

April 25, 2021 • 9:30am
What Do I Do About My Past?

AGAINST ALL ODDS



WELCOME

to Elk River Lutheran Church

Welcome to Drive-In 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.

Our worship services include many elements of traditional Lutheran worship, like favorite hymns, liturgy, and celebrating Holy Communion every week (so if you're joining us online, have bread and wine or grape juice and crackers ready). We also incorporate more modern elements like contemporary music, sermons that help connect faith to everyday life, engaging conversation, and a relaxed, friendly atmosphere.

We hope and pray you have a wonderful worship experience here today and invite you to join us again. If this is your first time visiting, or you have updated contact information, fill out our connection form here: <https://www.elkriverlutheran.org/im-new-here.html>

4 Ways to Attend Worship

Sundays at 9:30 am

ONLINE OPTIONS



Watch Live



Watch Later



In Vehicle



In Lawn Chair

Find out more at elkriverlutheran.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

OPENING SONG: "God of Science"

CHORUS

Our Great God of all things bright and
Our Great God of all things beautiful,
Our Great God of all things
wild and free, free!
Thank You God for making me.

VERSE 1

You started science
and quantum physics,
Wrote the law of gravity;
You are the smartest.
You are the greatest
Scientist in history.

VERSE 2

You thought of narwhals
and armadillos,
All the creatures great and small;
Even the dinos a long long time ago
With their teeth and terrible claws.

CHORUS

VERSE 3

You made my atoms and all my organs,
Every strand of DNA.
You are the artist, we are the canvas.
We're uniquely wonderfully made.

VERSE 4

You make me happy, my bones and body
Love to dance like stars at night.
So let's get started and have a party,
Celebrate this marvelous life.

SERIES LITANY

At Easter we celebrate that, against all odds, Jesus was raised from the dead and from that time on his imperfect followers, ourselves included, have worked to bless this world and show that, against all odds,

Hope, love, and joy are always nearby.

CHORUS

BRIDGE 1

You made apple juice, sunflowers,
Penguins, and rhinos;
Pineapples, Jupiter,
Elbows, and geckos;
Broccoli, Mercury,
Sunshine, and weirdos;
Pandas and nostrils and trees.

BRIDGE 2

Bumblebees, polar bears,
Raptors, and eyebrows;
Wildebeests, moustaches,
Earlobes, and wormholes;
Mountain goats, volcanoes,
Turtles, and big toes;
Pandas and nostrils and trees.

BRIDGE 3

Puppy dogs, waterfalls,
Kittens, and rainbows;
Galaxies, mushrooms, and
Badgers, and pharaohs;
Elephants, great white sharks,
Music, and mangos;
Pandas and nostrils and trees;
Pandas and nostrils and trees?

CHORUS

Sometimes we feel lost, directionless, or alone, but all of scripture proclaims the truth that with God, against all odds,

Hope, joy, and love are always nearby.

We trust that our past does not define our future, because in Christ we are a new creation. Against all odds,

Hope, love, and joy are always nearby.

God has created us, blessed us, and calls us to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with one another and God.

Let us pray,

Holy God, when odds seem stacked against us, you meet us where we are and fill us with hope, love, and joy. May we extend the same grace to one another, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 9:10-21

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹ The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³ But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰ and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God." ²¹ All who heard him were amazed and said, "Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem among those who invoked this name? And has he not come here for the purpose of bringing them bound before the chief priests?"

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Intern Pastor Jeremy Hallquist

SONG OF THE DAY: "Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)"

CHORUS

My chains are gone.
I've been set free,
My God, my Savior has ransomed me.
And like a flood His mercy rains,
Unending love, amazing grace.

VERSE 1

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost but now I'm found,
Was blind but now I see.

VERSE 2

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

CHORUS

BIBLE PRESENTATION

- Easton Lawrence Hennig
- Macy Hoeft
- Myles Wagner

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

VERSE 3

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be,
As long as life endures.

CHORUS

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
who, against all odds, is raised from the dead,
who, against all odds, has brought us to eternal life,
who, against all odds, entrusts us to share this love and grace with the world.
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with trees budding out and signs of new life all around us,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD

ELW p190

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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 SONG (Drive-In): "Impossible Things"

CHORUS

There is no healer
like the Lord our Maker.
There is no equal to the King of kings.
Our God is with us; we will fear no evil,
'Cause You do impossible things.
You do the impossible things.

VERSE 1

You heal the broken-hearted.
You set the captive free.
You lift the heavy burden,
And even now You are lifting me.

CHORUS

VERSE 2

Though I walk through the valley,
Darkness surrounding me,
There You prepare a table,
In the presence of my enemies.

CHORUS

BRIDGE

One word and the walls start falling.
One word and the blind will see.
One word and the sinner's forgiven,
'Cause You do impossible things!

CHORUS

VERSE 1

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

May the Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ bless you and keep you in God's grace.
Amen.

OFFERING



**Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

SENDING BLESSING

VERSE 1

Alleluia! Jesus is risen!
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever!
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!

REFRAIN

Jesus is risen and we shall arise.
Give God the glory! Alleluia!

VERSE 2

Walking the way, Christ in the center
telling the story to open our eyes;
breaking our bread, giving us glory:
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise.

SENDING

"Go in peace, share the good news
"We will, thanks be to God!"

REFRAIN

VERSE 4

Weeping, be gone; sorrow, be silent:
death put asunder, and Easter is bright.
Cherubim sing: O grave, be open!
Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light.

REFRAIN

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Prayer Requests

Thanks for lifting these up in prayer!

Praise the Lord (joys and answered prayers):

- Our 3rd Graders receiving their bibles
 - Easton Hennig
 - Macy Hoefft
 - Myles Wagner
- All of those receiving their COVID vaccination
- All those working to ensure the COVID vaccine is distributed as quickly, safely and efficiently as possible

For Support:

- Nick and Rachel Brisson, friends of Taylor Quinn
- John Ernst and Carol Black
- Linda and Mike Cheney
- Jan Bucher
- All military personnel and their families

In Sympathy

- Carol Anderson, mother of Kari Osmek

Health concerns:

- Ryan Snelling, Pat Kyro's friend's son (intensive care due to COVID)
- Elvi Peterson
- Jim Jones, father-in-law of Taylor Quinn
- Carol Sindelir
- Diane McGrath, pancreatic cancer
- Mike Cheney, continued healing from stroke
- Larry Wokson, severe burns (cousin of Karen Froelich)
- Ken Bucher
- Kris West, daughter of Bob and Sue Hagen
- Duane Jerde
- Erich VanRyn

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY April 25

Third Grade Bibles

9:30am – Worship Service
(Drive-In and Online)

10:30am – 3rd Grade Bible Photo &
Lesson

TUESDAY April 27

9am – Quilting (ERLC Basement)

WEDNESDAY April 28

6:30pm – Confirmation

7:30pm – High School Youth Group

SATURDAY May 1

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

NEXT SUNDAY May 2

Drive-In Church Season Opener

9:30am – Worship Service
(Drive-In and Online)

10:30am – 3rd Grade Bibles Photo and
Short Lesson

6:30pm – Gen to Rev Bible Study (Zoom)

Genesis to Revelations

Sunday May 2 @ 6:30pm

Paul's letter to the Romans invites us to think about the insiders and outsiders in our communities. Who is the message of Christ for? Join us as we look at Paul, the congregations under Roman rule, and what God has to say about relationships.

Join us at <https://zoom.us/j/733768254>

Sacred Wit

Live and Online from the ERLC Drive-Thru

Bring your lawn chair or tune in online
Thursday May 6 @ 5:30pm

Men's Bible Study

Saturday mornings at 8am

Meeting on Zoom

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

Choir Luncheon

Monday, May 3 @ 11am – 1pm
Otsego Prairie Park & Splash Pad



All Choir Singers,
past and present, are welcome!
Bring your own food

Registration Open for:

FIRST COMMUNION

Pre-Work at Home

May 23rd in person experience with Pr Nathan

June 6th 1st Communion

(June 13 – rain date if needed)

Registration form found on elkriverlutheran.org home page

Beer & Hymns ERLC

Monday, May 10 @ 6:30PM

Elk River Lutheran Church Lower Parking Lot

Community hymn-sing led by Taylor Quinn, ERLC's Director of Music Ministry & Worship. Bring your lawn chair, grab a songbook, and enjoy your favorite beverage in the lower parking lot of Elk River Lutheran Church. Sing your favorite hymns with your favorite people.



**Thank you to our
worship
volunteers.**

Sign up now to volunteer for a
future worship service,
visit bit.ly/sundayvolunteer



***SUNDAY MAY 16th • 11 AM - 1 PM**

**Gather a team or compete solo!
Register at: www.elkriverlutheran.org**

The RACE begins at ERLC and ends at a surprise location. Each team/solo will receive a snack and instructions for the first leg of the race. You will need a car to travel to each location. After completing each challenge, instructions for the next leg will be given. Each team will be given one Express Pass to opt out of a challenge and move on. *Rain Date: May 23rd.

****UNLIKE** the popular TV show, participants will not have to bungee jump, navigate the river, or skydive!



Drive-In Church 2021
Official Season Opener
Join Us May 2nd @ 9:30 am
Receive your Drive-In Church commemorative coffee travel mug



STAFF

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

Pastor: Nathan Mugaas

763-242-8347

pastornathan@elkriverlutheran.org

Intern Pastor Jeremy Hallquist

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Linda Nielsen

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Music Leader: Bea Bastyr

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763-595-1216 ERLCBookkeeper@gmail.com

Custodian: Brian Harding

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

President: Sarah Chur

Vice President: Ron Stricker

Secretary: Sue Hales

Treasurer: John Auel

Kari Christianson

Mark Johnson

Dave Katzner

Ruth Lemke

Michele Smith

Jennifer Stanley



Church Public Facebook Page & Private Facebook Group Page



Sunday Worship @ 9:30 AM on Public Facebook Page



Sunday 9:30am Worship



Elk River Lutheran Church YouTube Channel (Recorded Worship and Other Events)



"Elk River Lutheran Powered by Love" Podcast



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