

December 17, 2023 • 10:30am

Fourth Sunday of Advent – Comfort Now

Why Wait?

MEETING JESUS
RIGHT NOW



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.*

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.

Please fill out the enclosed Connection Form slip and drop it in an offering plate to receive more information about Elk River Lutheran or share prayer concerns.

THINGS TO KNOW FOR THE SERVICE TODAY:

- **Bathrooms**, complete with changing tables for little ones, are located in the Fellowship Hall in the corner opposite of the main entrance.
- We welcome **kids** with their wiggles and noises in worship. We are also aware that as a parent, time away from wiggles and noises can be a blessing too. You will find our staffed nursery (For children 5 and under) by the entrance in the far corner of the fellowship hall.

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>

See Christmas Service Volunteers further back in bulletin.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	Sunday, December 17	Next Sunday, December 31
Greeters	Shari Howland and Nathan Sandvig	Anne and Jean Popovich
Ushers	Joe Livinston and Jeff Schrock	Zoey Day and Tracie Klemenhagen
Scripture Reader	Sarah Chur	Jeff Schrock
Communion Servers	Cathy Dalnes	Sarah Chur and Paula Donnelly
Sunday Morning Communion Setup/ CleanUp	Christine Hansen	Zoey Day
Communion Steward	Zoey Day	Dan Nelson
Mid-Week Communion Fill	Paula Rose	Shirley Schmidt
PowerPoint Operator	Kevin Jenkins	Shari Howland
Soundboard Operator	Emily Rotz	Justin Howland
Switcher Operator	Nick Campbell	Nick Campbell

If you would like to serve, Great! Please contact Taylor Quinn so we can get you filled in. If you cannot volunteer for the upcoming Sunday, please contact Taylor @ taylor@elkriverlutheran.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Gathering of God's People

Welcome

Lighting the Fourth Advent Candle

Sharing of the Peace

Baptism

Gathering Song

Bjorn River and Jari Wirth Shellum

"My Soul Magnifies the Lord"

The Word of God Proclaimed

Prayer of the Day

Scripture Readings

Sermon

Song of the Day

Isaiah 40:1-11

Pastor Nathan Mugaas

"Light of the World"

Sharing & Receiving the Gifts of God

Offering

Offertory Prayer

Confession and Forgiveness

Holy Communion

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Communion Song

Communion Blessing

"This is Love (Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus)"

The Sending of God's People

Community Announcements

Sending Blessing

Sending Song

Sending Dialog

(#290) "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

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LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

PEACE

It is dangerous to pray for peace,
to ask God to reveal and unravel
our posture and pretending for
a semblance of love and justice.

It is dangerous to pray for peace
when we benefit from tumult unseen
and games rigged by earthly powers.

It is dangerous to pray for peace
when we fear our own fullness and life.

Ordinary Blessings for the Christmas Season, by Meta Herrick Carlson, pg 101



Join Us This Christmas

Wednesday, December 20
Early Candlelight Service: 6:30pm

Sunday, December 24
Family Service: 10:30am
Candlelight Services:
2:30pm, 4:30pm and 10:00pm

 **Elk River**
LUTHERAN

729 Main St, Elk River
763-595-1216

CHRISTMAS EVE VOLUNTEERS

Status as of Wednesday Morning, December 12th

Roles	Dec 20	Dec 24 @ 10:30am	Dec 24 @ 2:30pm	Dec 24 @ 4:30pm	Dec 24 @ 10:00pm
Mid-Week Communion Prep	Bock, Nancy <i>Volunteer Needed</i> <i>Volunteer Needed</i>				
Greeter	Klemenhausen, Tracie Rinerson, Roger	Howland, Shari Howland, Alex	Donnelly, Paula Donnelly, Pat	Hovde, Sue Hovde, Paul	Schaefer, Jeremiah Schaefer, Anthony
Usher	Campbell, John Werk, Tom Werk, Lorie <i>Volunteer Needed</i>	Ayres, Viv Ayres, Jim	<i>Volunteer Needed</i> <i>Volunteer Needed</i> <i>Volunteer Needed</i> <i>Volunteer Needed</i>	<i>Volunteer Needed</i> <i>Volunteer Needed</i> <i>Volunteer Needed</i> <i>Volunteer Needed</i>	Bock, Rick Shellum, Ed Shellum, Deb <i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Scripture Reader	Ziner, Dale	Ziner, Dale	Ethen, Levi	Carlson, Katie	Ziner, Dale
PowerPoint Operator	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>	Howland, Shari	Schrock, Krista	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Soundboard Operator	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>	Howland, Justin	Schrock, Jeff	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Communion Steward	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Communion Server	Simpson, Vicki <i>Volunteer Needed</i>	Bossany, Lisa <i>Volunteer Needed</i>	Wingard, Tom Wingard, LuAnn	Hippe, Martha <i>Volunteer Needed</i>	Armagost, Babs Pouliot, Greg
Communion Prep/Clean Up	Burandt, Barb	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Switcher Operator	Horner, Adam	Campbell, Nick			

Volunteers Needed.

To sign up, visit <https://bit.ly/ERLCXmas2023>
or use the QR-Code on the graphic on the next page.

Christmas Eve Service Volunteers

Serve at our Services this Christmas!

Sign up online to serve Dec 20th and 24th worship services.
Positions include :

- Greeter, Usher, Scripture Reader, Communion Server/Prep/Steward, PowerPoint Operator, or Soundboard Operator.

The December 20th service is at 6:30 pm, and you would need to be there by 6:00 pm.

Our December 24th services are at 10:30 am, 2:30 pm, 4:30 pm, and 10:00 pm. You would need to be there 30 minutes prior to each service.

Please sign up by Wednesday, Dec 13th. If you have any questions, contact [Taylor Quinn](#).



Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 31, 2023

8:30AM & 10:30AM

Elk River Lutheran Church





Starting January 18th 2024

CLASS DETAILS

- Classes will take place on Thursday evenings at 6:30pm, beginning January 18th and continuing for nine weeks. (Jan 18 - Mar 14)
- *\$60 Registration Fee Includes:
 - Nine Week Financial University Class and Course Workbook
 - One year Financial Peace University Online Access
 - Three Months of Premium Version of EveryDollar Budgeting App
 - Live Group Financial Coaching

*If you attend all 9 weeks of class, the Elk River Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund will refund your original \$60 registration fee!



THE PROGRAM THAT TEACHES YOU HOW TO
Take Control
OF YOUR MONEY
FINANCIAL *Peace*

Sign up now at:



bit.ly/FPU2024ERLC

featuring
Brooklyn Big Band

ERLC YOUTH PRESENT
+ A FUNDRAISER EVENT

*benefitting the
Youth Mission Trip*

DINNER, ENTERTAINMENT,
DESSERT, SILENT AUCTION

20TH JANUARY, 2024

TICKETS \$30
Use QR-Code or Bit.ly
to purchase tickets

Roaring 20s Theme
1920'S ATTIRE
ENCOURAGED
BUT NOT REQUIRED



bit.ly/3GmcSLI

CHRISTMAS STORY

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

SHEPHERDS

BETHLEHEM

NAZARETH

MANGER

JOSEPH

ANGEL

KINGS

SHEEP

JESUS

CRIB

LOVE

GIFT

STAR

BABY

BORN

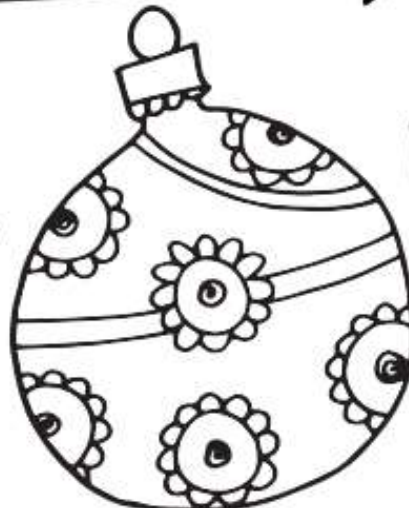
LAMB

MARY

GOD

SON

tidings
& comfort
& joy



PRAYER REQUESTS

Praise the Lord (joys and answered prayers):

- Baptism of Bjorn Shellum (Sponsors: Lindsey Rettmann and Carl Sandusky) and Jari Shellum (Sponsors: Charisa Flaherty and Joe Rohrer). Parents Thor and Heidi Shellum

In Sympathy

- Family and Friends of Al Werk, brother of Tom Werk
- Family and Friends of Jack Burris
- Family and Friends of Roger Bentz
- Family and Friends of Ken Provencher
- Family and Friends of Diane Jacobson

For Support

- Those with mental health concerns and those who care for them.

SHARE YOUR PRAYER CONCERNS:

- Email linda@elkriverlutheran.org
- Fill out on your connection form
- Contact the church office at (763) 595-1216
- Fill out form on church website at elkriverlutheran.org

Generally, prayer requests will run for 3 weeks. If more time is needed, please call the church office

Health concerns

- Bill Brown, father to Pastor Anne Schaefer (recovery from hip replacement and fall)
- Michelle Werk, sister-in-law to Tom and Lorie Werk
- Nellie Taylor, foot surgery
- Steve Bucholz, in rehab
- Robin Skeie, cousin of Diana Schansberg, in bad car accident and now in rehab
- Norma Madsen, Cancer Scan
- Darrell Madsen, throat cancer treatment
- Garnet Novotny - cancer
- Pat Kyro health concerns and recovery from surgery
- Kim Miller - cancer treatments (daughter of Tom and Marilyn Miller)
- Patty Sonneman, hospitalized and mass on brain. Aunt of Jenny Stanley
- Sara Anderson, Lorie Schulstad-Werk's sister
- Carol Sindelir, Val Nelson's sister
- Linda Retel, ongoing treatment for inoperable brain cancer (friend of Pauline Kuhn)
- Diane Harding, ALS diagnosis
- Brian Harding
- Mary Wells, pancreatic cancer
- Nancy Naig
- Steve Lindberg, on hospice
- Diane McGrath, pancreatic cancer
- Ken Bucher
- Kris West, daughter of Bob and Sue Hagen
- Duane Jerde

WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY

Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 8:30am** Traditional Worship with Kids Connect
9:30am Fellowship Hour
10:30am Contemporary Worship with Kids Connect
1:00pm Instrumental Ensemble Rehearsal
3:00pm Family Band Sound Check

MONDAY

- 6:00pm** Worship Band Rehearsal
6:30pm Women's Monthly Bible Study (*Quilting Room on Lower Level*)

TUESDAY

- 9:00am** Quilting (*Lower Level Quilting Room*)
10:00am Text Study – Optional Fellowship Time starting at 9:30am (*Lower Level Community Room*)
3:00pm Bulletin Assembly (2nd Floor Conference Room)
6:00pm Bells and Carols (*Guardian Angels Riverview Landing*)
6:30pm Church Council
7:00pm AA Meeting (*Community Room*)

WEDNESDAY

- 6:30pm** Early Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

THURSDAY

- 10:00am** Worship at Guardian Angels Riverview Landing

FRIDAY

- 9:00am** Women's Coffee (*Panera, Elk River*)
9:00am Men's Breakfast (*Coborns, Elk River*)

SATURDAY

- 8:00am** Men's Bible Study (*Zoom Bible Study*)

NEXT SUNDAY

Christmas Eve

- 10:30am** Family Christmas Eve Service
2:30pm Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
4:30pm Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
10:00pm Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

NEXT MONDAY

Christmas Day
Church Office is Closed

SMALL GROUPS

ERLC Quilting Group

Tuesdays @ 9AM
Lower Level at Church

Mission Quilts are made for Lutheran World Relief.
All skill levels welcome.

Text Study

Tuesdays @ 10AM
(Optional Fellowship @9:30AM)
Meeting in the Lower Level Community Room

Studying the bible text for the upcoming Sunday
Worship along with the preaching pastor.
All are welcome . Come once or come every week

Men's Breakfast

Fridays @ 9AM
Coborns, Elk River
Food – Fellowship

Women's Coffee

Fridays @ 9AM
Panera, Elk River
Coffee – Food – Fellowship

Men's Bible Study

Saturdays @ 8AM
On Zoom

Find a link at
<https://www.elkriverlutheran.org/adult-ministries.html>

Genealogy Group

1st Thursday of the Month
10AM – 12 Noon
2nd Floor Conference Room

All are welcome even if you haven't joined before.
Meeting begins by sharing what each are working on, discoveries, questions, roadblocks and family stories.

Women's Monthly Bible Study

3rd Monday of the Month
6:30PM

Lower Level at the Church

This group follows the Bible Studies of the Women's ELCA magazine Gather.

STAFF

Pastor Nathan Mugaas

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Lori Sundman

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Nursery Attendants:

Clara Anderson, Emma Anderson
and Amy Brown

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

President:

David Katzner

Vice President:

Kent Larson

Secretary:

Matt Glasoe

Treasurer:

Mark Johnson

Sue Hales
Julie Marie Haugen
Conni Natwick
Jeff Schrock
Jennifer Stanley
Tom Werk



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