December 10, 2023 • 8:30am Third Sunday of Advent







joyful community, serving God & neighbor.



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 <u>www.elca.org</u>). 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: <u>https://www.elkriverlutheran.org</u>

	Sunday, December 10	Next Sunday, December 17	
Greeters	Elliot Pruchnik and Jenny Stanley	Vicki Granros	
Ushers	Jane and Chuck Cazett Michal Pruchnil Cale Stanley-Wo		
Scripture Reader		Cedric Olson	
Communion Servers	Tom and Lorie Werk	Karen Acers and Vicki Simpson	
Sunday Morning Communion Setup/ CleanUp	Christine Hansen	Julie Marie Haugen	
Communion Steward	Vicki Simpson	Larry Cook	
Mid-Week Communion Fill	Jodi Rosati	Paula Rose	
PowerPoint Operator	Hannah Boese and Audrey Horner		
Soundboard Operator	John Auel	Emily Rotz	
Switcher Operator	Nick Campbell	Nick Campbell	

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

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 Third Advent Candle Gathering Hymn (#242) "Awake! Awake and Greet the New Morn" Confession and Forgiveness Song of Praise "Glory to God"

The Word of God Proclaimed

Kids Christmas Program Hymn of the Day

Sharing & Receiving the Gifts of God

Apostles Creed Bidding Prayers Sharing of the Peace Offering Offertory Prayer Great Thanksgiving Holy, Holy, Holy Words of Institution The Lord's Prayer Lamb of God Communion Hymns A Room with a View "Joy to the World"

"Holy, Holy"

"Lamb of God" (#278) "Away in a Manger" (#284) "Twas in the Moonlight of Wintertime"

Communion Blessing & Prayer

The Sending of God's People

Community Announcements Sending Blessing Sending Hymn Sending Dialog

(#290) "Angels From the Realms of Glory" ^{v1 & 4}

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LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

FOR THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

This story has been told so many ways, by Matthew and Luke, by children and choirs, with flubs and forgotten lines that amplify what is gorgeous and uncontainable about God getting so close to our mortality, to our trying and failing and trying some more.

There is room in the story for big yawns, for the patina of musty costume accessories and little ones singing so softly you can only hear the choir director and a pin drop.

Watch Mary sneer at Joseph and wonder about everything we cannot know for sure. Give thanks for their bodies learning to hold the story, to know that love is here.

Ordinary Blessings for the Christmas Season, by Meta Herrick Carlson, pg 19

So grateful for these students and their families who helped make today happen:

- John Beiswinger
- Cody Ethen
- Joel Ethen
- Herbert Lemire
- Helen Lemire
- Stanley Mugaas
- Emmett Pruchnik
- Brooke Raveling
- Jade Raveling
- Libby Ethen Sheba, the sheep
- Levi Ethen Buford the cow
- Cale Wornson-Stanley Beau the cow
- Elliot Pruchnik Barney the cow
- Payton Brown Mac the horse
- Brynlee Overbye Mable the horse
- Mattew Katzner Manny the horse
- Jackson Larson Remmy the donkey
- Teddy Mugaas Joseph
- Nevaeh Katzner Mary



- Melissa Macari-Coon
- The Band

And a special thank you to our student directors for all their help behind the scenes! Thank you, Katherine Horner and Clara Johnson!

Praise the Lord (joys and answered prayers):

- 2023 Kids' Christmas Program and all that participated
- #SundayFunday with our Festive Sweaters

In Sympathy

- · Family and Friends of Roger Bentz
- Family and Friends of Mary Nord, Dare Funeral Luncheon at ERLC on Monday, December 4th
- · Family and Friends of Ken Provencher
- Family and Friends of Diane Jacobson

For Support

- · Jared Stevens, had a friend pass away
- Those with mental health concerns and those who care for them.

SHARE YOUR PRAYER CONCERNS:

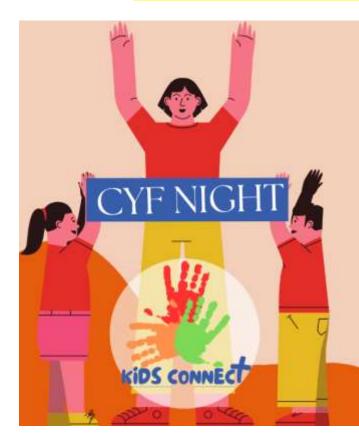
- Email linda@elkriverlutheran.org
- Fill out on your connection form
- Contact the church office at (763) 595-1216
- Fill out form on church website at elkriverlutheran.org

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

Health concerns

- Steve Bucholz
- Norma Madsen, Cancer Scan
- Darrell Madsen, throat cancer treatment
- · Garnet Novotny cancer treatments
- 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
- Jared Stevens Mom's knee
- Jack Burris
- Elsie Provencher, back muscle spasms
- Tom Werk's brother Al Werk, recovering from cancer
- Dale Ziner, Achilles tendon repair
- Robin Skeie, cousin of Diana Schansberg, in bad car accident and in ICU
- Krista Schrock: recovery from hip surgery
- Donn Granros
- · 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

Volunteers still needed for December 13 and December 17



Volunteers Needed

Children Youth and Family Ministry

Variety of Events and Volunteer Opportunities



Find Link on CYF page of Elkriverlutheran.org



Christmas CYF NIGHT Fellowship - Learning - Fun For All Ages

Wednesday, December 13 - 6pm-7:45pm

Pizza Dinner

- Christmas Stations (games, activites, crafts, cookie decorating)
- Large Group

Everyone is Welcome!



FINANCIAL 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!



Sign up now at:



bit.ly/FPU2024ERLC



The Birth of Jesus

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. Luke 2:7 (KJV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 2:1-20



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



Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11

AHEAD

SUNDAY Kids Christmas Program Festive Sweater Sunday

8:30am Traditional Worship 9:30am Fellowship Hour 10:30am Contemporary Worship 1:00pm Instrumental Ensemble Rehearsal

MONDAY

10:30am Caroling at Guardian Angels by the Lake 6:00pm Worship Band Rehearsal

TUESDAY

9:00am Quilting (Lower Level Quilting Room) 10:00am Text Study – Optional Fellowship Time starting at 9:30am (Lower Level Community Room) 6:00pm Riverside Ringers Rehearsal

7:00pm AA Meeting (Community Room)

WEDNESDAY

6:00pm CYF Night 7:00pm Blue Christmas Service of Solace and Comfort (Holy Trinity Episcopal Church)

THURSDAY

6:00pm Choir

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

Heritage Sunday

8:30am Traditional Worship with Kids Connect 9:30am Fellowship Hour 10:30am Contemporary Worship with Kids Connect 1:00pm Instrumental Ensemble Rehearsal

SMALL GROUPS

ERLC Quilting Group Tuesdavs @ 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/adultministries.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 763-242-8347 pastornathan@elkriverlutheran.org

Pastor Anne Schaefer 952-250-6974 pastoranne@elkriverlutheran.org

Linda Nielsen Office Manager 763-595-1216 linda@elkriverlutheran.org

Taylor Quinn Director of Music Ministry & Worship 816-519-2719 taylor@elkriverlutheran.org

Nick Campbell Online Broadcast Specialist ncdpv1@gmail.com

Lisa Griffin Staff Pianist 612-709-8882 madeleinesmom@gmail.com

Brian Harding Custodian

Lori Sundman Bookkeeper 763-595-1216 ERLCBookkeeper@gmail.com

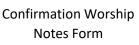
Nursery Attendants: Clara Anderson, Emma Anderson and Amy Brown

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

President: Vice President: Secretary: Treasurer: David Katzner Kent Larson Matt Glasoe Mark Johnson

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







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

ADVENT SCHEDULE 2023

The church season of Advent, made up of the four weeks prior to Christmas, has long been considered a season of waiting to celebrate the joyous incarnation of God in our world in the birth of Jesus. This year, as we explore traditional Advent scripture readings, we ask "Why Wait?" God, Emmanuel, is already loose in this world and so as the rest of culture celebrates the joy, togetherness, generosity, and hope of Christmas, so will we!

> Nov 26 - Hope Now - Advent 1 Dec 3 - Beginning Now - Advent 2 Dec 10 - Kids' Christmas Program - Advent 3 Dec 17 - Comfort Now - Advent 4 Dec 20 - Early Christmas Service Dec 24 - Christmas Eve Dec 31 - Lessons and Carols

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

MEETING JESUS RIGHT NOW

Dec 20 - Early Candlelight Service - 6:30pm

Dec 24 - Christmas Eve Family Service - 10:30am

Dec 24 - Candlelight Service - 2:30pm

Dec 24 - Candlelight Service - 4:30pm

Dec 24 - Candlelight Service - 10:00pm

Phone: 763-595-1216 Facebook: ElkRiverLutheran Youtube: ElkRiverLutheranChurch



www.elkriverlutheran.org

Nursery will be available for all services except the 10pm Candlelight Service