

**December 10, 2023 • 8:30am**

*Third Sunday of Advent*



# **A ROOM WITH A VIEW**

## **2023 Christmas Program**



 **Elk River** ELCA  
**LUTHERAN**  
Trusting in God's grace, an accepting,  
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 [www.elca.org](http://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>

### **WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS**

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

*A Room with a View*

Hymn of the Day

***"Joy to the World"***

### ***Sharing & Receiving the Gifts of God***

Apostles Creed

Bidding Prayers

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Offertory Prayer

Great Thanksgiving

Holy, Holy, Holy

***"Holy, Holy"***

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Lamb of God

***"Lamb of God"***

Communion Hymns

**(#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

**(#290) *"Angels From the Realms of Glory"***<sup>v1 & 4</sup>

Sending Dialog

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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!

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

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### ***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 4<sup>th</sup>
- 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](mailto: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](http://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](http://Elkriverlutheran.org)



# Christmas CYF NIGHT

Fellowship - Learning - Fun For All Ages

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

- Pizza Dinner
- Christmas Stations (games, activities, crafts, cookie decorating)
- Large Group

Everyone is Welcome!





# 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](https://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](https://bit.ly/3GmcSLI)

# 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



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





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

## WEEK 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

*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

*1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the Month*  
*10AM – 12 Noon*  
2<sup>nd</sup> 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

*3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:pastornathan@elkriverlutheran.org)

### Pastor Anne Schaefer

952-250-6974

[pastoranne@elkriverlutheran.org](mailto:pastoranne@elkriverlutheran.org)

### Linda Nielsen

Office Manager

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### Taylor Quinn

Director of Music Ministry & Worship

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### Nick Campbell

Online Broadcast Specialist

[ncdpv1@gmail.com](mailto:ncdpv1@gmail.com)

### Lisa Griffin

Staff Pianist

612-709-8882

[madeleinesmom@gmail.com](mailto:madeleinesmom@gmail.com)

### Brian Harding

Custodian

### Lori Sundman

Bookkeeper

763-595-1216

[ERLCBookkeeper@gmail.com](mailto:ERLCBookkeeper@gmail.com)

### 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](http://www.elkriverlutheran.org)

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

# Why Wait?

MEETING JESUS  
RIGHT NOW

## 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

*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](http://www.elkriverlutheran.org)

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