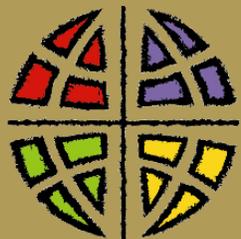


*December 26, 2021*

*Lessons and Carols*

a *Weary World*  
REJOICES





# 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:

- **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

Opening Carol

**(#269) "Once in Royal David's City" v1, 2 & 3**

Bidding Prayer

*Each prayer petition ends with a time for silent prayer and reflection,  
and then the following call and response:*

Lord, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

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.**

Carol

**(#283) "O Come All Ye Faithful" v1, 3 & 4**

First Lesson

Genesis 3:8-15

**(#267) "Joy to the World" v1, 2 & 4**

Second Lesson

Genesis 22:15-18

**(#272) "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" v1, 2 & 3**

Third Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

**(#288) "Good Christian Friends Rejoice"**

Fourth Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-9

**(#257) "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" v1, 2 & 8**

Fifth Lesson

Luke 1:26-38

***"God Rest Ye Merry Gentlefolk" v1, 4, 7***

**VERSE 1**

God rest ye merry, gentlefolk\*,  
Let nothing you dismay;  
Remember Christ our Saviour  
Was born on Christmas Day;  
To save us all from Satan's pow'r  
When we were gone astray:

**CHORUS**

O tidings of comfort and joy,  
Comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

**VERSE 4**

"Fear not," then said the angel;  
"Let nothing you affright,  
This day is born a Saviour  
Of a pure virgin bright,  
To free all those who trust in Him  
From Satan's pow'r and might:"

**CHORUS**

**VERSE 7**

Now to the Lord sing praises,  
All you within this place.  
And with true love and blessings  
good\*  
Each other now embrace.  
This holy tide of Christmas  
All others doth deface.

**CHORUS**

**Sixth Lesson**

Luke 2:1-7  
**(#281) "Silent Night"**

**Seventh Lesson**

Luke 2:8-16  
**(#275) "Angels from the Realms of Glory" v1, 2 & 4**

**Eighth Lesson**

Matthew 2:1-11  
**(#294) "In the Bleak Midwinter"**

**Ninth Lesson**

John 1:1-14  
**(#290) "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"**

**Offering**

## Closing Prayer

Let us pray,

**Holy One, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## Blessing

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one, things earthly and heavenly,...bless you and keep you, shine on you with grace and mercy, look upon you with favor, and give you peace.

**Amen.**

## Sending Carol

**(#270) "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"**

## Sending Dialog

"Go in peace, share the good news"

**"We will, thanks be to God!"**



Thank you, God, for Jesus.

# The Gift of Love

Luke 1:39-45

## Word Search

L W G G C B G R A J Y Y I B E  
L K E T H L Q E G X M U D E F  
J Q K L I E O L R B A B Y L T  
X Z W V L S L I E M C K N I Z  
N R O H D S U Z E A A O W E O  
R G S O D E C A T J T R H V B  
G N F Q V D U B I D O G Y E H  
M J U D E A F E N Z B Y M A T  
I A L Q U L I T G C F X I M E  
I F F V T E L H O M E R V S T  
H A I I V A L U C E A B I D Z  
J R L X L P E A I H A M M K V  
I G L B U E D A C X O V U T B  
R W Z A V D G E D R E H J O H  
X Q L K H M Z L P Z E I J A K

ELIZABETH	FULFILL	FILLED	GREETING	BELIEVE
BLESSED	CHILD	PROMISE	LEAPED	JUDEA
ZECHARIAH	JOY	BABY	HOME	MARY

## STAFF

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

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**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

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(763) 595-1216

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

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