with men of falsehood,

C nor do I consort with hypocrites.

L I hate the assembly of evildoers,

C and I will not sit with the wicked.

L I wash my hands in innocence

C and go around your altar, O LORD,

L proclaiming thanksgiving aloud,

C and telling all your wondrous deeds.

L O LORD, I love the habitation of your house

C and the place where your glory dwells.

L Do not sweep my soul away with sinners,

C nor my life with bloodthirsty men,

L in whose hands are evil devices,

C and whose right hands are full of bribes.

L But as for me, I shall walk in my integrity;

C redeem me, and be gracious to me.

L My foot stands on level ground;

C in the great assembly I will bless the LORD.

**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.**

Office Hymn

706 Love in Christ Is Strong and Living

Reading

Jeremiah 15:15–21

L A reading from Jeremiah, chapter 15.

¹⁵O LORD, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and take vengeance for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance take me not away;
know that for your sake I bear reproach.

¹⁶Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart,
for I am called by your name,
O LORD, God of hosts.

¹⁷I did not sit in the company of revelers,
nor did I rejoice;
I sat alone, because your hand was upon me,
for you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?

Will you be to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail?

¹⁹Therefore thus says the LORD:

"If you return, I will restore you,
and you shall stand before me.

If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,
you shall be as my mouth.

They shall turn to you,
but you shall not turn to them.

²⁰And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
declares the LORD.

²¹I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless."

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Reading

Romans 12:9–21

L A reading from Romans, chapter 12.

⁹Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be conceited. ¹⁷Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Reading

Matthew 16:21–28

L A reading from Matthew, chapter 16.

²¹From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you." ²³But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life? ²⁷For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. ²⁸Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Common Responsory

LSB 221

Sermon

"A Divine Necessity" (Matt. 16:21-28)

Canticle - Te Deum

LSB 223

Offering

Love in Christ is Strong and Living – Jim Vyhanek

Offering Response

- L "The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.
- C **"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful give."** (2 Corin 9:6-7)

Prayers-Benediction

pp. 227-228

Collect of the Day

L Almighty God, Your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow Him wherever He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Additional Collects

Collect for Grace

L Shed Your Holy Spirit upon Your people, O Lord, and make ready our hearts this day to hear and keep Your holy Word that in the communion of Your congregation we may rightly sanctify Your holy day and through Your Word with all Your saints come to eternal blessedness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Benedicamus

LSB 228

Benediction

LSB 228

Hymn to Depart

582 God's Word Is Our Great Heritage

Postlude

Christ Be My Leader – Eleanor Whitsett

Acknowledgments

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ALTAR PARAMETERS: The green paraments of the Pentecost season prompt us to remember that our life in Christ is one of growth, as branches connected to the Vine produce good fruit.
ALTAR FLOWERS: Placed by Peter and Terry Holzwart in thanksgiving to God on their 48th wedding anniversary on August 12.

Participants

Presiding Minister
Assisting Elder
Organist
Elder
Chancel Assistant
Usher Team

Pastor Skovgaard
Doug Grelk
Richard C. Ewert
Andrew Alles
Kirk Midtbo

Sharon Boudro, Kirk Midtbo, Diane Olson, Jim Olson, John Schaefer

SERVING NEXT WEEK **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 (6:30 P.M.)**

ELDER: Bruce Bessert

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: James Drabiszczak

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

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 (9:00 A.M.)

ELDER: Doug Grelk

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: Jim Olson

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 (Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost)

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21

Jeremiah is called by God to proclaim a word of repentance and a word of warning. Babylon is coming, and the entire book of Jeremiah is leading up to their arrival. In the face of persecution, Jeremiah struggles and suffers. He loves receiving God's good Word (15:16) but no one else around him does, to the point that Jeremiah sits alone in his suffering (15:17-18). Jeremiah's experience is a visceral picture of Jesus' teaching in our gospel reading to bear our crosses and a sobering reminder that the cross isn't optional for the child of God. As Jesus will tell his disciples at the Last Supper: "In this world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). Such is God's response to Jeremiah here, as He reminds Jeremiah of His promises to him from his call into ministry (see Jeremiah 1:4-19). They may fight against Jeremiah, but they shall not win.

Epistle Reading: Romans 12:9-21

You might consider these verses to be a mural of what it looks like to be a "living sacrifice" (see Romans 12:1-8), filled with beautiful examples of the Christian life for us to contemplate. In my counting, I see twenty-four examples to contemplate, some longer than others (13 in verses 9-13, 11 in verses 14-21). A few to briefly highlight include two that specifically mention the Lord (serving [12:11] and commending any vengeful thoughts to Him [12:19]). The latter is the longest example Paul gives in this list, encouraging the Church to not only leave vengeance to God but to love our enemies in the meantime, with the goal of leading them to repentance and faith, thereby overcoming evil with good (12:21).

Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:21-28

Today's verses continue the train of thought we began last weekend. Peter confesses Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God (16:16). Jesus reveals what it means for him to be the Christ (16:21). The disciples don't see why the cross is necessary. Jesus explains that the cross is what it means to be the Christ and to follow the Christ. And, as we saw with Jeremiah, Jesus calls his disciples to bear their crosses and follow him, enduring the persecutions that will certainly come from the world and Satan as a result of that confession. Even as they struggle with Jesus' teaching, he nevertheless points them to that day many of them will see when he will come into his kingdom through his death, resurrection, and sending of his Church in mission.

Questions for Reflection This Week

Monday: In prayer we aim for the glory of God and well-being of our neighbors. Reflecting on yesterday's worship service, what are some concrete things you can give thanks to God for, as well as things you can lay at the foot of the cross praying for His mercy?

Tuesday: Undoubtedly Peter was motivated by a desire to protect Jesus when he rebuked Him for declaring the necessity of the crucifixion. But that human desire to protect was rooted in sin. There was no "Plan B" for our salvation. This is the way it had to happen. Have you ever wished that Christ could have avoided the shame and suffering of the cross? If so, what motivated you to think that way?

Wednesday: Our Romans 12 reading follows immediately after Paul's reminder to the Roman Christians that God had saved them by His grace alone and therefore they should let such mercy transform their thinking about life in this world. Paul then gives a long list of examples concerning what that life should look like. Do any of those descriptions of the Christian life seem harder than others?

Thursday: Psalm 26, appointed for this week, teaches us to avoid the assembly of the wicked, meaning those who do not identify with the steadfast love of the LORD found in Christ alone. The old Adam in us, however, prefers to laugh with the sinners than cry with the saints, as Billy Joel used to sing. So, how do we get to that point where we "love the habitation of your house and the place where your glory dwells?"

Friday: When Jesus commands us to take up our crosses and follow Him, the implication is that there is a cost to discipleship. There are some things about us that will need to die as we follow a Savior who gave up all for us. Are there things in your life you know the LORD is calling you to give up, let go of, even crucify in order to be more obedient?



[When Jesus calls Nathanel Bartholomew into discipleship in John 1:48, Jesus tells him that He saw him sitting under a fig tree before meeting him. To sit under one's own fig tree was a way of describing someone who was studying the Word of God. So, Jesus is saying that he saw Nathanel studying the Scriptures before calling him to follow Him.]

KOINONIA

"Our Life Together"

Acts 2:42

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF ELM GROVE LUTHERAN

Vol. 78, Number 8.5

WEEK OF AUGUST 30

- S 9:00 a.m. Divine Service
10:30 a.m. Bible Study (Nave)
10:45 a.m. Youth Bible Study (YR)
3:30 p.m. Pickleball (Gym)
7:00 p.m. AA (FH)
- M 7:00 p.m. Barbershop Group (FH)
- T 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (228)
10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study (BC)
6:30 p.m. TLCHS Board (228)
- W 10:00 a.m. LWML (BC)
1:00 p.m. Sheepshead (BC)
- Th 6:30 p.m. Divine Service
- F Happy Friday!

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

IN THE LORD'S HOUSE: There were **130** people that attended services last week in person and **62** households streamed the services for a total of **192**. "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near." Heb.10:24–25

YOUTH GROUP BIBLE STUDY: We meet in the Youth Room at 10:45. We are studying "The Gospel in Seven Words" with Pastor Teggatz.

NEW OFFICE HOURS: We welcome Beth Boehringer as our new Business Manager. The office hours will be Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Stop in to introduce yourself and welcome Beth to our staff!

PICKLEBALL: Join us in the Gym at 3:30 p.m. today for Pickleball! Enter through the external Youth Room door. Anyone and everyone is

welcome to attend, play, and/or watch to enjoy some fellowship and see what pickleball is all about. Add our future dates to your calendar: September 20, October 4 & 18, November 8 & 22, and December 6 from 3:30-5:00 p.m.

ACCOUNTING-FINANCE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: The Board of Directors has asked me to put together a team of 2-3 individuals with accounting or finance experience to do an internal review of EGL's finances for the year that ended June 30. Experience with audit practices, financial oversight, internal controls and governance are helpful. Contact Sue Wilcox, EGL Comptroller, at suew14237@gmail.com or 262-444-3875.

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

TUESDAY LADIES' BIBLE STUDY: Our Tuesday morning ladies' Bible study is starting a new topic for a new month next week. On Tuesday, September 1 at 10:00 a.m. in the Bartelt Center, we will begin working our way through the story of the Bible through the lens of various people we meet along the way. We invite you to join us!

LWML: The morning group of LWML is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, September 2 at 10:00 a.m. in the BAAC. The Bible Study, "How Long, Lord?" is found on page 18 of the Summer issue of Lutheran Woman's Quarterly. We will do a Biblical study of these words of How Long? Wait, and patience.

YOUNG FAMILY BIBLE STUDY: Please join us for our first young family Bible study on Saturday, September 5 from 9:00-10:30 a.m. in the church library. This group is designed for engaged and married couples, as well as parents of preschool and elementary-aged children, for fellowship and intentional time in the Word of God. Please talk to Pastor or Rachel Teggatz with any questions.

WISCONSIN MEMORIAL CEMETERY: A grave plot at Wisconsin Memorial Cemetery was purchased a few years ago but is no longer needed because the man is moving out of the area. If you or someone you know would like more details on this offer to purchase a plot, please connect with Pr Sam Lee at 414-979-5503. The seller is prepared to offer the plot at a steep discount in comparison with the fair market value.

END OF SUMMER BBQ: On Sunday, Sept. 13, we will enjoy the newly named "End of Summer BBQ" sponsored by the EGL Foundation. We'll eat in the Fellowship Hall around 11:30 a.m. following the 10:00 a.m. indoor worship service with communion. (Note the time change for the worship service!) No Bible Study. The main dish will be provided by Mission BBQ. Plan to bring a dish to share. Look for SignUpGenius in your email to sign up!

SUNDAY SCHOOL PRE-K4-6TH GRADES: Mark your calendars for September 20 for the start of learning the Word in Sunday School. We will begin with the great prophet, Elijah. We meet in the lower hallway, Room 128 at 10:30 a.m. Teachers or helpers are needed! Contact Linda Hoffmann for details at 262-786-1203.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP: Meet in the BAAC at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 17 to discuss the book *The Maid* written by Nita Prose. This novel is a mystery about Molly Gray, a hotel maid at the Regency Grand Hotel who loves to clean rooms and takes pride in her work. She finds Mr. Black, a wealthy tycoon, dead in his room. She becomes the first suspect in the murder investigation. Molly gets support from friends and staff of the hotel. Ladies if you like to read and discuss books, please join us. We welcome new members.

STAMMTISCH: Guys! Fall's almost here! Please don't forget to include EGL Stammtisch in your monthly schedule! Take a break and kick back with us on Thurs., Sept. 17, from 7:30-9:00 p.m. for great libation and lively conversation that runs the gamut, but always in a fun, informal atmosphere of Christian fellowship. Perhaps a few new things to enjoy this fall? Come and find out! (Hint: stay tuned for details for our Fall Brewing Social, Saturday, October 3) Join us in the Bartelt Adult Activities Center (BAAC) at EGL, bring your favorite brew and some snacks to share and a friend! Any questions? Contact Bruce Bessert by phone/text at 414-526-8430, or by email at bruce.bessert@gmail.com.

LADIES PM STUDY: What is God calling me to do? What is the *one thing* I was born to do? Am I truly living out my calling? The truth is that there isn't just *one thing* you are meant to do. God calls you to *many* things throughout the ages and stages of life. Whether you are a recent graduate, settled into a stable job, or retired, all of us can experience seasons of feeling stuck. God's Word speaks truth about how we are meant to live and what we are called to do.

Please join the Ladies PM Bible Study as we take up the five part study of "Callings for Life: God's Plan, Your Purpose" by Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Leininger starting on Wednesday September 23, 2026 and meeting every other week through November 18, 2026, 5:30-6:45 p.m., in the BAAC. The book is available from several sources including Concordia Publishing House. Contact Laura Traas with questions at 414-380-0171 or traaslm@sbcglobal.net.

LWML FALL RETREAT: September 25-26 are the dates for the LWML Fall Retreat to be held at the Holiday Inn in Manitowoc. Deadline for making reservations at the LWML rate of \$100 per room is August 26. Call Holiday Inn at 920-682-6000.

KNITTERS WANTED: LWML is in the process of knitting newborn baby hats for the Manitowoc County Pregnancy Center. Patterns and yarn are at the back of the church. Hats are due by September 24. Please sign the sheet so we know who has a bag. Thank you, Linda Hoffmann

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES: We will be packing these boxes in October. Your help in gathering the items needed (many are on sale now) would be greatly appreciated. New items for boys and girls ages 2 to 14 include school supplies (pencils, crayons, folders, etc.); hygiene needs (toothbrushes, washcloths, combs); and small toys, stuffed animals, games, etc. Please place items in the bin near the LWML bulletin board in the lower entrance. Any questions please call Carole Braun at 262-781-1494. Thank you!

FROM TLCHS HEADMASTER MELVIN BEVERSDORF: Thank you to all who spoke to me and listened to my presentation on the high school last Sunday. I left some information in the back of church if you'd like. Thank you for your prayers and your continued support and encouragement. We look forward to a great year! Questions - contact me at the School office phone 262-289-8267 (text ok) or head@trinitylutheranclassical.org.