October 11, 2026

Shall We Gather at the River?

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

Elk River LUTHERAN ELCA
Trusting in God's grace, an accepting, joyful community, serving God & neighbor.

8:30AM ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Gathering of God's People

Welcome
Gathering Hymn — ***"Down to the River to Pray"***
Thanksgiving for Baptism
Song of Praise — ***"Glory and Praise to our God"***

The Word of God Proclaimed

Prayer of the Day
Kids Connect
Scripture Readings — *Ezekiel 47:1–12*
Sermon — *Pastor Bob Rusert*
Hymn of the Day — ***ELW #575 "In Christ Called to Baptize"***

Sharing & Receiving the Gifts of God

LWR School Kit Blessing
Apostles Creed
Bidding Prayers
Sharing of the Peace
Offering
Offertory Prayer
Great Thanksgiving
Holy, Holy, Holy — ***"Holy, Holy, Holy One"***
Words of Institution
The Lord's Prayer
Lamb of God — ***"Jesus, Life Giving Lamb of God"***
Communion Hymns — ***"Stand in that River"***
ELW #423 "Shall We Gather at the River"
Communion Blessing & Prayer

The Sending of God's People

Community Announcements
Sending Blessing
Sending Hymn — ***"Down by the Riverside"***
Sending Dialog

Dedication of our newly landscaped front yard

10:30AM ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Gathering of God's People

Welcome
Sharing of the Peace
Gathering Song — ***"Down to the River to Pray"***

The Word of God Proclaimed

Prayer of the Day
Kids Connect
Scripture Readings — *Ezekiel 47:1–12*
Sermon — *Pastor Bob Rusert*
Song of the Day — ***"Holy River"***

Sharing & Receiving the Gifts of God

LWR School Kit Blessing
Offering
Offertory Prayer
Thanksgiving for Baptism
Holy Communion
The Lord's Prayer
Communion Song — ***"Stand in that River"***
Communion Blessing

The Sending of God's People

Community Announcements
Sending Blessing
Sending Song — ***"Down by the Riverside"***
Sending Dialog

Dedication of our newly landscaped front yard

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Worship Volunteers

	8:30AM Service		10:30AM Service	
	October 11	**October 18**	**October 11**	**October 18**
Greeters	Jane Domeier Doug Mathison	John & Conni Natwick	Sue Hales Betty Zehringer	Megg Donnelly
Ushers	John & Debbie Campbell	Chuck & Jane Cazett	Tom & Joyce Hels	Joe Livingston Jeff Schrock
Scripture Reader	Vicki Granros	Debbie Campbell	Jim Ayres	Kerry Livingston
Communion Servers	Cedric & Marlys Olson John Barthel	Milo & Kari Christianson JulieMarie Haugen	Rick Bock John & Conni Natwick	Laura Guimont Debby Pouliot
Communion Steward	Vicki Simpson	Cedric Olson	Nancy Bock	Greg Pouliot
Mid-Week Communion Fill	Deb Shellum	Joyce Hels	Deb Shellum	Joyce Hels
Powerpoint Operator	Mary Barthel	Mary Barthel	Mike Anderson	Matt Rotz
Soundboard Operator	Tom Clements	Tom Clements	Brad Evert	Emily Rotz
Switcher Operator	Tom Clements	Tom Clements	Tom Clements	Tom Clements
Volunteer Coordinator	Vicki Simpson	Vicki Simpson	Chris Hansen	Chris Hansen

If you would like to serve, Great! Please get in touch with 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

Announcements

Celebrating 10 Years with Pastor Nathan Mugaas

Sunday, October 18

Join us as we recognize Pastor Nathan's 10 years of ministry and leadership at Elk River Lutheran Church during both worship services, then celebrate together during fellowship hour between services.

Made for These Times: Open Forum Series

Sundays, Sept. 27–Oct. 18 | 9:30 AM

Join the Social Justice Action Team (SJAT) for four weeks of video and conversation exploring faithful ways to respond to today's challenges with **courage, compassion, and hope**. Using selected videos from Convergence's *Made for These Times: Spiritual Leadership for a World in Crisis*, we'll reflect and talk together in a welcoming space.

No homework • Discussion questions provided • Everyone is welcome—regardless of background, political perspective, or faith tradition.

Kids Connect Volunteers Needed

Help kids (PreK–5th) grow in faith on **Sundays during worship** through crafts, games, and Bible stories. *Lessons and supplies are provided—just bring your smile*!

Sign up with the QR code or visit the **Children, Youth & Family** page on our website.

Rachel Kurtz — Live at Elk River Lutheran!

Join us **Wednesday, October 21** for an evening of music, stories, faith, and community with singer, songwriter, speaker, and storyteller **Rachel Kurtz**! We'll begin with **dinner at 6:00 PM** in the Community Room, followed by a **concert from 6:30–7:45 PM** in the Sanctuary. Rachel's powerful music and heartfelt storytelling will make this a wonderful evening for the whole community. **This event is FREE and all ages are welcome!**

Downtown Trick or Treat

Candy & Volunteers Needed!

Help Elk River Lutheran Church make **Downtown Trick or Treat** a fun and welcoming event for our community!

- We are collecting **individually wrapped candy**—please drop off donations at the church by **Tuesday, October 20**.
- We also need volunteers on **Friday, October 23, from 2:00–6:00 PM** to help with **set-up, handing out candy in one-hour shifts, and clean-up**.
- Scan the QR code to sign up and join the fun!
- And new this year—a **Fire Show Entertainer at 5:30 PM!**

Sandwich Making Event – November 18

Join us **Wednesday, November 18, 6:00–7:45 PM**, as we once again come together to make **1,000 sandwiches for area food shelves and ministries!** Dinner is served at 6:00 PM, and **everyone is welcome to lend a hand.**

Want to help even more? **Sign up to donate supplies or deliver finished sandwiches** to our ministry partners. Supplies are due **Sunday, November 15 at noon.**

Sign Up
Donate Supplies, or
Deliver Sandwiches

Become a New Member at Elk River Lutheran!

Interested in making Elk River Lutheran your church home? Join us for our **New Member Luncheon & Orientation on Sunday, November 15 at 11:30 AM**. Lunch will be provided as we share more about ERLC's vision, ministries, and life together.

New members will then be welcomed during worship on **New Member Sunday, November 22**, at either the **8:30 AM or 10:30 AM service**.

Sign up using the Connection Form, visit **elkriverlutheran.org/forms**, or contact Linda in the church office at **linda@elkriverlutheran.org**.

Prayer Requests

Praise the Lord *(joys and answered prayers)**:***

- I am deeply grateful for all the prayers and a quick healing - thanks be to God. ~ Olga Jackson

In Sympathy

- Family and Friends of Laura Gildemeister, eldest daughter of the late Darrell Gildemeister
- Family and friends of Linda Niemeyer's friend — Prayers of comfort and peace following the death of her mother.

For Support

- Linda Niemeyer's daughter Sam to help her with anxiety as she continues to battle with since her cancer diagnosis.
- Linda Niemeyer's granddaughter Lillian, struggling to find herself and spark again (daughter of Sam)

Lutheran World Relief School Kits

A big thank you to all who donated school supplies and helped pack **111 school kits!**

These kits will be sent to children in need here and abroad, helping them attend school and complete their lessons.

What a generous outpouring of support for our neighbors!

Health Concerns

- John Campbell – Prayers for continued healing following hospitalization and for a successful upcoming procedure to remove a kidney stone.
- Jeremie Brown, son-in-law of Mike & Linda Quam, recovery from fall off ladder
- Jim Kallas, friend of Mike & Linda Quam, new diagnosis of Lymphoma as well as testing for heart issues
- Debbie Campbell, recovery from cataract surgery
- Dale Ziner – foot surgery on 9/22
- Linda Niemeyer's friend and her family — Prayers for peace and comfort as her mother struggles to recover following a recent fall.
- Miriam Campbell
- Carol Sindelir, Val Nelson's sister
- Les Johnson, friend of Don & Val Nelson
- Alex Hensen cancer treatment
- Bryana Mayer prayers for healing autoimmune diseases, daughter of Sharyn Mayer
- Brian Harding
- Cheryl advanced cancer, sister-in-law of Ron & Sue Sass
- Fonda Whalen dementia
- Hartley Dahl
- Kay Foss esophageal and stomach cancer, Karen Froelich's cousin
- Ken Bucher
- Kris West, daughter of Bob and Sue Hagen
- Loretta Mae Roden in hospice care, Mike Roden's mom

Share Your Prayer Concerns

- Email linda@elkriverlutheran.org
- Fill out on your connection form
- Contact the church office at *(763) 595-1216*
- Fill out form on church website at elkriverlutheran.org

Generally, prayer requests will run for 3 weeks. If more time is needed, please call the church office

Shall We Gather at the River?

River	Mississippi	Elk	Confluence
Water	Gather	Downtown	Bank
Vault	Porch	Patio	Community
Neighbor	Current	Flow	Baptism
Grace	Together	Church	Home

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