

GATHERING OF PRAYER, LAMENT, AND HOPE



A space for honest
conversation and faithful
presence in uncertain times.

January 22, 2026, 6:30-7:30pm

Gathering for Prayer, Lament, and Hope

Elk River Lutheran Church

Order of Service

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG

“Christ Be Our Light”

OPENING PRAYER

FIRST READING

Psalm 130

SECOND READING

Lamentations 3

MOMENTS OF SILENCE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

REMINDER OF BAPTISM

LORD’S PRAYER

SONG

“We Shall Overcome”

CLOSING PRAYER

BENEDICTION

SENDING

POSTLUDE

Following the service, you are invited to the Fellowship Hall for coffee, treats, and guided table conversations.

What is lament?

lament (noun): a passionate expression of sorrow or grief; a song, hymn, or poem expressing mourning or regret.

lament (verb): to express deep sorrow, grief, or regret.

Opening Prayer of Confession and Awakening

God of all people,

Wake us up, so that the evil of racism finds no home within us. Keep watch over our hearts, and remove any barriers to your grace that may oppress or wound our siblings.

Fill our spirits, Lord, so that we may serve your people with justice and peace. Clear our minds, and use us for Your glory. And finally, remind us, Lord, that you said, “blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.”

Amen.

Closing Prayer for Strength and Healing

We pray to you almighty God, in this time of need. You are our refuge and our strength, a very present help in time of trouble. Do not let us fail in the face of these events. Uphold us with your love, and give us the strength we need. Help us in our confusion, and guide our actions. Heal the hurt, console the bereaved and afflicted, protect the innocent and helpless, and deliver any who are still in peril; for the sake of your great mercy in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Benediction

May God’s grace and love fill the earth and also our hearts.

May justice flow like a roaring, mighty river.

May peace descend like a dove upon quiet waters.

And may we be mindful always, that in God’s kingdom

All are loved to overflowing.

Amen.



Trusting in God's grace, an accepting,
joyful community, serving God & neighbor.