

December 24, 2019

2:30pm • 4:30pm • 10:00pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



**Christmas
Eve Service**



WELCOME TO ELK RIVER LUTHERAN CHURCH!

We are a forward-thinking congregation, striving to create community that brings joy and hope. Worshipping together since December 2009, we believe that all people are welcome in the Lord's house, to hear the Word, share the Sacraments, and become strengthened for the life of faith.

*We encourage everyone to take a moment to sign the worship registration slip and place it in the offering plate. 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** us, please let an usher know as we have **a special gift for you!***

Please feel free to take home your worship bulletin for people and families to keep in your prayers.

PARENTS

We welcome kids with their wiggles and noises in worship. If your children are feeling a little squiggly in worship, you are welcome to accompany them to the playground in the middle of the sanctuary by the north wall where soft toys are available for their use. 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) in the far corner of the fellowship hall.

Whether you have been coming for years or this is your first time, our LiFT! Family Sunday School is open to all families. Focus is for kids preschool to 6th grade. Grandparents with their grandkids are also encouraged to join us at LiFT! It meets between services downstairs in the community room.

Prelude

Welcome/Sharing of the Peace

L: The Peace of Christ be with you always. **All: And Also with you.**

Carol **“Welcome Christmas”**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

L: Today we light all the candles on the advent wreath as we celebrate the coming of the Messiah. Arise, shine, for your light has come.

All: Oh, come let us adore him!

L: Unto us a Child is born!

All: Oh, come let us adore him!

L: And the government shall be upon his shoulders.

All: Oh, come let us adore him!

Pastor: And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, the Almighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

All: Oh, come let us adore him!

Carol **“I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve”** ^{v1}

ELW 271

CHRISTMAS CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the Holy One of Israel, the Word made flesh, the Power of the Most High,
✠ one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

L: Gathered in the name of Jesus, let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor.
Gracious God,

All: in Christ Jesus you come among us as light shining in darkness. We confess our failure to welcome this light. Forgive us and renew our hope, so that we may live in the light of your grace, and welcome the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.

L: I bring you good news of great joy for all the people: To you is born a Savior, Christ the Lord. Your sins are forgiven in ✠ Jesus' name.

All: Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD PROCLAIMED

Scripture Reading

Micah 5:2-5

Carol	“O Come, All Ye Faithful” v1 & 4	ELW 279
Children’s Message		
Gospel Acclamation	“Go Tell It on the Mountain” v. 1 & 2	ELW 290
Gospel		Luke 2:1-20
Gospel Response	“Go Tell It on the Mountain” v3	ELW 290
Sermon		Pastor Nathan Mugaas
Carol	“Hark the Herald Angels Sing” v1 & 3	ELW 270

SHARING & RECEIVING THE GIFTS OF GOD

L: Arise, shine, for your light has come.

All: Oh, come let us adore him!

L: The light shines in the darkness

All: And the darkness cannot overcome it.

L: Jesus is the light of the world. You are the light of the world.

All: Let us fill this world with the light and love of Christ!

L: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to God in heaven.

All: This little light of mine, I’m going to let it shine.

L: Thanks be to God.

All: Amen!

Offering	2:30: "What Child is This"	Rotz Family
	4:30: "Light a Candle"	Donna Heaston
	10:00: "Mary, Did You Know?"	ERLC Choir with Conni and John Natwick

Offering Prayer: **Creator God, we are filled to overflowing with the joy of this season. As the Magi offered their best to the Christ child, we place before you our offerings from the gifts you have given to us. May they be used to further your work among us. Amen.**

Communion Canticle

L: It is you, loving God, who lights our path with truth.

All: Your Word, Jesus, is truth.

L: In his light, draw all to the manger

All: to gather in wonder with the shepherds.

L: In his light, draw all to the manger

All: to kneel in reverence with the wise ones.

L: In his light, draw all to the manger

All: to sing for joy with the angels.

L: In the brightness of his life

All: cast away the darkness of injustice, poverty, and hunger in the world.

L: It is you, loving God, who meets us on our way.

All: In the light of Jesus, show the world the way of life. Amen

Words of Institution

The 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.

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready. All are welcome to receive Holy Communion at Elk River Lutheran; members and visitors, young and old, all are welcome. There is bread or gluten free wafers, and wine (red) or grape juice (white).

Communion Carols	"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"	ELW 276
	"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" (2:30)	ELW 272
	"What Child is This (4:30 & 10:00)	ELW 296
	"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear	ELW 282

Christmas Communion Prayer: **Great and saving God, you have gathered your scattered people around gifts of grain and wine, the body and blood of our Savior Christ. As we, like the shepherds, return on our way, may we proclaim all we have heard and seen, praising you in word and loving deed for the gift of Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Lighting of Candles (Please be seated)

P: Let your light shine before others, so all may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)

(When lighting the candles, please tip only the unlit candles.)

Responsive Reading

L: In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. And the earth was without form and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. (Genesis 1:1-2)

All: In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. (John 1:1-2)

L: And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. (Genesis 1:3)

All: All things came into being through Him, and without Him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in Him was life, and the life was the light of all people. (John 1:3-4)

L: The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness, did not overcome it. (John 1:5)

Candle Distribution

2:30 & 4:30

"O Come, Emmanuel" v1 & 2

ELW 257

"Away in a Manger" v1 & 2

ELW 277

"O Little Town of Little Bethlehem" v1 & 3

ELW 279

"Silent Night"

ELW 281

"Away in a Manger" v3

ELW 277

10:00

"Do You Hear What I Hear"

Joyce Hels & Cassie Gerber

"Silent Night"

ELW 281

THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Blessing

L: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

All: Amen.

"Go in peace, Share the Good News! We Will! Thanks Be to God!"

Postlude

Serving Us Today

	2:30pm	4:30pm	10:00pm
Greeters:	Mark and Fran Johnson, Vicki Sackmeister	Pat Kyro, Jennifer Stanley and Cale Stanley-Wornson	Michele Smith, Jennifer Stanley and Cale Stanley- Wornson
Ushers:	John and Sarah Auel, Tom and LuAnn Wingard	TJ Budish, Shari Howland, Keith Quammen	Lance and Sheila Swancutt, Rick Bock
Lector:	Emily Rotz	Bob Burtness	Babs Armagost
Musicians:	Rotz Family: Emily, Matt, Adrienne, Everett, Isaac; Kara Hennigh, Vicki Granros, Lilly Hoeft, Aziley Smith, Lori Sundman	Donna Heaston, Justin Howland, Joshua Miernicki, Katie Carlson	ERLC Choir, Joyce Hels and Cassie Gerber, John and Conni Natwick, Diana Schansberg
A/V:	David McFarlane	Alex Howland	Eric and Heidi Becker
Communion Steward:	Dale Ziner, Brad Tesdahl	Martha Hippe, Dale Ziner	Dale Ziner
Communion Servers:	Myron Grams, Jeremy Hallquist, Lorie Schulstand-Werk and Tom Werk	Jeremy Hallquist, Alana Budish, Jennifer Stanley	John Severson, Jeremy Hallquist, Nancy Bock
Basket Holders:	Erin Auel	Macy Hoeft, Brantley Hoeft, Cale Stanley – WoOrnson	Marty and Ruth Lemke
Communion Set-up/ Refill:	Ryan Wolcenski and family		
Christmas Eve Communion Set-Up:	Debby Pouliot, Glen and Lynette Geving		



Christmas Poinsettia Memorials & Honorariums



In Honor of Grandchildren

In Memory of Parents

In Memory of David Skeir

In Memory of Our Loved Ones

*In Honor of The 10th Anniversary of
ERLC*

*In Honor of The 10th Anniversary of
ERLC*

In Memory of Loved Ones

In Memory of Romey Dalnes

*In Memory of Florence and Lauren
Davies*

*In Memory of Gladys and Malcolm
Lindquist*

In Memory of Neil Dietz

In Honor of Our Families

In Memory of Loved Ones

In Memory of Grandson Riley

*Mujwid; Parents Ervin and Ardella
Anderson*

In Memory of Our Grandson Michael

*In Memory of Judy and Jamie
Hallquist*

*In Memory of Emery and Carol
Petersen*

In Memory of Loved Ones

*In Memory of Mr and Mrs Charles A
Hulse, Parents*

*In Honor of All My Friends at Elk
River Lutheran Church*

*In Memory of My Son Dale, My
Mother, Father, Brother and
Grandparents*

In Memory of Dorothea Fevold

By Don and Babs Armagost

By Don and Babs Armagost

*By Steve Bucholza and Diana
Schansberg*

By Bob and Bev Burtness

By Milo and Kari Christianson

By Milo and Kari Christianson

By Ardelle Dahlin

By Cathy Dalnes

By Peg and Lee Davies

By Peg and Lee Davies

By Delphine Dietz

By Hans and Nettie DuBois

By Hans and Nettie DuBois

By Sharon Emerick

By Phyllis and Les Ferguson

By Jeremy and Ellie Hallquist

By Jeremy and Ellie Hallquist

By Daryl and Jean Holt

By Charles Hulse

By Phyllis Lehrke

By Phyllis Lehrke

By Karen Maher

In Memory of Our Parents
In Memory of Harold Novotny
In Honor of Children
In Honor of Grandchildren
In Memory of Parents
In Memory of Paul Peterson
In Memory of Our Son Jeff
In Honor of Twyla Johnson
In Honor of Daryl Jones
In Memory of Carl & Vera Eckhoff,
Vernon Rinerson
In Memory of Daennis Mixdorf,
Father and Grandfather
In Memory of Lloyd and Kristin
Sandeen
In Honor of our wonderful church
family at ERCC
In Memory of Russ Stricker and
Mary Stricker
In Honor Grandmother and Parents
In Honor of Children and Family
In Memory of Albert and Opal
Swedal, Bruce and Pat Scott
In Memory of Guy Varty
In Memory of Our Parents
In Memory of brother Jim
In Honor of Our Family
In Honor of Mother

By Robert and Virginia Nelson
By Kristine Novonty
By Russ and Barb Overbye
By Russ and Barb Overbye
By Russ and Barb Overbye
By Vi Peterson
By Greg and Deb Pouliot
By Taylor Quinn
By Taylor Quinn

By Roger and Sharon Rinerson

By Emily Rotz

By Kathy Sandeen

By Jennifer Stanley & Cale

By Ron and Gloria Stricker
By Lance and Sheila Swancutt
By Lance and Sheila Swancutt

By Larry and Bonnie Swedal
By Donna Varty
By Lorie and Tom Werk
By Lorie and Tom Werk
By Tom and LuAnn Wingard
By Dale Ziner



WELCOME

WHO WE ARE



Welcome! We are excited you joined us and allowed us to get to know you. Let us tell a little about us... Elk River Lutheran Church is a forward-thinking congregation located in a remodeled bank building in beautiful downtown Elk River. We strive to put faith into action and be a positive force in our neighborhood. We are a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and as a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation, our welcome extends to the LGBTQ+ community.

GET CONNECTED

Children, Youth and Family

We strive not to be regular, but be remarkable in our faith formation programming. Our programs, from preschool through Senior High, strive to strengthen families and involve parents in many ways. The curriculum we use seeks to engage all of the senses in learning about God's great love.

Small Group Opportunities

At Elk River Lutheran Church, we want to extend our relationships beyond worship by providing various small group opportunities such as LIFE Groups, Women's Monthly Bible Study, Men's Saturday Morning Bible Study, Tuesday Morning Bible Study,

Genealogy Group, Quilting, and a variety of service opportunities and musical groups

Music Ministry

Our music ministry provides a variety of opportunities for individuals who love music and want to share it with God's people and their community. Whether it be as a solo or in a group, you are welcome to share your gifts with us regardless of your abilities and age. We welcome all who are looking for a church home to share their music.



Beer & Hymns

COMMUNITY

We love and serve our neighbors through programs and events, volunteering and supporting social service agencies like CAER and Lutheran Social Services, and by simply being a loving presence in our downtown neighborhood.

Popular community events include Trunk-or-Treat, Downtown Santa in the Park and Tree Lighting, Elk RiverFest and Kids and Senior Days at the Farmers Market.

Serving our neighbor through CAER, Meals on Wheels, LSS, providing luncheons for Dare Funerals, and hosting The Way Out AA Group and Land of Lakes Choir Boys.

Sharing musical gifts with the community through Beer & Hymns, and Worship Services and Hymn Sings at Guardian Angels Facilities.

THIS IS US



Family Camp

Grace Filled

We love because Christ first loved us. We start from a position that all we have and this whole world belongs to God and we are blessed that God shares it with us.

Joyful

Experiencing the love and support of a faith community should be an experience of joy, and that is true here. We try not to take ourselves too seriously and we're not afraid to laugh and be playful

Welcoming

The people of ERLC always strive to make everyone feel welcome, not only by greeting newcomers, but truly inviting them into the life of the church.

Accepting

This is a place where you can come just as you are, who you are, and where you're at in your own personal life of faith. This is a place where you will be accepted and celebrated as a blessed and loved child of God.

Serving

God calls us to put love into action and we answer that call at church and through active lives in the community.



SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:15 am Traditional Worship

9:20 am Fellowship Hour and

LiFT! Family Sunday School

10:30 am Contemporary Worship



**Dinner Church - Coming this Lenten Season on
Wednesdays @ 6pm**

STAFF

Pastor: Nathan Mugaas
763-242-8347
pastornathan@elkriverlutheran.org

**Minister of Congregational Care
& Discipleship**
Jeremy Hallquist
Seminarian in Residence
612-201-6382 jeremy@elkriverlutheran.org

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

Music Leader: Bea Bastyr
BeaBastyr@gmail.com

Children, Youth & Family:
Jeremy Hallquist, Interim
763-595-1216

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

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

Custodian: Brian Harding

Nursery Attendants:
Gabby Klinkenborg, Gabe Livingston, David
McFarlane and Charlotte Oudekerk

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

President: John Natwick
Vice President: Mark Schwarze
Secretary: Kari Christianson
Treasurer: Jennifer Stanley
John Auel
Sarah Chur
Jodie Dahlheimer
Ryan Herbert
Brian McFarlane
Michele Smith



Please Recycle Me!

THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY CHRISTMAS DAY

Church Offices are Closed



THURSDAY

Church Offices are Closed
7pm – The Way Out (AA Group)

SATURDAY

8am – Men's Bible Study

SUNDAY

8:15am – Lessons and Carols Worship
9:20am – Fellowship Hour – Bring our
leftover goodies to share!
10:30am – Lessons and Carols Worship

MONDAY

Church Office opens at 9 AM

Elk River Lutheran Church

729 Main Street – Elk River, MN 55330

(763) 595-1216

www.elkriverlutheran.org

Office Hours

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