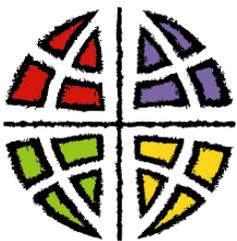
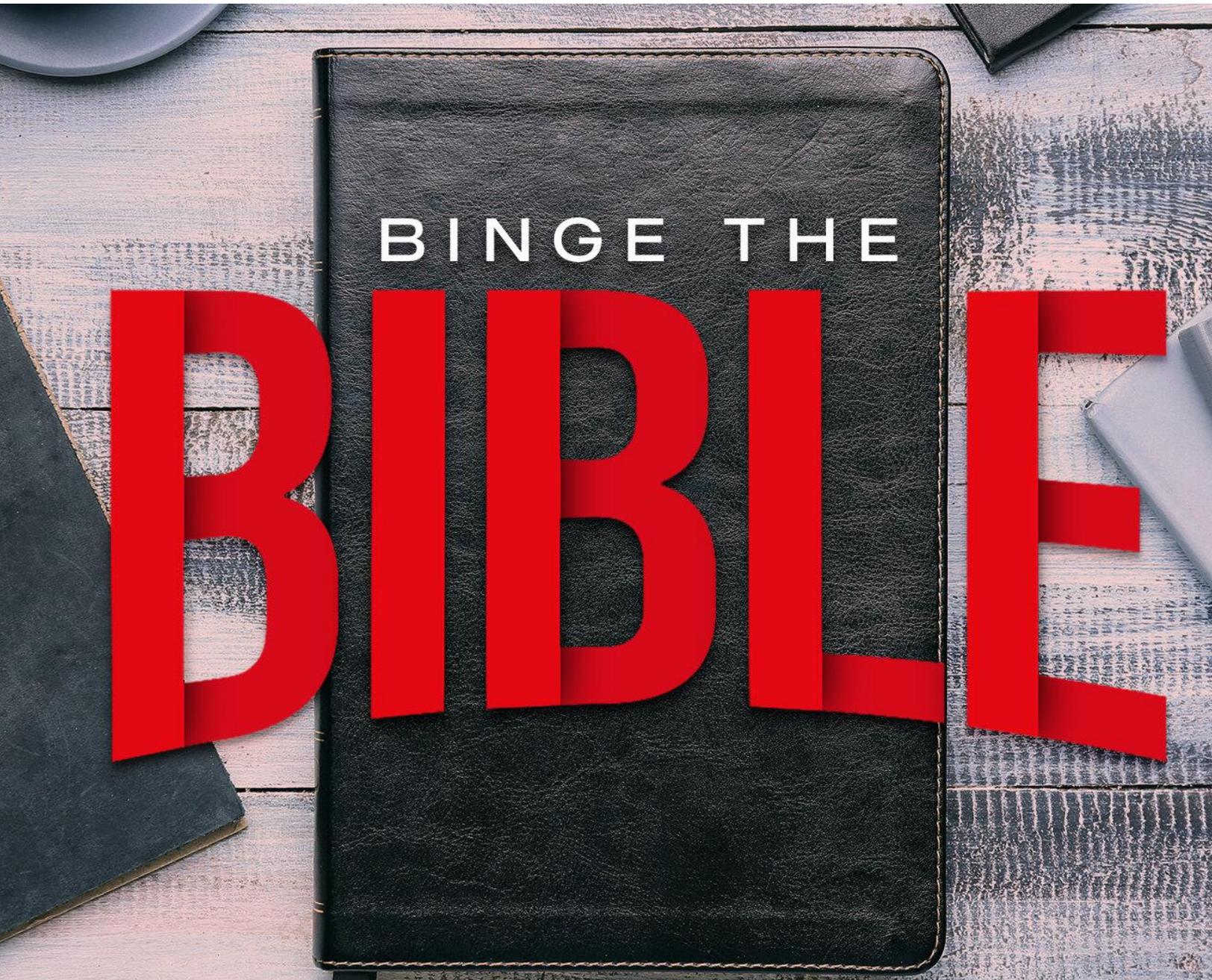


July 25, 2021 • 8:30am

Episode 4:

The Truth We Need to Hear -- The Prophets



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.

We hope and pray you have a wonderful worship experience here today and invite you to join us again. There are many opportunities to participate and volunteer with the ministries of ERLC. Visit our website: <https://www.elkriverlutheran.org>.

Starting in July

Worship Options

Sunday Worship LIVE

**TRADITIONAL
INDOORS**
8:30AM



**CONTEMPORARY
OUTDOORS**
10:30AM



and Online via
Facebook & YouTube

Watch/Listen Later



Facebook



YouTube



Powered by LOVE
podcast

Find out more at elkriverlutheran.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Gathering of God's People

Welcome

Gathering Hymn

(#504) "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"
v1 & 4

(#509) "God's Word is Our Great Heritage"

Confession and Forgiveness (p. 94)

Song of Praise (p. 139)

"Lord God, Heavenly King"

The Word of God Proclaimed

Biblical Preview

Prayer of the Day

Scripture Reading

Micah 6:6-16

Sermon

Pastor Nathan Mugaas

Hymn of the Day

(#722) "O Christ, Your Heart Compassionate"

Sharing & Receiving the Gifts of God

Apostles' Creed (p. 105)

Bidding Prayers

Great Thanksgiving (p. 144)

Holy, Holy, Holy (p. 144)

"Holy, Holy, Holy Lord"

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer (p. 145)

Communion Hymns (p. 146)

"Lamb of God"
(#515) "Break Now the Bread of Life"

Dispose of communion cups as you leave the sanctuary

Communion Blessing & Prayer (p. 114)

Offering

Offertory Prayer (p. 107)

The Sending of God's People

Community Announcements

Blessing of Congregation (p. 114)

Sending Hymn

(#512) "Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil"

Sending Dialog (p. 115)

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Episode 4: The Truth We Need To Hear

The Prophets:

According to the early prophetic texts, a prophet was an individual called and equipped by God, chosen to speak a specific message to a specific community. These prophets often spoke of judgment for failing to adhere to God's commands and the consequences when people refused to repent from their ways and turn to God. Not all prophets spoke of doom and gloom, many offered hope and promise to those who kept their covenant with God.

These books were divided into Major and Minor Prophets simply because of the length of their writings. Major Prophets tend to be longer in length with a larger focus for their ministry. Mostly written during the time of the divided kingdom, these books speak to the realities of the people of Israel and Judah and the difficulties of life together in these communities.

Prophetic Books	
<i>Major Prophets:</i> Isaiah Jeremiah Lamentations Ezekiel Daniel	<i>Minor Prophets:</i> Hosea Joel Amos Obadiah Jonah Micah Nahum Habakkuk Zephaniah Haggai Zechariah Malachi

Isaiah:

The prophet Isaiah was said to be written between 739-681 B.C. and speaks to the people of Judah who were on the precipice of military domination. Fearing that Judah, if ruled by other nations, would turn to their gods, Isaiah confronts the leaders, telling them to maintain their faith in God's faithfulness and salvation. The main purpose of this book is to communicate God's anger and sorrow for Judah's unfaithfulness and to warn them of God's judgment if they continue down the same path. Isaiah calls the people of Judah to repentance and trust that "Yahweh Saves" (Meaning of Isaiah.) Isaiah, on the surface, feels like a saga of doom and gloom lays the foundation of a coming king, a Messiah, who will fulfill God's promise to the people of Israel.

Jeremiah:

Jeremiah, the pessimist, called for total repentance and turning back to God, warning that failure to do so would lead to the destruction of Judah and the ultimate fall of Jerusalem to outsiders. Jeremiah spoke of the hypocrisy of religious leaders, fiscal dishonesty amongst leaders and communities, and the oppressive means by which Judah's leaders ruled over their people. Jeremiah called attention to hard truths that the people of God needed to hear, naming their sin and their disobedience with God, knowing that ruin would befall their city and their people. (Jer. 22:6-8) In 586 B.C., the Babylonians sacked Jerusalem, destroying the temples and walls and carrying off God's people.

Lamentations:

The book of Lamentations is a collection of poems and songs of sorrow for the destruction of Jerusalem in 586 B.C. Accredited to Jeremiah, the prophet who witnessed first-hand the destruction of God's temple and the carting off the people of God to be put into slavery. Lamentations 1:1, "How lonely sits the city that was full of people! She has become like a widow who was once great among the nations! She who was a princess among the provinces has become a forced laborer!" The book describes the anguish of God's people and the great loss because of their lack of faith and obedience to God.

Ezekiel:

Ezekiel is known for prophesying the destruction of Jerusalem and the work of God's people as they ultimately return to the land of Israel. Ezekiel is a contemporary of Jeremiah, and many of the experiences are similar in form and structure.



Daniel:

Daniel was taken into captivity by King Nebuchadnezzar sometime after the fall of Jerusalem. The book of Daniel follows his role in the King's court, his steadfast faith, and loyalty to God. Daniel is known for his prophetic writings because they deal with the current reality of God's people in an apocalyptic way; that they predict the fulfillment of God's promise to God's people.

Hosea:

Hosea wrote this book to remind the Israelites—and us—that ours is a loving God whose loyalty to His covenant people is unwavering. Despite Israel's continual turning to false gods, God's steadfast love is portrayed in the long-suffering husband of the unfaithful wife. Hosea's message is also one of warning to those who would turn their backs on God's love. Through the symbolic presentation of the marriage of Hosea and Gomer, God's love for the idolatrous nation of Israel is displayed in a rich metaphor in the themes of sin, judgment, and forgiving love.

Joel:

The date of Joel's writing is uncertain; however, he is writing to the people of Judah, and the message is obvious. Joel speaks of a coming plague of locusts that represents God's punishment of Judah. Judah had several kings who choose to reform religious life based on their selfish motives. This unfaithfulness to God causes the people to sin and break their relationship with God. Joel's word of promise is that God hears God's people when they turn from their ways, repent because God does not wish to punish but show compassion and mercy.

Amos:

Amos, a grower of sycamore figs, didn't call himself a prophet. Amos spoke out against the northern kingdom of Israel. Amos speaks out against the communities of Israel who have no care for their neighbor, who took advantage of others and remained a selfish focus calling for a refocus on God's idea of justice and remembering God's promise to God's people.

Obadiah:

Obadiah is the shortest book of the Old Testament at only 21 verses long. This book continues the saga between brothers Jacob and Esau, who become the settlers of the nations of Israel and Edom. Edom rejoices over the destruction of Israel, and instead of helping the exiles, they encourage their destruction. Obadiah calls for all nations who wrong the innocent to be punished. Edom is later destroyed and will never recover from their captors, while Israel will be restored. Yet, there is an undercurrent of hope found in this text. All who repent and turn from their evil ways are included in God's Kingdom.



Jonah:

We all know, at least on the surface, about the prophet in the belly of the whale. Jonah was called to speak to the people of Nineveh for their worshipping of idols. The beautiful piece of this story is that the city repents and is spared by God, which of course, makes the prophet upset. We are left with a story of God's mercy and a prophet who learns a lesson.

Micah:

Micah's prophetic teachings come before and after the fall of Israel in 722 B.C., speaking of corruption and exploitation of the poor and injustice in the court systems. Micah also points the fingers at religious leaders who fail to fulfill their responsibilities to God. This book counterpoints its judgment with a call for God's people to repent, "do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with God." (6:8)

Nahum:

Nahum's message comes between the destruction of Thebes (663 B.C.) and Nineveh (612 B.C.) and stresses that God is sovereign over all of history and all the world. God is good and just. Therefore, he is a champion of the outraged and outcast. While God uses a wicked nation to punish unfaithful Israel, God also holds them accountable for their actions. Speaking of God's justice for all the world.

Habakkuk:

The central question of Habakkuk, Is God good if the world is so unjust? Habakkuk calls out to God, asking God to deal with the injustices of the world, and gets angry when there is no resolution. Habakkuk is a collection of laments from the prophet, speaking to the concerns he sees from the people of Israel.

Zephaniah:

A prophet to Judah, Zephaniah speaks of the impending Day of the Lord more than any other book in the Old Testament. Zephaniah speaks a word of Judgement to Judah, predicts the fall of this once great kingdom to the Babylonians. There is also a word of hope that all will eventually be restored by God and all people will be blessed.



Haggai:

Haggai takes a jump forward in time to the end of the exile and the return of the Jews to the promised land. Haggai's focus remains on the temple and the importance of worship and worship practices as part of the return of the remnant of the people of God.

Zachariah:

Near the end of the exile, as the people of Judah are returning, Zachariah notes the importance of asking God a serious question. "How long will you withhold mercy from Jerusalem and the towns of Judah, which you have been angry with these seventy years? (1:12) The message of assurance that God has not forgotten them even though they have been exiled is a word of hope for God's people.

Malachi:

The last book of the Old Testament is written sometime after the temple has been rebuilt in 516 B.C. Malachi is addressing the lethargy that has already taken hold of the people. God and worship have become a chore for the people of God. Malachi calls out those who worship idols, sorcerers, and the breadth of human sin that has taken hold of the rebuilt city. The challenge of this book is that it leaves us with a question of the unfinished reality of the world and the state of the people of Israel as their relationship with God hangs by a thread. What follows this book is a period of silence lasting around 400 years.

Binge the Bible Weekly Reading Plan:

Instead of a formal weekly reading plan, we invite you to spend each day in one of the prophetic books listed above.

1. What does this book say about the people of God?
2. What does this book say about God?
3. Where do you see connections between today and these passages from history?

Prayer Requests

Thanks for lifting these up in prayer!

Praise the Lord (joys and answered prayers):

- Successful weeks at Summer Festival Camp for our middle school and high school; students.

In Sympathy

- Family and Friends, Father of Dawn Kultala who died related to COVID
- Friends and Family of Sandra Lund, sister-in-law to Pat Kyro

For Support:

- John and Vicki Sackmeister, Friends and Family. In remembrance of Michelle Sackmeister gone July 2, 2010. Forever in our hearts.
- John Barth's wife Marge, his children and families
- John Ernst and Carol Black
- Linda and Mike Cheney
- Jan Bucher
- All military personnel and their families

Health concerns:

- Teddy Mugaas, rebroke arm
- Melissa Macari-Coons, recovery from knee replacement surgery
- Pauline Kuhn
- Bob and Lee Johnson
- Jackie Bolin, breast cancer
- John Barth, hospice for cancer. John was an English Teacher and Athletic Director at ERHS.
- Steve Lindberg
- Elvi Peterson
- Carol Sindelir, Val Nelson's sister
- Margaret Blahosky, friend of Donn and Vicki Granros (cancer of the lung and liver) .
- Diane McGrath, pancreatic cancer
- Mike Cheney, healing from 7/8 hip surgery & previous stroke
- Ken Bucher
- Kris West, daughter of Bob and Sue Hagen
- Duane Jerde

Prayer Concerns: can be shared by emailing linda@elkriverlutheran.org or by contacting the church office at (763) 595-1216, or by visiting the church website at elkriverlutheran.org

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

SUNDAY WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

SIGN UP AT [BIT.LY/WORSHIPVOLUNTEERS2021](https://bit.ly/worshipvolunteers2021)

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES INCLUDE:

- USHERS
- GREETERS
- SCRIPTURE READERS
- STAGE SET UP & TEAR DOWN
- POWERPOINT OPERATORS
- SOUND BOARD OPERATORS
- SWITCHER OPERATOR



ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY July 25

8:30am – Traditional Worship Service
(Indoors in Sanctuary)

9:30am – Fellowship Hour
(Community Room)

S'more Sunday @ 10:30am Worship

10:30am – Contemporary Worship
Service (Outdoors and Online)

MONDAY July 26

10am – Worship at Riverview Landing
6pm – Riverside Ringers Dinner on the
Deck

TUESDAY July 27

9am – Quilting (ERLC Basement)
6:30pm – Church Council

THURSDAY July 29

11am – Binge the Bible Breakdown
LIVE on Facebook & Youtube

SATURDAY July 31

8am - Men's Bible Study
(Zoom Bible Study)

NEXT SUNDAY August 1

8:30am – Traditional Worship Service
(Indoors in Sanctuary)

9:30am – Fellowship Hour
(Community Room)

10:30am – Contemporary Worship
Service (Outdoors and Online)

5:30pm – Family Vacation Bible
School

Men's Bible Study

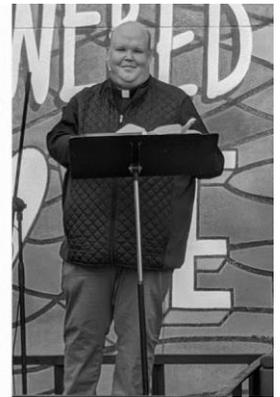
Saturday mornings at 8am
Meeting on Zoom

Find the link at elkrivertlutheran.org/adult-ministries.html



Binge the Bible Breakdown

Thursdays
@ 11AM



Get more from the "Binge the Bible" series than cannot be covered on a Sunday morning.

WORSHIP SERVICE TIME & TALENT FORMS

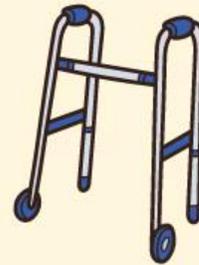
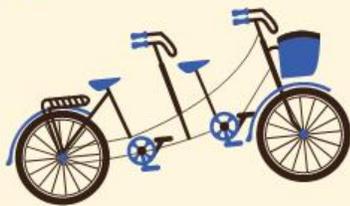
We would love to
connect your gifts with
our current needs!

Please take a moment
to fill out the back of
your registration slip
and let us know how you
would like to help.



Bless My Ride Sunday

SUNDAY AUGUST 8 @ 10:30 AM



Bring your ride to outdoor worship
to receive a special blessing
and a "Blessed Ride ERLC" sticker.





FAMILY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Sunday, August 1 - Wednesday, August 4
5:30 pm - 7:45 pm

Register and Volunteer at elkriverlutheran.org

Riverside Ringers

Dinner on the Deck

Monday, July 26th

6PM-8PM

PATIO DECK
ELK RIVER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Join ERLC's handbell choir for a casual dinner on the Church's Deck. Bring your own food and catch up with old & new friends. Later, we'll go inside for a little bit of ringing.

CHOIR BBQ

AUG 2ND, 2021 • 4PM TO 10PM

TAYLOR'S HOUSE
EMAIL TAYLOR FOR ADDRESS




STAFF

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

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pastornathan@elkriverlutheran.org

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Taylor Quinn

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Brian Harding

Custodian

Lori Sundman

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CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

President:

Sarah Chur

Kari Christianson

Vice President:

Ron Stricker

Mark Johnson

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Dave Katzner

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Jennifer Stanley

5 Ways to Give



Mobile Giving



Online Giving



Text Giving



Cash / Check



Stock Donation

Find out more at www.elkriverlutheran.org/give

Elk River Lutheran Church

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www.elkriverlutheran.org

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