

December 24, 2021 • 10:30am
Christmas Eve Family Service

a *Weary World*
REJOICES



WELCOME

to Elk River Lutheran Church

Welcome to Elk River Lutheran Church! Whether you are joining us in-person or online, we're glad you're here. Elk River Lutheran Church is a forward-thinking congregation made up of people of all ages. We are a pretty new church (formed in 2009), located in a remodeled bank building on the Mississippi River in downtown Elk River. Our mission is: *Trusting in God's grace, an accepting, joyful community, serving God and neighbor.*

Each Sunday, we have two vibrant Sunday morning worship services. The first, at 8:30 am, is a traditional Lutheran service that follows liturgical settings from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) hymnal. Our 10:30 am contemporary service has music led by an acoustic worship band and maintains many key elements of Lutheran worship.

We are a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and celebrate the work we're able to do together as a denomination (to learn more about the ELCA visit www.elca.org). We welcome all people and as a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation that welcome extends to the LGBTQ+ community.

Things to know for the service today:

- Along with this bulletin you should have picked up **Holy Communion elements** (individually wrapped grape juice & wafer). Feel free to grab them at any time.
- **Bathrooms**, complete with changing tables for little ones, are located through the glass doors in the Fellowship Hall.
- Feel free to snap a picture in our **Christmas Photobooth** also located in the Fellowship Hall.
- Our **Kids' Station** by the main entrance of the Sanctuary has crafts, activities, and snacks for kids (or the young at heart). Feel free to visit there anytime throughout the service.

We hope and pray you have a wonderful worship experience here today. To learn more about the many opportunities to participate and volunteer with the ministries of ERLC, visit our website: <https://www.elkriverlutheran.org>. AND we are very excited about our next sermon series!



We invite you to bring in a family Christmas photo card for our Picture "Perfect" Family display, and then join us on Sundays starting January 2 for our next sermon series: **Picture "Perfect" Family**. You might be thinking, "Wait, my family isn't perfect," and that's more than OK. We know there is no such thing as a perfect family. The photos make us look great, but beyond the photos, we want to explore how we navigate the real joys and challenges of family and discover the life God wants for our real, messy, sometimes nutty families.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

GATHERING CAROL

(#289) "Angels We Have Heard on High"

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Today we light all the candles on the advent wreath as we celebrate the coming of the Messiah. Arise, shine, for your light has come.

Oh, come let us adore him!

Unto us a Child is born!

Oh, come let us adore him!

And the government shall be upon his shoulders.

Oh, come let us adore him!

And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, the Almighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Oh, come let us adore him!

CAROL

(#283) "O Come, All Ye Faithful" v1 & 4

CHRISTMAS CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy One of Israel, the Word made flesh, the Power of the Most High, † one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Gathered in the name of Jesus, let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor.

Gracious God,

We confess that in our weariness we often fail to see the good in the world and in each other. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

I bring you good news of great joy for all the people: To you is born a Savior, Christ the Lord. Your sins are forgiven in † Jesus' name.

Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD PROCLAIMED

SCRIPTURE READING

Micah 5:2-5

CAROL

(#279) "O Little Town of Bethlehem" v1

GOSPEL

Luke 2: 1-20

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CAROL

(#290) *“Go Tell It on the Mountain” v1*

SERMON

Pastor Nathan Mugaas

CAROL OF THE DAY

“O Holy Night”

SHARING & RECEIVING THE GIFTS OF GOD

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God, we are filled to overflowing with the joy of this season. As the Magi offered their best to the Christ child, we place before you our offerings from the gifts you have given to us. May they be used to further your work among us. Amen.

COMMUNION CANTICLE

It is you, loving God, who lights our path with truth.
Your Word, Jesus, is truth.

In his light, draw all to the manger
to gather in wonder with the shepherds.

In his light, draw all to the manger
to kneel in reverence with the wise ones.

In his light, draw all to the manger
to sing for joy with the angels.

In the brightness of his life
cast away the darkness of injustice, poverty, and hunger in the world.

It is you, loving God, who meets us on our way.
In the light of Jesus, show the world the way of life. Amen

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

COMMUNION CAROL

(#281) *“Silent Night”*

CHRISTMAS COMMUNION PRAYER

Great and saving God, you have gathered your scattered people around gifts of grain and wine, the body and blood of our Savior Christ. As we, like the shepherds, return on our way, may we proclaim all we have heard and seen, praising you in word and loving deed for the gift of Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING CAROL

(# 267) "Joy to the World" v1, 3 & 4

"Go in peace, Share the Good News! We Will! Thanks Be to God!"

POSTLUDE



J B E T H L E H E M N G I H K
 S A F P V T E N C D N Z B H H
 F H A T Y F S O N B B D Q B J
 A V E R E P D R K C A M G Z O
 S S A P N P V U R I B G Q D S
 E M D B H A E O I Z Y A K H E
 L B X I C E I C E N S U S L P
 S Q O H V V R B R O O M G R H
 I M U R A N R D B S W S A R K
 Y F E S N C A B S C H I L D R
 C M A S L V A X F T E I S E G
 A J H E S Q M E Z I Z L G K P
 Y T G K Z I T G S C M N W R Y
 A N G V W E A G J A A S R X G
 A Z H X Y W Y H M M R S F F C



SAVIOR	CENSUS	MARY	MANGER	BORN
CAESAR	SON	JOSEPH	MESSIAH	ROOM
CHILD	SHEPHERDS	ANGEL	BETHLEHEM	BABY

L	S	W	M	H	Y	N	J	G	A	O	Z	P	X	K	F	I	U	B	E	T	C	V	Q	D	R
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

1. 8-11-2-20-13-5 _____
2. 4-10-26-6 _____
3. 19-20-21-5-1-20-5-20-4 _____
4. 19-10-19-6 _____
5. 19-11-26-7 _____
6. 4-10-7-9-20-26 _____
7. 10-7-9-20-1 _____
8. 2-5-20-13-5-20-26-25-2 _____
9. 2-10-23-17-11-26 _____
10. 4-20-2-2-17-10-5 _____

SHEPHERDS	BETHLEHEM	BABY	MESSIAH	JOSEPH
SAVIOR	MANGER	BORN	MARY	ANGEL



Christmas Poinsettia Memorials & Honorariums



In Honor of Our Children and Grandchildren
In Memory of my Parents and Grandparents
In Memory of My Friend Bob Eder
In Memory of John and Doris Campbell
In Memory of Louie and Wilma Helfrich
In Memory of My Mom, Ruth (Pohlmann) Carlson
In Honor of Our Children and Grandchildren
In Memory of Jean Hold and Parker/Cook Family
In Memory of My Husband Melvin Domier
In Memory of My Parents and Brothers
In Memory of Grandson Riley Mujwid
In Memory of My Parents Ervin and Ardella Anderson
In Memory of William and Thelma Crockett and Dr. John and Mildred Fasanello
In Memory of My Parents Elsie and John Anderson
In Memory of Our Grandparents, who are forever in our hearts
In Memory of My Loved Ones
In Memory of Loved Ones
In Honor of My Family
In Memory of My Parents Mr and Mrs C. R. Hulse
In Memory of Glenn Johnson
In Memory of Our Parents Harold and Betty Hultberg, Art and Adeline Krumwiede
In Memory of Our Parents
In Memory of Lorenz and Doris Nelson, Forest and Pearl Abbott and Steve Sindelir
In Memory of Our Parents
In Memory of Steve Nielsen
In Memory of Our Parents
In Honor of Our Children
In Honor of Our Grandchildren
In Memory of Our Parents
In Memory of Our Parents
In Memory of Our Son Jeff
In Honor of Twyla Johnson
In Memory of Jim Jones
In Memory of Parents, Carl and Vera Eckhoff, Vern Rinerson and Verie Zillmer
In Memory of Jason Ebel
In Memory of Sally Becker
In Memory of My Cousin Judy Gaalswyk
In Memory of Grandparents and Parents
In Memory of My Friend Mike Jacobs
In Memory of Loved Ones
In Memory of Guy Varty
In Memory of Our Parents and Brother Jim
In Honor of Our Family
In Memory of Doris Ziner
In Memory of Loved Ones

By Donald and Barbara Armagost
By Donald and Barbara Armagost
By Steve Bucholz
By John and Deb Campbell
By John and Deb Campbell
By Katie Carlson
By Chuck and Jane Cazett
By Larry and Jean Cook
By Burnette Domier
By Burnette Domier
By Sharon Emerick
By Sharon Emerick
By Dave and Deb Fasanello
By Mary Forster
By Jenna and Jack Gasperlin
By Glen Geving
By Stan and Diane Hahn
By Sue Hales
By Charles Hulse
By Pam Johnson
By Bob and Sandy Krumwiede
By Chuck and Nancy Naig
By Dan and Val Nelson and Family
By Robert and Virginia Nelson
By Pete and Linda Nielsen
By Cedric and Marlys Olson
By Russ and Barb Overbye
By Russ and Barb Overbye
By Greg and Deb Pouliot
By Greg and Deb Pouliot
By Taylor Quinn
By Taylor Quinn
By Roger and Sharon Rinerson
By Jessica Sandvig
By Jessica Sandvig
By Diana Schansberg
By Robert and Shirley Schmidt
By Judy Sloan
By Larry and Bonnie Swedal
By Donna Varty
By Tom and Lorie Werk
By Tom and LuAnn Wingard
By Dale Ziner
By Marvin Ziner

STAFF

If you have specific questions or needs, please feel free to contact any of the church staff:

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CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

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Kari Christianson

Vice President:

Ron Stricker

Mark Johnson

Secretary:

Sue Hales

Dave Katzner

Treasurer:

John Auel

Jennifer Stanley



Confirmation Worship
Notes Form



Confirmation Volunteer
Form

Ways to Give



Cash / Check

Offering plate is
by the entrances
to the sanctuary



Mobile Giving QR Code



Text to Give

Text Give to
(612) 324-8257

Additional Ways to Give:

- **Automated Recurring Giving:** Set up online via website give button, via the Tithe.ly phone app or by contacting the church office
- **Stocks:** consider donating stocks through a conversation with your financial advisor and the church.

Elk River Lutheran Church

729 Main Street – Elk River, MN 55330

(763) 595-1216

www.elkriverlutheran.org

Church Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9 am – 4 pm; Fri Closed