

# 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](http://www.egl.org)

Rev. Eric C. Skovgaard, Administrative Pastor

Rev. Joshua D. Teggatz, Associate Pastor



15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, September 6 – 9:00 a.m.

**DS 4**

### **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](http://egl.org/give).

## Welcome and Announcements

### Prelude

**Lord Jesus Christ, the Children's Friend – Healey Willan**

### Hymn of Invocation

**866 Lord Jesus Christ, the Children's Friend**

### Confession and Absolution

**p. 203**

### Introit

**Psalm 92:1-4; antiphon: v. 5**

P How great are your works, O LORD!

**C Your thoughts are very deep!**

P It is good to give thanks to the LORD,

**C to sing praises to your name, O Most High;**

P to declare your steadfast love in the morning

**C and your faithfulness by night,**

P to the music of the lute and the harp,

**C to the melody of the lyre.**

P For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;

**C at the works of your hands I sing for joy.**

**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 How great are your works, O LORD!

**C Your thoughts are very deep!**

### Kyrie - Collect of the Day

**pp. 204-205**

### Old Testament Reading

**Ezekiel 33:7–9**

<sup>7</sup>So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup>If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. <sup>9</sup>But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### Gradual

**Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.**

P Fear the LORD, you his saints,

**C for those who fear him lack nothing!**

P Many are the afflictions of the righteous,

**C but the LORD delivers him out of them all.**

## Epistle

## Romans 13:1-10

<sup>1</sup>Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. <sup>2</sup>Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. <sup>3</sup>For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, <sup>4</sup>for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup>Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. <sup>6</sup>For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. <sup>7</sup>Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

<sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## Alleluia and Verse

p. 205

## Holy Gospel

## Matthew 18:1-20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

**C Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" <sup>2</sup>And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them <sup>3</sup>and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup>Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>5</sup>"Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, <sup>6</sup>but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

<sup>7</sup>"Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! <sup>8</sup>And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. <sup>9</sup>And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.

<sup>10</sup>"See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. <sup>11</sup>For the Son of Man came to save the lost. <sup>12</sup>What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray,

does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? <sup>13</sup>And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. <sup>14</sup>So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

<sup>15</sup>"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. <sup>16</sup>But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup>If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup>Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup>Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup>For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Apostles' Creed**

**p. 207**

**Hymn of the Day**

**820 My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker**

**Sermon**

**"Conversation and Consolation" (Matt 18:1-20)**

**Prayer of the Church**

**Offering**

**My Soul Now Praise Your Maker – Donald Busarow**

(Those who are not communing may place their cards in the offering plate.)

**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 giver." (2 Corin 9:6-7)**

**Service of the Sacrament**

**Preface - Agnus Dei**

**pp. 208-211**

**Hymns During Distribution**

**622 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared  
843 "Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive"  
725 Children of the Heavenly Father**

**Closing Hymn**

**686 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing**

**Postlude**

**Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing – Gordon Young**

**Acknowledgments**

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ALTAR PARAMENTS: 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: "An excellent wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels."

(Proverbs 31:10) Today's altar flowers are given in thankful memory of Jane Nessel Senkbeil, who pledged me her faithfulness on September 5, 1971. - H L Senkbeil

**Participants**

Presiding Minister

Assisting Minister

Organist

Elder

Chancel Assistant

Usher Team

Altar Guild

Pastor Teggatz

Pastor Skovgaard

Richard C. Ewert

Doug Grelk

Jim Olson

Chase Hipke, Connor Hipke, Rob Hipke, Thomas Hipke, Tyler Hipke,  
Carter Klein, Ian Klein, Michael Klein, Ann Wilcox, Christine Wilcox

Nancy Ewert, Meg Grelk

**SERVING NEXT WEEK**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 (6:30 P.M.)**

ELDER: Paul Haut

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: Steve Hipenbecker

TEAM 3: Dan Berry, Caleb Nelson, Laura Traas, Aislyn Wegner, Jake Wegner,  
Randy Wegner, Rick Wegner, Ryan Wegner

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 (9:00 A.M.)**

ELDER: Eric Thompson

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: Dan Berry

TEAM 4: Tom Brojanac, Ben Ewert, Emily Ewert, Peter Holzwart,  
Ken Schuppner, Duane Wunsch

## **EGL in the Word (Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost)**

### **Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-9**

Last week, we heard God remind the prophet Jeremiah of His call and the promise that He would protect Jeremiah against any opposition he would face. We see God similarly remind the prophet Ezekiel of His call here. Echoing His own words earlier in the book (see Ezekiel 3:16-21), God reminds Ezekiel that he is called as a watchman for his people. That duty entails calling out the sins of his people in order to bring them to repentance and faith; in other words, Ezekiel can't play ignorant in the corner while his people forsake the ways of the LORD. There are significant stakes in this call to ministry as well. Notice how Ezekiel himself will be judged if he ignores the sin going on, for God desires all to be saved and reconciled (see Matt 18 below).

### **Epistle Reading: Romans 13:1-10**

We continue on in the third and final section of Paul's letter to the Romans as he encourages the Church to live into their identity as living sacrifices (see Rom 12:1-4). These verses from Romans 13 might seem too worldly. Subject ourselves to the government? Pay taxes? This reminds us that the "left-hand kingdom" of the world is also governed by God for the sake of His Church, praising good and condemning evil. Part of being the Church is submitting to these powers as ordained and given by God, as long as those powers conform themselves to God's will. To summarize all his encouragements up to this point, Paul concludes simply: love. Love is the fulfillment of the Law. Love puts the other first and conforms to God's desires.

### **Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:1-20**

After the Transfiguration and Jesus' second passion prediction (see Matt 17), Jesus launches into another chapter of teaching. This chapter focuses on the community of the kingdom. Correcting the disciples' misguided opening question ("Who is the greatest?"), Jesus directs them and us to a child, one who acknowledges their utter dependence on another, as the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Being a child in the kingdom entails both receiving from our heavenly Father and sharing those gifts with fellow disciples (in this chapter, fellow children/little ones). As with Ezekiel's call above, this entails checking our own sins to avoid tempting others, as well as relentlessly pursuing wayward lost sheep with the goal of repentance/reconciliation.

## **Questions for Reflection This Week**

**Monday:** Answer this question around the dinner table tonight- "Why do we go to church?"

**Tuesday:** What do you appreciate most about the Church being a community? Why?

**Wednesday:** We discussed two ways we can harm the community of the Church in the sermon this week: (1) tempting others to sin through our own sinning and (2) allowing inactive, wayward members to keep drifting rather than intervene. What is our responsibility as parts of the body of Christ in these areas? Where do you think you could improve? Where do you think we as a congregation could improve?

**Thursday:** As you prepare to enter the Lord's house this weekend, who might you be coming for in addition to yourself? Think of one person you'd like to check in with while you're here (perhaps this might even be someone you've seen but never talked to before!).

**Friday:** To converse and console is part of what it means to be the Church. This is especially needful for those who haven't been around for a while. Take a moment this weekend to text, call, or write a letter to someone you haven't seen in a while. Check in with them. Pray with them as you and they feel comfortable. Remind them how treasured they are by their church family and, most especially, Jesus.



*[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 9.1

## **WEEK OF SEPT. 6**

- S 9:00 a.m. Divine Service  
10:30 a.m. Bible Study (Nave)  
10:45 a.m. Youth Bible Study (YR)  
7:00 p.m. AA (FH)
- M Labor Day – Office closed  
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. Visitation Team (BC)
- W 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study (BC)  
1:00 p.m. Sheepshead (BC)
- Th 6:30 p.m. Worship
- 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 **150** households streamed the services for a total of **280**. "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 BIBLE STUDY:** Join us every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. in the youth room as we begin a new topic for youth Bible study: "Themes of the Bible." This study is for middle and high schoolers. We hope to see you there!

**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!

**REGULAR WEEKLY ADULT BIBLE STUDIES:** Sunday mornings after worship in the nave we are reading through the Pastoral Epistles of 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus. Tuesday mornings at 7:00 a.m. in the conference room the men of EGL are studying the book of Revelation. Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Bartelt Center the ladies of EGL are working their way through the story of the Bible through the lens of various people we meet along the way. Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the Bartelt Center this co-ed study is in the middle of St Paul's magnum opus -- the epistle to the Romans -- and starts up again Sept 9.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL PRE-K4-6<sup>TH</sup> 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.

**EXULTATE SINGERS:** You are invited to sing with the Exultate Singers, our congregation's adult vocal choir. You do not have to be a soloist to sing in the choir. The main function of a chorus singer is to blend in, not stand out. Fullness of voice is not really a requirement. Rehearsals are Wednesdays 7:00 - 8:30 P.M. in the Music Center. We sing for Sunday worship twice a month. Our first rehearsal is Wednesday, September 16, 2026. For more information contact Rick Ewert: [REwert@egl.org](mailto:REwert@egl.org).

**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!

**SONGS OF REMEMBRANCE:** Plan to attend this concert commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the 9/11 Attacks. When: September 11, 2026, 7:30 p.m. Where: All Saints' Cathedral, 818 E. Juneau Ave, Milwaukee. Cost: Freewill offering. Parking (free) Available: Lincoln Center of the Arts School, 820 E. Knapp Street and Immanuel Presbyterian Church Lot, 1100 N. Astor Street.  
<https://www.agomilwaukee.org/event/songs-of-remembrance/>

**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:** Next 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. Click this link to sign up: [End of Summer BBQ Info and Sign Up](#)

**LWML:** The evening group of LWML will discuss mission projects on Monday, September 14 in the Friendship Library at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome.

**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](mailto:bruce.bessert@gmail.com).

**PICKLEBALL:** 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.

**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 [traaslm112@sbcglobal.net](mailto:traaslm112@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:** 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](mailto:head@trinitylutheranclassical.org).

**LIFEWALK:** A Place of Refuge (APOR) LifeWalk is next Saturday, September 12. Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, 11313 N Riverland Road, Mequon, is the host of the 2026 APOR LifeWalk. Please support the women and babies served by APOR by participating in LifeWalk or sponsoring a walker. Register at [www.aplaceofrefuge.org](http://www.aplaceofrefuge.org) and download a sponsor sheet. New this year is a health fair and silent auction. There are 21 exciting baskets, artwork and experiences to bid on. Activities begin at 9 a.m. with registration, light breakfast, health fair, walk and conclude with lunch and announcement of auction winners. If you are unable to attend, but would like to sponsor a walker, please call Sue Schmalzer, 414-313-3888.

## NOTES

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.