

ELM GROVE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

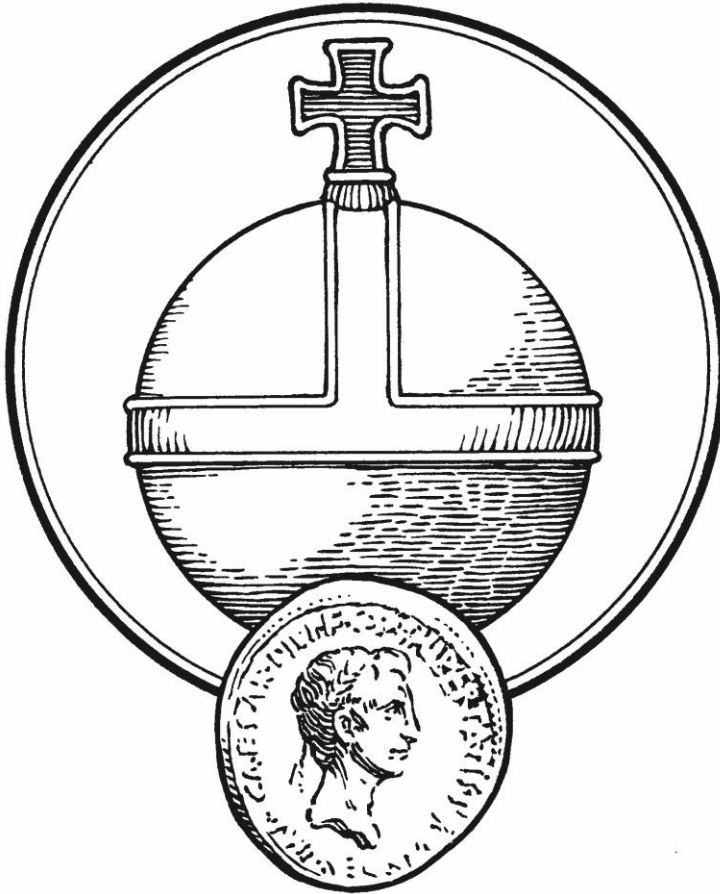
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

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



21st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Thursday, October 15 – 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 18 – 9:00 a.m.

DS2

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

Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng – Michael Burkhardt

Hymn of Invocation

813 Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng

Confession and Absolution

p. 167

Introit

Psalm 121:1-4, 7-8; antiphon: v.5

P The LORD is your keeper;

C the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

P I lift up my eyes to the hills.

C From where does my help come?

P My help comes from the LORD,

C who made heaven and earth.

P He will not let your foot be moved;

C he who keeps you will not slumber.

P Behold, he who keeps Israel

C will neither slumber nor sleep.

P The LORD will keep you from all evil;

C he will keep your life.

P The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in

C from this time forth and forevermore.

**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 The LORD is your keeper;

C the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

Kyrie - Collect of the Day

pp. 168-172

(Hymn of Praise: This is the Feast)

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 45:1–7

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped,
to subdue nations before him
and to loose the belts of kings,
to open doors before him
that gates may not be closed:

²"I will go before you
and level the exalted places,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,

³I will give you the treasures of darkness

and the hoards in secret places,
that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I name you, though you do not know me.
⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other,
besides me there is no God;
I equip you, though you do not know me,
⁶that people may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is none besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
⁷I form light and create darkness,
I make well-being and create calamity,
I am the LORD, who does all these things."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalms 91:11, 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

1 Thessalonians 1:1–10

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

²We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers,
³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness
of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you,
⁵because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and
with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And
you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the
joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in
Achaia. ⁸For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia,
but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. ⁹For they
themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to
God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he
raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

p. 173

Holy Gospel

Matthew 22:15–22

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle [Jesus] in his talk. ¹⁶And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" ²¹They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day

781 We Give Thee But Thine Own

Sermon

**"What Is the Christian's Relationship to the Secular Government?"
(Matt. 22:15-22)**

Nicene Creed

Prayer of the Church

Offering

We Give Thee But Thine Own – William H. Bates

Offertory

p. 176

Service of the Sacrament

Preface -Agnus Dei

pp. 177-180

Hymns During Distribution

- 1 To Your temple, Lord, I come,
For it is my worship home.
This earth has no better place,
Here I see my Savior's face.
- 2 I through Him am reconciled,
I through Him become Your child.
Abba, Father, give me grace
In Your courts Your love to trace.
- 3 While Your glorious praise is sung,
Touch my lips, unloose my tongue
That my joyful soul may bless
Christ the Lord, my righteousness.
- 4 While the prayers of saints ascend,
God of love, to mine attend.
Hear me, for Your Spirit pleads;
Hear, for Jesus intercedes.

981 To Your Temple, Lord, I Come

- 5 While I listen to Your Law,
Fill my soul with humble awe
Till Your Gospel bring to me
Life and immortality.
- 6 While Your ministers proclaim
Peace and pardon in Your name,
Through their voice, by faith, may I
Hear You speaking from the sky.
- 7 From Your house when I return,
May my heart within me burn,
And at evening let me say,
"I have walked with God today."

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.
Text: Public domain

940 Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

Post-Communion Canticle-Benediction

(Canticle: Thank the Lord)

pp. 181-183

Hymn to Depart

525 Crown Him with Many Crowns

Postlude

Crown Him with Many Crowns – James Denton

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: The altar flowers are given by Tom & Sue Brojanac for blessings received.

Participants

Presiding Minister
Assisting Minister
Organist
Elder
Chancel Assistant
Usher Team

Pastor Skovgaard
9:00 Pastor Teggatz
Richard C. Ewert

6:30 Jason Krueger; 9:00 Andrew Alles
6:30 Mattias Goldenstein; 9:00 Jim Olson

6:30 Dan Berry, Caleb Nelson, Laura Traas, Aislyn Wegner,
Jake Wegner, Randy Wegner, Rick Wegner, Ryan Wegner

9:00 Tom Brojanac, Ben Ewert, Emily Ewert,
Peter Holzwart, Ken Schuppner, Duane Wunsch

Altar Guild

6:30 Joan Knuteson, Julie Leaf
9:00 Shelly Skovgaard, Sharon Boudro

SERVING NEXT WEEK **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22 (6:30 P.M.)**

ELDER: Paul Haut

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: Kirk Midtbo

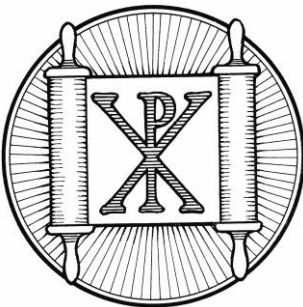
TEAM 5: Sharon Boudro, Kirk Midtbo, Diane Olson, Jim Olson, John Schaefer

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25 (9:00 A.M.)

ELDER: John Wolck

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: Dan Berry

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



EGL in the Word (Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost)

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7

These verses from Isaiah are remarkable in a few respects. For one, God unabashedly asserts His supremacy here. In the surrounding chapters, God makes His case against all the other so-called “gods” that His people worship, asserting over and over again that they are nothing. Yahweh, on the other hand? He is the LORD, and there is no other (45:6). Nothing happens outside of His notice or governance (45:7). Additionally, Isaiah is writing hundreds of years before Cyrus

(king of Persia) defeats Babylon and lets Judah return to their homeland! This is one of the big indicators in Isaiah that God is supreme: His ability to prophesy the future. Yet, notice why he does all these things in the complex nature of history: “for the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen” (45:4). In all the complexity, God is working to enact His promises for the sake of His people.

- We often use the big “omni” words to describe God’s supremacy: omnipotent (all-powerful), omniscient (all-knowing), and omnipresent (all-present). Do any of these qualities of God bring you comfort? Do any trouble you? Why? Have a discussion around the dinner table on this (you don’t have to use the big words!).

Epistle Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

We’ll be reading the bulk of 1 Thessalonians the next several weeks as we look to the end of the Church Year. 1 Thessalonians orients us to the end of things and the hope we have when Jesus returns and we are raised to live with him eternally. It’s that hope, that joy, that fills the Thessalonian church in Paul’s opening. Their repentance (turning) from idolatry to serve the living God (see God’s arguments in Isaiah 45 and surrounding chapters), in accordance with Paul’s example, not only inspires him but sets an example for all the surrounding churches and regions. This repentance informs both their present living (“to serve the living and true God”) and their future hope (“to wait for his Son from heaven”- 1:9-10).

- Paul begins every epistle with thanksgiving for the congregation he’s writing to, even as many of his congregations are enduring internal troubles and external persecution. What about Elm Grove Lutheran can you be thankful for this week?

Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:15-22

With our gospel lesson, we switch back from Jesus’ parables to the leaders’ accusations and questions. We’re explicitly given their motivation for all this dialogue: “...how to entangle him in his words” (22:15). This informs how we understand their opening question to Jesus in the temple (see 21:23). Here, the leaders try to put Jesus in a bind (like he put them in a bind last chapter- “The baptism of John- from where did it come? From heaven or from man?”). Here, it’s a battle between God and Caesar. If Jesus answers “yes” to their questions (pay taxes), he makes an enemy out of the surrounding crowds who see Rome as the enemy. If Jesus answers “no” (don’t pay taxes), he makes an enemy out of Rome. With his answer, Jesus teaches that (1) God is indeed supreme and sovereign (see our OT reading), yet (2) He commands that we obey the earthly authorities He has established, insofar as they do not transgress God’s will. Such is Jesus’ teaching for us as well. This leads to more nefarious questions and Jesus’ overall response to the religious leaders and all who have rejected his message (Matt 22:23-23:39).

- Jesus teaches us to obey earthly authorities, insofar as they do not transgress God’s will. How does this inform how we talk about and treat earthly leaders, especially earthly leaders we may not like or agree with?

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 10.3

WEEK OF OCT. 18

- 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 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. Adult Bible Study (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 2:00 p.m. Ewert/Boettcher Wedding

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

IN THE LORD'S HOUSE: There were **124** people that attended services last week in person and **100** households streamed the services for a total of **224**. "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

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.

RITE OF CONFIRMATION: During the Sunday service on November 1, the Rite of

Confirmation will be celebrated for Alfred and Roland Colucci, and Benjamin and Austin Garcia. We will welcome them to the Lord's Table and pray that the Holy Spirit continues to strengthen them in the true faith unto life everlasting.

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: November 8 & 22, and December 13 from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

EWERT/BOETTCHER WEDDING CELEBRATION: The members of Elm Grove Lutheran are warmly invited to the wedding ceremony of Emily Ewert and Danny Boettcher at Elm Grove Lutheran Saturday, October 24, at 2:00 p.m. Join your voices and prayers with theirs as Emily and Danny are united in marriage.

LCFS ADOPTION CAMPAIGN: Beginning in mid-October, and with the support of area congregations including EGL's Foundation, Lutheran Counseling and Family Services of Wisconsin's adoption awareness program will share a message of hope through a billboard at the I-94 Zoo Interchange, as well as on buses throughout Milwaukee, and on WISN television and social media. The theme you'll see is **"Unexpected Pregnancy? There Is Hope in Adoption."** Adoption is a loving choice. The LCFS campaign opens the conversation. Your compassionate response can help the mom take the next step. Please share LCFS' contact information with anyone who could benefit from talking about adoption as a life-affirming option: [414-536-8333](tel:414-536-8333) or www.adopt.info. You may also contact Deaconess Kris Freeman, Director of Outreach at kfreeman@lcfswi.org for more info.

2027 SUMMER T-BALL LEAGUE: As part of our mission to share the gifts God has given to Elm Grove Lutheran, the Board of Directors is excited to announce the plan to restart a T-Ball league next summer. It is just in the development phase right now, so please stay tuned for more information. Interested in being involved? Please contact the church office or speak with a Board Member.

CANNING JARS NEEDED: LWML has a need for quart-size canning jars, both wide-mouth and regular. These will be used for their annual soup and cookie mix fundraiser in November. If you have jars to donate, please put them in or near the large LWML mite box in the lower lobby by November 1, 2026.

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 Concordia University Wisconsin - Mequon, 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 – 3:00 p.m. 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, at this site: <https://egl.org/event/reformation-party-2026/register>, or using the QR code to the right.



LWML THANK YOU: For all the donations given for the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes, we would like to say a big "Thank You!". The evening group was able to pack 69 boxes due to everyone's generosity. These will be sent to children in need worldwide with the comforting message of Christ's love for them.

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. Rachel is 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. A sign-up sheet has been emailed through Sign-Up Genius this past week. Please let us know if you plan to attend.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR CHORAL EVENING PRAYER SERVICE: Several area Lutheran school children's choirs are participating in a special festival led by Dr. Sam Eatherton, Kantor and Assistant Professor of Liturgics and Pastoral Theology at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. The festival will culminate in a beautiful Choral Evening Prayer Service. All are welcome! Join us for this wonderful opportunity to support Lutheran children's choir singing.

WHEN? Friday, November 6, at 6:30 p.m. WHERE? Historic Trinity Lutheran Church (1049 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee). Free parking in their lot.

VERSITI BLOOD DRIVE: To be held on Wednesday, November 11, 2026, 2:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. One blood donation can save up to 3 lives! Every donation creates a ripple of hope.

Make a lifesaving difference today! Schedule your appointment: <https://tinyurl.com/ywsxr32w>, contact Rick Ewert: BloodDrive@egl.org / 262.289.9333, or scan the QR code :



COOKIES FOR COLLEGE KIDS/HOMEBOUND: Next month we will be collecting homemade cookies to send a special treat to our college students and homebound members. If you enjoy baking, we would love your help! On Friday, November 13, please drop off your cookies in the church office, so they can be packed for shipping by November 15. Thank you for sharing your time, talents and a little taste of home with members of our church community! For any questions, please reach out to Amy Zientek.

HOUSE MANAGER WANTED: A Place of Refuge Ministries is hiring for the position of Refuge House Manager. This is a 20-hour per week salaried position. Main responsibilities are overseeing the overall health, emotional welfare, and safety of the women and their babies who live in the home and the supervision of the Refuge House Staff. Applicants must be LCMS members in good standing, be pro-life and committed to God's biblical plan for life. If you would like more information about this position, please contact Pastor Don Hougard pastor@benediction-lcms.org 414-463-9158. Applications are being taken through November 1, 2026.

CHURCH SECRETARY WANTED: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Menomonee Falls, is looking to hire a part-time church secretary. Compensation is hourly at a competitive rate. Office hours are Monday through Thursday mornings. For the job description and application, please email the church office at office.popmf@gmail.com if interested.

COFFEE DONATIONS: The money that is donated during the time of fellowship after Church on Sundays is being donated to the signage project. Thank you for your generosity!

NOTES

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