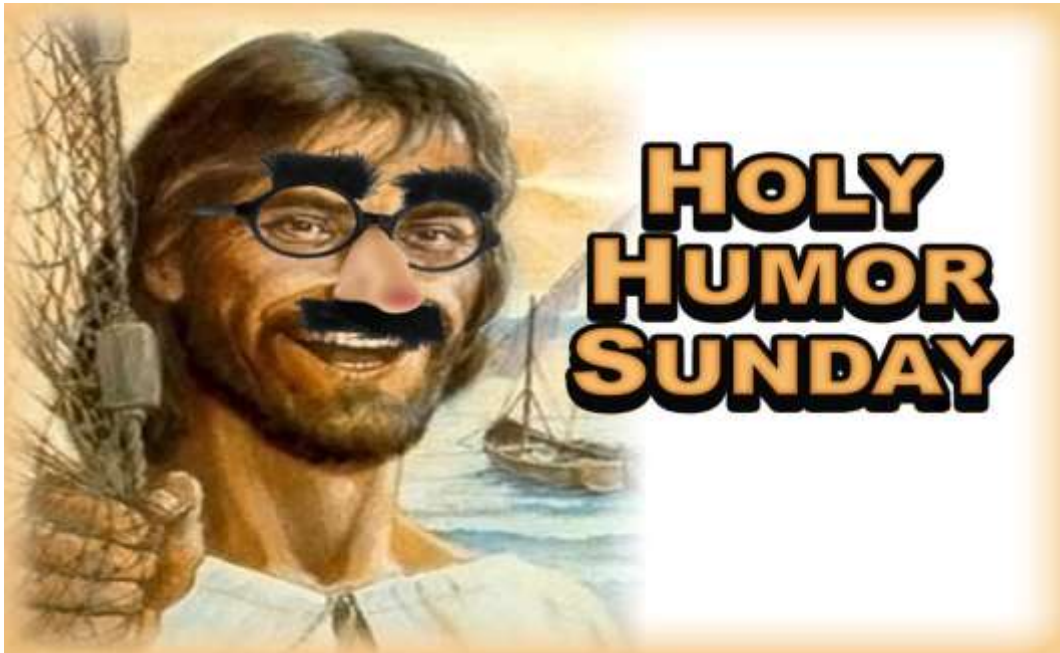


April 12, 2026

8:30 and 10:30 Worship Services



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.*

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.

Please fill out the enclosed Connection Form slip and drop it in an offering plate to receive more information about Elk River Lutheran or share prayer concerns.

Things to know **for the service:**

- **Bathrooms**, complete with changing tables for little ones, are located in the Fellowship Hall in the corner opposite of the main entrance.
- We welcome **kids** with their wiggles and noises in worship. 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) by the entrance in the far corner of the fellowship hall.
- **Assisted Listening Devices** are available. Please contact the Media Booth

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>



8:30AM ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Gathering of God's People

Welcome

Sharing of Jokes

Gathering Hymn

"This is the Day"

Confession and Forgiveness

Song of Praise

"I've Got the Joy...Down in My Heart"

The Word of God Proclaimed

Prayer of the Day

Sharing of Jokes

Kids Connect

Scripture Readings

John 20:19-31

Sermon

Pastor Nathan Mugaas

Hymn of the Day

(#836) "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Sharing & Receiving the Gifts of God

Apostles Creed

Bidding Prayers

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Offering of Jokes

Offertory Prayer

Great Thanksgiving

Holy, Holy, Holy

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Communion Songs

"Give to Us Laughter"

"Beautiful Day"

Communion Blessing & Prayer

The Sending of God's People

Community Announcements

Sending Blessing

Sending Hymn

"Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Easter version

Sending Dialog

10:30AM ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Gathering of God's People

Welcome

Sharing of Jokes

Sharing of the Peace

Gathering Song

"This is the Day"

The Word of God Proclaimed

Prayer of the Day

Sharing of Jokes

Kids Connect

Scripture Readings

Sermon

Song of the Day

John 20:19-31

Pastor Nathan Mugaas

"I've Got the Joy"

Sharing & Receiving the Gifts of God

Offering

Offering of Jokes

Offertory Prayer

Confession and Forgiveness

Holy Communion

The Lord's Prayer

Communion Song

Communion Blessing

"Give to Us Laughter"

The Sending of God's People

Community Announcements

Sending Blessing

Sending Song

"Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Easter version

Sending Dialog

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Confirmation Worship
Notes Form

Holy Humor Sunday

Holy Humor Sunday is a tradition that goes way back. The early Greek Christians started this Easter custom as a way of celebrating Christ's resurrection.

The Bible reminds us

"for every-thing there is a season... a time to weep and a time to laugh."

~ Ecclesiastes 3:1, 4

Easter is a time of joy when we can even laugh in the face of death, because of Jesus's victory over death.

History tells us that churches in 15th century Bavaria celebrated the Sunday after Easter as *Risus Paschalis* ("God's Joke" or "the Easter Laugh").

Priests would tell jokes and funny stories to highlight the joy of the resurrection.

Following worship churchgoers and priests would

- play practical jokes on each other,
- drench each other with water,
- share more laughter
- sing and dance together.

The celebration of *Risus Paschalis* was officially outlawed by Pope Clement X (also known as *Pope Party-pooer*) in the 17th century.

There wasn't a theological problem with the tradition, it seems that revilers were just having a little *too* much fun.

We hope today's worship is a fun *and* reverent celebration of Easter.

God raised Jesus from the dead –
this is a cause to celebrate... and yes, even to laugh.



When you've already started eating and somebody says, "Let's Pray."



Jesus next to all the wheels he has taken



Worship Volunteers

	8:30AM Service		10:30AM Service	
	April 12	April 19	April 12	April 19
Greeters	Mark and Fran Johnson	Dale Ziner Christy Boese	Rachel Johnson	Jess & Keaton Pelzel
Ushers	Herm & Bev Weidner	John & Debbie Campbell	Rick Bock Carolyn Mitzuk	Lisa Bossany Dan Nelson
Scripture Reader	Mary Barthel	John Barthel	Jim Ayres	Sarah Chur
Communion Servers	Julie Marie Haugen Sue Hovde	Ed & Deb Shellum	Viv Ayres Krista Schrock	Jodie Dahlheimer Sarah Carlson Rick Bock
Communion Steward	John Barthel	Cedric Olson	Brad Tesdahl	Ann Pelzel
Mid-Week Communion Fill	Vicki Simpson	Nancy Bock	Vicki Simpson	Nancy Bock
Powerpoint Operator	Sarah Auel	Mary Barthel	Shari Howland	Julie Parks
Soundboard Operator	John Auel	Kevin Jenkins	Justin Howland	Brad Evert
Switcher Operator	Tom Clements	Tom Clements	Tom Clements	Tom Clements
Volunteer Coordinator	Vicki Simpson	Vicki Simpson Jenny Pruchnik	Chris Hansen	Chris Hansen

If you would like to serve, Great! Please contact the Worship Volunteer Coordinating Team so we can get you filled in. If you cannot volunteer for the upcoming Sunday, also contact the Team at erlcvolunteers@gmail.com

News & Opportunities



CYF Night - Call to Care for God's Creation

Wednesday, April 22 • 6:00–7:45pm

Join us for a special CYF Night with guest speaker Heidi Ferris from Growing Green Hearts as we connect faith, water, and care for the mighty Mississippi River right outside our church windows. Community meal at 6:00pm followed by speaker and hands-on activities for all ages.



Varty's Greenhouse Fundraiser: May 3rd 5-8pm

Fundraiser for the 2026 Youth Mission Trip to Jamaica

We 'll gather at the greenhouse, and sing our hearts out while purchasing beautiful plants! A huge THANK YOU to Varty's for hosting us and making a generous donation to ERLC youth as they prepare for the summer mission trip.



ERLC Block Party - Sunday May 17

Joint Outdoor Worship Service at 9:30am followed by Block Party from 11am-1pm

Once again we will kick off the season by worshipping outdoors and throwing a party for our community. Food, Games, Live Music, Bounce House, Fire Show and Entertainment for All. Volunteer using the QR Code to access the Sign Up.



Holy Humor Sunday

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

Holy
Easter
Reframe
Celebrate
Spirit
John

Humor
Jesus
Hardships
Worship
Mind
Victory

Laugh
Resurrection
Hope
Community
Body
Risen

Joy
Overwhelmed
Jokes
Purpose
Thrive

Staff

Pastor Nathan Mugaas

763-242-8347

pastornathan@elkriverlutheran.org

Pastor Anne Schaefer

952-250-6974

pastoranne@elkriverlutheran.org

Chuck Anderson

Interim Office Manager

763-595-1216

chuck@elkriverlutheran.org

Taylor Quinn

Director of Music Ministry & Worship

763-595-1216 X1202

taylor@elkriverlutheran.org

Tom Clements

Online Broadcast Specialist

tomclem84@gmail.com

Lisa Griffin

Staff Pianist

Michelle Hagberg

Custodian

Lori Sundman

Bookkeeper

Nursery Attendants:

Amy Brown, Katherine Horner, and Adrienne Rotz

Worship Volunteer Coordinators:

Chris Hansen, Jenny Pruchnik, Kerry Livingston, Sue Sass and Vicki Simpson

ericvolunteers@gmail.com

Church Council

President: Jeff Schrock

Vice President: Kent Larson

Treasurer: Amy Anderson

Secretary: Kelli Horner

Zoey Day

Justin Howland

Julie Marie Haugen

Conni Natwick

Dan Nelson

Renee Thurmer

This Week

SUNDAY

Holy Humor Sunday

8:30am Traditional Worship with Kids Connect

9:30am Fellowship Hour

10:30am Contemporary Service with Kids Connect

MONDAY

10:30am Hospitality Team

7:30pm Worship Band Rehearsal

TUESDAY

9:00am Quilting

10:00am Text Study (*Community Room*)

6:00pm Riverside Ringers

7:00pm AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)

WEDNESDAY

6:00pm Mississippi Sound Dinner

6:30pm Confirmation

6:30pm High School Youth

THURSDAY

10:00am Worship at Guardian

Angels Riverview Landing

6:00pm Choir

FRIDAY

9:00am Women's Coffee (*Panera – Elk River*)

9:00am Men's Breakfast (*Coborns – Elk River*)

SATURDAY

8:00am Men's Bible Study (*Zoom Bible Study*)

NEXT SUNDAY

8:30am Traditional Worship with Kids Connect

9:30am Fellowship Hour

10:30am Contemporary Service with Kids Connect

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

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