



*Luke 15:21 - Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'*

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Our Mission: To  
boldly glorify God.

**Elim Lutheran Church**  
**Scandia, Minnesota**  
**March 27, 2022**  
**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

**Introduction:** The psalm sets the tone this day: “Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!” Happy are those who have “become the righteousness of God” in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has “rolled away . . . the disgrace” of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus’ sake. Rejoice!

## **Prelude**

## **Welcome**

## **Ringing of the Bells**

**Hymn:** *ELW 807 - Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage. **Amen.**

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

**Holy One, we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved. In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you under wings of love. In † Jesus’ name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love. **Amen.**

## **Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

**God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**Reading:** Joshua 5:9-12

**Special Music:** *Our Father, We Have Wandered* – (using *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*; arr. by Jason W. Krug) [Refer to ELW 606 to reflect on the words as you listen to the music.]

## **Children's Time**

**Gospel:** Luke 15:1-3,11b-32

## **Sermon**

**Hymn:** *ELW 608 - Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling*

## **Prayers of the People**

Petition Response: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

## **Sharing of the Peace**

## **Offering**

## **Offering Prayer**

**Extravagant God, you have blessed us with the fullness of creation. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and fill us with the spirit of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

## **Communion - Words of Institution**

## **Lord's Prayer**

## **Table Blessing/Prayer**

## Blessing and Sending

You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, † bless you this day and always. **Amen.**

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way. **Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

**Coffee will be served following the 9:30 service!**

## Worship Participants and Assistants

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Presiding Minister: Pastor Sarah Henrich

Organist/Pianist: Brian Voss

Reader: Sandy Sandager

Special Music: Elim Bell Choir; Joan Detzler, Director

Greeter: Tammy Peterson

Ushers: Jay and Gloria Flattum

Altar Guild: Gloria Flattum

## Schedule for the Week

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Today	3/37	8:00 a.m. Communion Worship 9:30 a.m. Communion Worship 9:50 a.m. Sunday School (age 3 through 6 <sup>th</sup> grade)
Mon.	3/28	9:30 a.m. Quilters 7:00 p.m. AA
Wed.	3/30	11:00 a.m. Mid-Week Lenten Worship 6:00 p.m. Bell Choir 6:30 p.m. Confirmation (Grades 7-9) 7:00 p.m. Mid-Week Lenten Worship 7:30 p.m. Adult Choir
Sun.	4/3	8:00 a.m. Communion Worship 9:30 a.m. Communion Worship 9:50 a.m. Sunday School (age 3 through 6 <sup>th</sup> grade)

**Attendance for Wednesday - March 16**

11:00 a.m. – 6

7:00 p.m. – 29

Online Views - 16

**Attendance for Sunday - March 20**

8:00 a.m. – 20

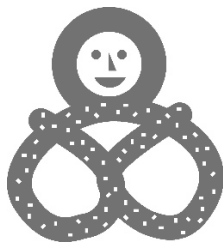
9:30 a.m. – 73

Online Views - 26

**Announcements**

**Today coffee is being served by the Elim Foundation and the Sunday School.** In response to the plight of the Ukrainian people, the Elim Foundation has made an out of sequence monetary gift to **ELCA: Lutheran Disaster Response: Eastern Europe Crisis Response.** We pray for peace and for safety for all those impacted by war.

Please join us today for coffee, pretzels (for Pretzel Sunday), and other treats. All donations received today will be given to this organization to further support the Ukrainian people.

**Pretzel Sunday**

Today is the fourth Sunday of Lent, and we celebrate **Pretzel Sunday**. According to popular legend, pretzels were developed by a monk in about 610 A.D. The dough is folded to represent a child's arms folded in prayer. He called his new treats *pretoila*, which is Latin for 'little reward', and gave them to village children for learning their prayers. In Germany, the treats became known as *bretzel*, which of course, became pretzel in English.

We can use the pretzel as a Lenten symbol because the shape of the folded arms reminds us that Lent is a time for prayer. Also, Lent is traditionally a time when our meals are simpler, and the pretzel, made of flour, salt, and water is an unleavened bread. The shape of the pretzel can also be a symbol of the Trinity and it can remind us that Jesus said He was the 'bread of life' and He is our strength and our spiritual food, in Lent and at all times.

## Planting Hope Campaign

During Lent (March 2 – April 15), you are invited to offer financial support to the St. Paul Area Synod Planting Hope Campaign. There are four areas of focus that this campaign will support. Today we learn more about the fourth and final focus area.

**Help invest in a transformative project on the East Side of St. Paul!** – The Saint Paul Area Synod’s Planting Hope Campaign includes an initiative focused specifically on the East Side of St. Paul, an area with a high concentration of vulnerable populations facing economic challenges. This East Side project is a collaboration with Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota (LSS) and will provide new and critically important services to children and families. Our synod seeks to raise \$2.75 million in total for the Planting Hope Campaign. Of this total, \$1,000,000 will be invested into the East Side of St. Paul to improve outcomes for kids and families.

We’ll provide a **green flower pot** at both services to receive your gifts. You can also send them directly to the church office. Checks should be made payable to *Elim Lutheran Church*. Include *Planting Hope* in the memo.

Planting Hope  
Elim Lutheran Church  
20971 Olinda Trail N  
Scandia, MN 55073



## Feed My Starving Children – Lakes Area Mobile Pack April 20-23, 2022

Please join us in helping to feed hungry kids – by saving up random change, maybe giving up a treat that you would normally have, and also by considering helping pack in April. And of course, prayers for this endeavor are always appreciated! Any questions, contact Arnie (651-245-3877) or Debbie (651-402-0259) Wright.



*Continual Prayer*

As we anticipate the approach of Easter, prayers of gratefulness, hope, and needs become part of our Lenten season. This year we wish to join in continual prayers from the last service on Good Friday (approximately 8:00 p.m. on April 15) to the first Service on Easter (approximately 7:30 a.m. on April 17). There will be two hour blocks of time for individuals to speak with God. Please join us by signing up on sheet across from the office or call Joan in the office at 651-433-2723.

### **Worship Schedule for Holy Week and Easter**

Palm Sunday – April 10	8:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Worship
Maundy Thursday – April 14	11:00 a.m. Communion service 7:00 p.m. Communion service
Good Friday – April 15	11:00 a.m. Service 7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service
<b>Easter Sunday – April 17</b>	8:00 a.m. Communion Worship 9:30 a.m. Communion Worship

**Elim Lutheran Church**

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**Office Hours**

Monday – Friday

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

<b>Elim Staff</b>	<b>Elim Church Council</b>
Sarah Henrich, Interim Pastor Joan Detzler, Office Administrator Ruth Dunn, Financial Secretary Lisa Weigel, Treasurer Brian Voss, Organist Janet Beckman, Music Coordinator/Choir Director Joan Detzler, Bell Choir Director	Alan Bakke, President Jeff Garritsen, Vice President Doug Thomas, Secretary Colleen Nora, Treasurer Laurie Carlson Steve Lodien Jim Moratzka Bonnie Olsen Warren Zenk