

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



19TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, October 4 – 9:00 a.m.

DS 2

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

May God Bestow on Us His Grace – Robert Lind

Hymn of Invocation

824 May God Bestow on Us His Grace

Confession and Absolution

p. 167

Introit

Psalm 118:22–24; antiphon: v. 1

P Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

C for his steadfast love endures forever!

P The stone that the builders rejected

C has become the cornerstone.

P This is the LORD's doing;

C it is marvelous in our eyes.

P This is the day that the LORD has made;

C let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**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 Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

C for his steadfast love endures forever!

Kyrie - Collect of the Day

pp. 168-172

(Hymn of Praise: This Is the Feast)

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 5:1–7

¹Let me sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.

²He dug it and cleared it of stones,
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
and he looked for it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.

³And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem
and men of Judah,
judge between me and my vineyard.

⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard,
that I have not done in it?

When I looked for it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?
⁵And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.
⁶I will make it a waste;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and briers and thorns shall grow up;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.
⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the men of Judah
are his pleasant planting;
and he looked for justice,
but behold, bloodshed;
for righteousness,
but behold, an outcry!

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalms 91:11; Ps 103:1

A He will command his angels concerning you

C to guard you in all your ways.

A Bless the LORD, O my soul,

C and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

Epistle

Philippians 3:4b–14

If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness, under the law blameless. ⁷But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his

sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

p. 173

Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:33–46

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

³³[Jesus said:] "Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. ³⁴When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. ³⁵And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' ³⁹And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. ⁴⁰When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons."

⁴²Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures:

"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is marvelous in our eyes?"

⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. ⁴⁴And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him."

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day	426 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
Sermon	“Knowing Christ Trumps Everything” (Phil 3:4b-9)
Nicene Creed	p. 174
Prayer of the Church	
Offering	When I Survey the Wondrous Cross – Robert A. Hobby
Offertory	p. 176
	Service of the Sacrament
Preface -Agnus Dei	pp. 177-180
Hymns During Distribution	634 The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord 568 If Your Beloved Son, O God 637 Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord
Post-Communion Canticle-Benediction <i>(Canticle: Thank the Lord)</i>	pp. 181-183
Hymn to Depart	603 We Know That Christ Is Raised
Postlude	We Know That Christ Is Raised – Wilbur Held

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: Today’s altar flowers are given by Sue and Bruce Wilcox in celebration of their 34th wedding anniversary on October 3.

Participants

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

Pastor Skovgaard
Pastor Teggatz
Richard C. Ewert
Bruce Bessert
Jim Olson

Sharon Boudro, Kirk Midtbo, Diane Olson, Jim Olson, John Schaefer
Sherri Bond, Karen Clark

SERVING NEXT WEEK

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8 (6:30 P.M.)

ELDER: Eric Thompson

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: Steve Hipenbecker

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

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11 (9:00 A.M.)

ELDER: John Wolck

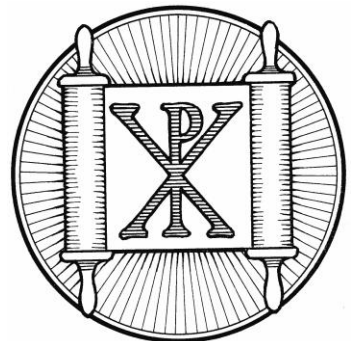
CHANCEL ASSISTANT: Dan Berry

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 (Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost)

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

We've had lots of New Testament examples of the vineyard image the last few weeks. Here's a prominent Old Testament occasion and, like its counterpart in Matthew today, it's not a positive one. Through Isaiah, God tells a parable about a beautiful vineyard He himself planted (5:3-4). Everything was done right so, naturally, he looks for it to "yield grapes!" And yet, "it yielded wild grapes!" (5:2). So, in His justice, God does away with the vineyard. He deconstructs His "pleasant planting" (5:7). You can imagine Isaiah's audience nodding as this story is told. Well, of course God should tear it down! It's not doing anything; in fact, it's bearing bad fruit! Then, the rug is ripped right from under their feet: God's people



are the vineyard! (5:7). They are the ones who have corrupted themselves and created “bloodshed” and “an outcry” rather than “justice and righteousness.” And for this reason, God will punish their sin; this ultimately climaxes in the people’s uprooting out of the land/into Babylon.

- The picture looks bleak in these verses. Yet, take a moment to read Isaiah 27 this week. This is the gospel counterpart to Isaiah 5, promising the restoration of God’s vineyard!

Epistle Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

In effect, Paul takes his impressive resume and throws it in the trash in these verses. He builds his case for recognition in 3:4-6, which is hard to argue against if you’re a Jewish audience. And yet, the startling conclusion: “...whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ...for his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ” (3:7-9). None of it holds. None of it matters, in the end. The only thing that counts is Christ and faith in him, for through faith, we are united in the sufferings, death, and resurrection of Christ (3:9-11). This is Paul’s governing mindset, especially in times of imprisonment and persecution, knowing his “upward call” and the prize awaiting him at the end (3:12-14). This is what it means to lose one’s life and bear the cross, as Jesus calls all disciples to do (see Matt 16:21-28).

- In a materialistic culture, Paul’s words are nonsensical. And yet, they challenge us to evaluate our priorities and idols in this world. What worldly things in your life are acting as an idol? How can you count them as “rubbish” this week, prioritizing the kingdom of God instead?

Gospel Reading: Matthew 21:33-46

Our parable today rounds out our triad of vineyard parables and, as with last week’s parable, is directed at the religious leaders (see 21:45). You can’t read the start to the parable without recalling Isaiah 5. As God planted a vineyard there, so He does here as the “master of a house” (21:33). The image is slightly altered, as the leaders are the tenants/workers in the vineyard rather than the fruit itself. However, their work is integrally connected to the fruitfulness of this vineyard. These tenants are self-interested, to the point that they’re willing to mistreat, beat, and kill the master’s servants, even being so bold as to assassinate the master’s own son with the misguided notion that they would assume control of the vineyard (21:34-39). And, as with Isaiah 5, Jesus traps the leaders to condemn themselves. Of course, the master will put those wretched servants to death and replace them! (21:41). They say this, only to find out Jesus is talking about them, citing Psalm 118:22-23 to condemn their unbelief. This parable sets the tone for the next few chapters and further energizes the leaders to take decisive action against Jesus.

- Which of the three vineyard parables in the last few weeks has been your favorite? Why? Talk through this question at the dinner table sometime this week.

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 10.1

WEEK OF OCT. 4

- Su 9:00 a.m. Divine Service
10:30 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Youth Bible Study
3:30 p.m. Pickleball (Gym)
7:00 p.m. AA (FH)
- M 2:00 p.m. Selma Leaf Visitation
3:00 p.m. Selma Leaf Funeral
5:15 p.m. Exultate Ringers (MC)
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 (FL)
5:00 p.m. Intrada Ringers (MC)
- W 10:00 a.m. LWML (BC)
1:00 p.m. Sheepshead (BC)
5:30 p.m. Ladies PM Bible Study (BC)
7:00 p.m. Exultate Singers (MC)
- Th 6:30 p.m. Worship Service
- F Happy Friday!
- Sa 10:00 a.m. 2nd Annual Stammtisch Fall
Brewing Social (CLC/CLC Garage)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

IN THE LORD'S HOUSE: There were **157** people that attended services last week in person and **96** households streamed the services for a total of **253**. "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!

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.

SEASONS REMINDER: November Seasons has an EARLY deadline. Please submit all content for the November issue by Monday, October 12, 5:00 p.m. to seasons@egl.org.

37TH ANNUAL MILWAUKEE AREA LIFECHAIN TODAY: From 2:00 – 3:30 p.m., please join your fellow EGL members TODAY as we prayerfully stand in support of the unborn. Young and old alike can participate by standing or sitting holding pro-life signs that will be provided. Our location is near the northeast corner of Pilgram and Bluemound. Meet in the parking lot of North Shore Bank at 1:50 p.m. Please contact Sue Schmalzer at 414-313-3888 with questions.

LWML OCTOBER EVENTS: Wednesday, *October 7*, Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. in BAAC; LWML Sunday, *October 11*, celebrated in church; Monday, *October 12*, Evening Group at 6:30 p.m. in Friendship Library to assemble Christmas Child Boxes; Saturday, *October 24*, at 9:00 a.m. for Zone 3 Rally at Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church.

OCTOBER STAMMTISCH!! TWO FOR ONE!! Guys! Fall's here!! "Kick" back with us on Thursday, October 15, from 7:30 – 9:00ish p.m. for great libation and lively conversation...in a relaxed, fun informal atmosphere. Join us at the EGL Bartelt Center (BAAC) It's BYOB, so bring your favorite or "off-the-wall" fall beverage, snacks to share (and a friend?!).

Remember! Due to the positive response we had last August, we will host our 2nd Annual EGL Fall Brewing Social on Saturday, October 10, from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. We'll set up at CLC/CLC Garage that morning. Feel free to drop in or out when you can; there will be a picnic lunch at 11:30. Help with the brewing or just watch and learn. Any questions? Contact Bruce Bessert at 414-526-8430 or bruce.bessert@gmail.com.

LUNCH BRUNCH: On October 15, the Lunch Brunch group will meet at 1:00 p.m. at First Watch in Brookfield. Call Linda at 262-786-1203 to reserve your place.

BIBLICAL WISDOM IN AN AGE OF AI: Is AI a phenomenally positive tool, or does it pose a serious threat to humanity and to the church? How does the use of AI affect our vocations as Christians? How can we develop the wisdom required to evaluate our use of AI?

On Tuesday, October 27, from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. at CUW, Rev. Jonathan Conner will address these and many other questions in this informative and timely presentation. Now, more than ever, we need real wisdom in the face of an ever-spreading artificial intelligence. Light refreshments will be provided. Registration is optional but appreciated.

EGL REFORMATION PARTY: Join us on October 31 from Noon - 3 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The afternoon will begin with a Medieval luncheon of breads, meats, cheeses, and fruit. (There will be a free-will offering.) Activities will include Luther trivia, puzzles, carnival-style games, and crafts. Consider bringing a friend or neighbor. Please sign up on the sheet at the back of the church or at this site: <https://egl.org/event/reformation-party-2026/register>.

ANOTHER SPRINKLE OF LOVE: The Teggatzes are preparing for a new bundle of joy! Please join us for a **BABY SHOWER** celebration on **Sunday, November 1 at 11:30 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall (after the Bible study hour). All of EGL is invited to attend to enjoy a light luncheon and fellowship, so be on the lookout for a sign-up sheet in the weeks to come! They are registered at Target. If you would like to contribute to a surprise group gift or have questions, please reach out to Shelly Skovgaard or Sue Schmalzer.

PICKLEBALL: We play TODAY! Join us in the gym from 3:30-5:00 p.m. Please enter through the external Youth Room door. Add our future dates to your calendar: October 18, November 8 & 22, and December 13 from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. *Note: Due to Advent by Candlelight, the last Pickleball meet has been moved from December 6 to December 13.*

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. God's Word speaks truth about how we are meant to live and what we are called to do.

There's still time to 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. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 7, and we will continue to meet every other week through November 18, 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](tel:414-380-0171) or traaslm112@sbcglobal.net.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP: Plan to attend the October 15 discussion on the book, *Theo of Golden*, written by Allen Levi beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the BAAC. This is a heartwarming story of Theo moving to the town of Golden and making a huge impact on the community.

HOW ARE PASTORS MADE: Have questions about how the LCMS is forming faithful pastors to meet the current and future demands of the holy ministry? Come and talk to the LCMS Pastoral Formation Committee, which includes the two seminary presidents, at the Listening Session hosted at St. Peter Lutheran Church in Arlington Heights, Ill., on Saturday, Nov. 14, 9 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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. For more information contact Rick Ewert: REwert@egl.org.

INTRADA RINGERS: We need more people to ring handbells. Do you sit in amazement while listening to the handbell choir ring bells at worship wondering, "Can I do this?" You are invited to try ringing handbells with the Intrada Ringers. Please join our rehearsal/practice on a Tuesday evening 5:00-6:00 p.m. in the Music Center. Contact Rick Ewert REwert@egl.org / 262-289-9333.

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!

TRINITY LUTHERAN CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL UPDATE: Great news! Our senior boy was chosen to participate in this year's Herzog Foundation Faith & Nation student forum. It's a type of senior retreat for top scholars from Christian high schools across the nation. Former Gov. Scott Walker will be one of the speakers at this Nov. 1-4th event in Dallas, TX. The event will take place at the camp where "The Chosen" is filmed (on a backlot). If you'd like to help sponsor the student's airfare, please contact headmaster, Mr. Beversdorf. Thank you for your prayers and support!

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