

# *Christmas Eve Candlelight Service*

*December 22, 2021 @ 6:30pm*

*December 24, 2021 @ 2:30pm • 4:30pm • 10:00pm*

a *Weary*  *World*  
R E J O I C E S



# 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](http://www.elca.org)). We welcome all people and as a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation that welcome extends to the LGBTQ+ community.

### Things to know for the service today:

- Along with this bulletin you should have picked up **Holy Communion elements** (individually wrapped grape juice & wafer) and a **candle** for the candlelit portion of our service. Feel free to grab them at any time.
- **Bathrooms**, complete with changing tables for little ones, are located through the glass doors in the Fellowship Hall.
- Feel free to snap a picture in our **Christmas Photobooth** also located in the Fellowship Hall.
- Our **Kids' Station** by the main entrance of the Sanctuary has crafts, activities, and snacks for kids (or the young at heart). Feel free to visit there anytime throughout the service.

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>. AND we are very excited about our next sermon series!



We invite you to bring in a family Christmas photo card for our Picture "Perfect" Family display, and then join us on Sundays starting January 2 for our next sermon series: **Picture "Perfect" Family**. You might be thinking, "Wait, my family isn't perfect," and that's more than OK. We know there is no such thing as a perfect family. The photos make us look great, but beyond the photos, we want to explore how we navigate the real joys and challenges of family and discover the life God wants for our real, messy, sometimes nutty families.

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

GATHERING CAROL

(#289) *“Angels We Have Heard on High”*

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

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.

**Oh, come let us adore him!**

Unto us a Child is born!

**Oh, come let us adore him!**

And the government shall be upon his shoulders.

**Oh, come let us adore him!**

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

**Oh, come let us adore him!**

CAROL

(#283) *“O Come All Ye Faithful”* v1 & 4

## CHRISTMAS CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

**Amen.**

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

Gracious God,

**We confess that in our weariness we often fail to see the good in the world and in each other.  
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to  
the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

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.

**Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD PROCLAIMED

SCRIPTURE READING

Micah 5:2-5

CAROL

(#279) *“O Little Town of Bethlehem”* v1

GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CAROL

(#290) *“Go Tell It on the Mountain” v1*

SERMON

Pastor Nathan Mugaas

CAROL OF THE DAY

*“O Holy Night”*  
(10 pm performance by the Riverside Ringers)

**SHARING & RECEIVING THE GIFTS OF GOD**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OFFERING**

**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**

It is you, loving God, who lights our path with truth.  
**Your Word, Jesus, is truth.**

In his light, draw all to the manger  
**to gather in wonder with the shepherds.**

In his light, draw all to the manger  
**to kneel in reverence with the wise ones.**

In his light, draw all to the manger  
**to sing for joy with the angels.**

In the brightness of his life  
**cast away the darkness of injustice, poverty, and hunger in the world.**

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

**COMMUNION CAROL**

(#296) *“What Child is This”*

## 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

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

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*)

**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*)

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

**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*)

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

## CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

**(#279) "O Little Town of Bethlehem"** v2 & 3

**(#294) "In the Bleak Midwinter"** v1 & 3

**(#281) "Silent Night"** v1 & 3

## THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

### BLESSING

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.

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

## POSTLUDE

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

L	S	W	M	H	Y	N	J	G	A	O	Z	P	X	K	F	I	U	B	E	T	C	V	Q	D	R
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 8-11-2-20-13-5 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4-10-26-6 \_\_\_\_\_
- 19-20-21-5-1-20-5-20-4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 19-10-19-6 \_\_\_\_\_
- 19-11-26-7 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4-10-7-9-20-26 \_\_\_\_\_
- 10-7-9-20-1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2-5-20-13-5-20-26-25-2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2-10-23-17-11-26 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4-20-2-2-17-10-5 \_\_\_\_\_

SHEPHERDS	BETHLEHEM	BABY	MESSIAH	JOSEPH
SAVIOR	MANGER	BORN	MARY	ANGEL





## *Christmas Poinsettia Memorials & Honorariums*



In Honor of Our Children and Grandchildren  
In Memory of my Parents and Grandparents  
In Memory of My Friend Bob Eder  
In Memory of John and Doris Campbell  
In Memory of Louie and Wilma Helfrich  
In Memory of My Mom, Ruth (Pohlmann) Carlson  
In Honor of Our Children and Grandchildren  
In Memory of Jean Hold and Parker/Cook Family  
In Memory of My Husband Melvin Domier  
In Memory of My Parents and Brothers  
In Memory of Grandson Riley Mujwid  
In Memory of My Parents Ervin and Ardella Anderson  
In Memory of William and Thelma Crockett and Dr. John and Mildred Fasanello  
In Memory of My Parents Elsie and John Anderson  
In Memory of Our Grandparents, who are forever in our hearts  
In Memory of My Loved Ones  
In Memory of Loved Ones  
In Honor of My Family  
In Memory of My Parents Mr and Mrs C. R. Hulse  
In Memory of Glenn Johnson  
In Memory of Our Parents Harold and Betty Hultberg, Art and Adeline Krumwiede  
In Memory of Our Parents  
In Memory of Lorenz and Doris Nelson, Forest and Pearl Abbott and Steve Sindelir  
In Memory of Our Parents  
In Memory of Steve Nielsen  
In Memory of Our Parents  
In Honor of Our Children  
In Honor of Our Grandchildren  
In Memory of Our Parents  
In Memory of Our Parents  
In Memory of Our Son Jeff  
In Honor of Twyla Johnson  
In Memory of Jim Jones  
In Memory of Parents, Carl and Vera Eckhoff, Vern Rinerson and Verie Zillmer  
In Memory of Jason Ebel  
In Memory of Sally Becker  
In Memory of My Cousin Judy Gaalswyk  
In Memory of Grandparents and Parents  
In Memory of My Friend Mike Jacobs  
In Memory of Loved Ones  
In Memory of Guy Varty  
In Memory of Our Parents and Brother Jim  
In Honor of Our Family  
In Memory of Doris Ziner  
In Memory of Loved Ones

By Donald and Barbara Armagost  
By Donald and Barbara Armagost  
By Steve Bucholz  
By John and Deb Campbell  
By John and Deb Campbell  
By Katie Carlson  
By Chuck and Jane Cazett  
By Larry and Jean Cook  
By Burnette Domier  
By Burnette Domier  
By Sharon Emerick  
By Sharon Emerick  
By Dave and Deb Fasanello  
By Mary Forster  
By Jenna and Jack Gasperlin  
By Glen Geving  
By Stan and Diane Hahn  
By Sue Hales  
By Charles Hulse  
By Pam Johnson  
By Bob and Sandy Krumwiede  
By Chuck and Nancy Naig  
By Dan and Val Nelson and Family  
By Robert and Virginia Nelson  
By Pete and Linda Nielsen  
By Cedric and Marlys Olson  
By Russ and Barb Overbye  
By Russ and Barb Overbye  
By Greg and Deb Pouliot  
By Greg and Deb Pouliot  
By Taylor Quinn  
By Taylor Quinn  
By Roger and Sharon Rinerson  
By Jessica Sandvig  
By Jessica Sandvig  
By Diana Schansberg  
By Robert and Shirley Schmidt  
By Judy Sloan  
By Larry and Bonnie Swedal  
By Donna Varty  
By Tom and Lorie Werk  
By Tom and LuAnn Wingard  
By Dale Ziner  
By Marvin Ziner

## STAFF

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

### **Pastor Nathan Mugaas**

763-242-8347

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

### **Jeremy Hallquist**

Minister of Congregational Care & Discipleship

612-201-6382

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

### **Linda Nielsen**

Office Manager

612-845-7335

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

### **Taylor Quinn**

Director of Music Ministry & Worship

816-519-2719

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

### **Lori Sundman**

Bookkeeper

763-595-1216

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

### **Lisa Griffin**

Staff Pianist

612-709-8882

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

**Brian Harding**, Custodian

## CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

**President:**

Sarah Chur

Kari Christianson

**Vice President:**

Ron Stricker

Mark Johnson

**Secretary:**

Sue Hales

Dave Katzner

**Treasurer:**

John Auel

Jennifer Stanley



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