Elim Lutheran Church

Sunday, July 19, 2026

10:00 AM

8th Sunday After Pentecost

Matthew 13:24-30

RECONCILING IN CHRIST

The Elim Express contains announcements and happenings at Elim. Use this QR Code to the right to read the Elim Express online. Just scan it with the photo app on your phone.

Welcome to Elim Lutheran Church

1) Accessible restrooms and an AED are located by the exit near the parking lot. An all-gender restroom is in the Sanctuary Balcony.

2) Elim belongs to the Sierra Pacific Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA). To learn more, visit https://www.spselca.net/

WELCOME

Pastor: Let us welcome all who are here to worship with us today. Here at Elim:

All: You are welcome, you are loved, you belong.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE BELL

Please stand as you are able

OPENING HYMN: GATHER US IN ELW 532

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen
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GREETING

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

All: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lector: Faithful God,

All: most merciful judge,
you care for your children with firmness and compassion.
By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom,
that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated

READING: ROMANS 8:12-25

Lector: A reading from the book of Romans.

12 So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the
flesh— 13 for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to
death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are
children of God. 15 For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you
received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" 16 it is that very Spirit bearing
witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs: heirs of
God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be
glorified with him.

18 I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the
glory about to be revealed to us. 19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the
revealing of the children of God, 20 for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own
will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be set
free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children
of God. 22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers
together the pains of labor, 23 and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the
first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our
bodies. 24 For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for
what one already sees? 25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with
patience.

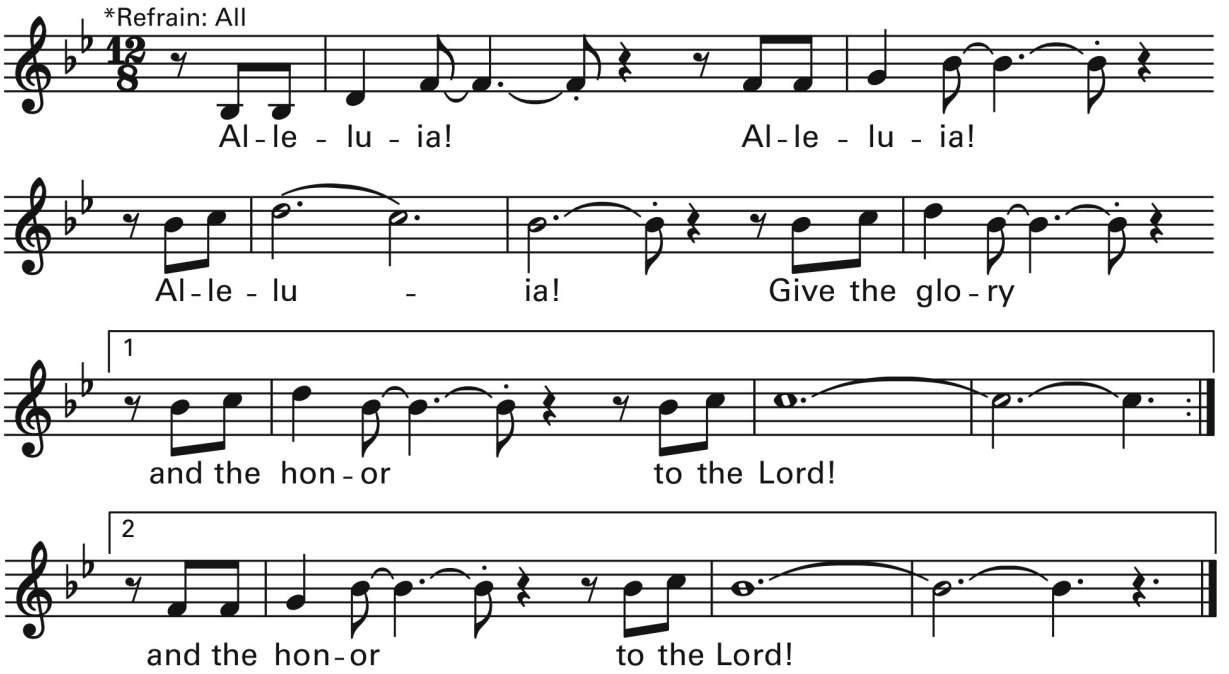
Lector: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ALLELUIA! GIVE THE GLORY

Mass of Glory
Ken Canedo



*Gathering and Gospel Acclamation verses are available in the accompaniment books.

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GOSPEL: MATTHEW 13:24-30, 36-43

Pastor: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord

24 [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be
compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,25 but while everybody was asleep
an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. 26 So when the
plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. 27 And the slaves of the
householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field?
Where, then, did these weeds come from?' 28 He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The
slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' 29 But he replied, 'No, for
in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. 30 Let both of them
grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the
weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' "

36 Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him,
saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." 37 He answered, "The one who
sows the good seed is the Son of Man; 38 the field is the world, and the good seed are the
children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, 39 and the enemy who
sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. 40 Just
as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. 41 The
Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin
and all evildoers, 42 and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be
weeping and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the
kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

Pastor: The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE / PRESENTATION AND BLESSING OF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

SERMON: Pastor Kathryn Gulbranson

Please stand as you are able

HYMN OF THE DAY: COME YE, THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME ELW 693

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.
Music: ST. GEORGE'S, WINDSOR, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

Please be seated

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ALM: Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

ALM: God our source, protect your church from those who sow weeds among the wheat. Where we trade grace for judgment, restore us, and where we get lost among the complexities of life, guide us. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

ALM: God our creator, sustain creation in places not easily seen; the depths of oceans, microscopic plants and animals, galaxies beyond our own. May we share earth's dedication to hope for what we do not yet see. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

ALM: God our soil, we yearn to live on your lands and waters with justice and in righteousness. Renew the hearts of all in authority, that our leaders guide wisely toward the flourishing of all. Bring an end to conflict and division especially in the Middle East and Ukraine. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

ALM: God our rock, be a source of constancy for those whose lives have been uprooted by war, eviction, global climate change, unemployment, harassment, false witness to their character, or illness or injury. We especially pray for Dave, Diane, Anita, Nancy, Debra, Carol, Guadalupe, Noelle, Lou, Brian, Jim, and those we name silently and aloud (brief silence). Bless caregivers as they show God's hospitality through their generous service. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

ALM: God our teacher, guide and provide for all summer camp staff and campers, daycare professionals, librarians, summer school educators and coaches, teachers preparing for the coming academic year, and youth becoming first-time babysitters. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

ALM: God our hope, the message of your salvation is planted among us in all times and places. We give you thanks for the witness of all the saints who shine like the sun in your presence. We especially pray for the family and friends of Keith Winters whose memorial service will be on Saturday, July 25. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

ALM: O God, bless all those celebrating birthdays, anniversaries and celebrations of all kinds this week. God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

Pastor: Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.

All: Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

ALM: Loving God,

All: we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.

Please stand as you are able

PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

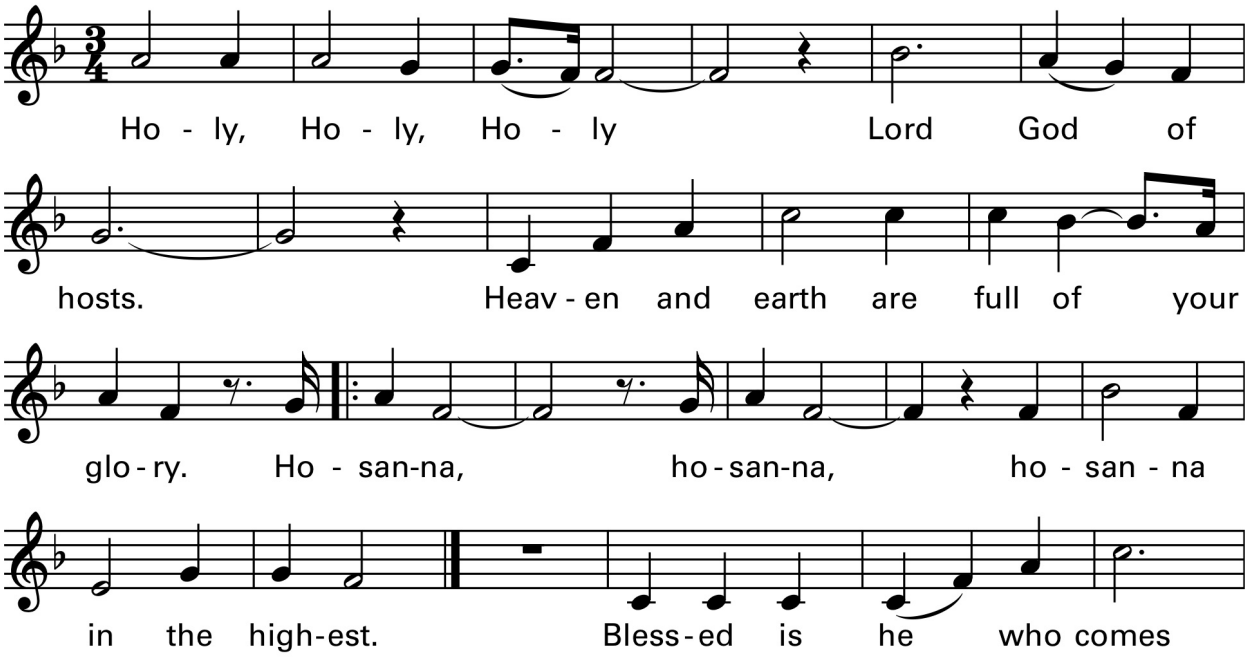
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Pastor: With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

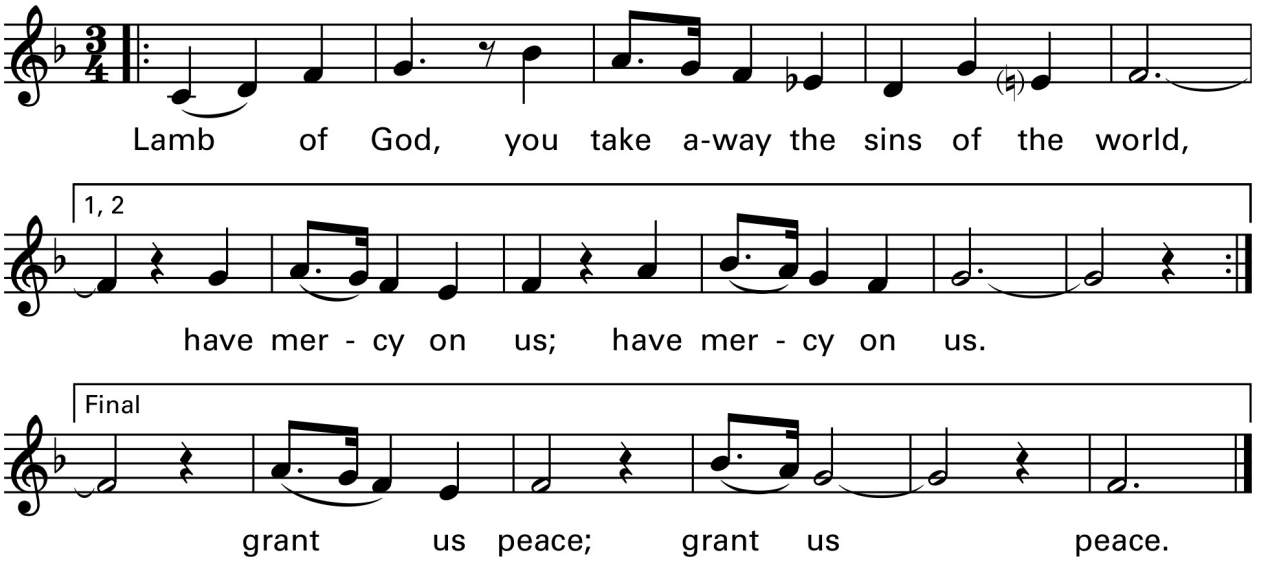
All: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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

Please be seated

LAMB OF GOD



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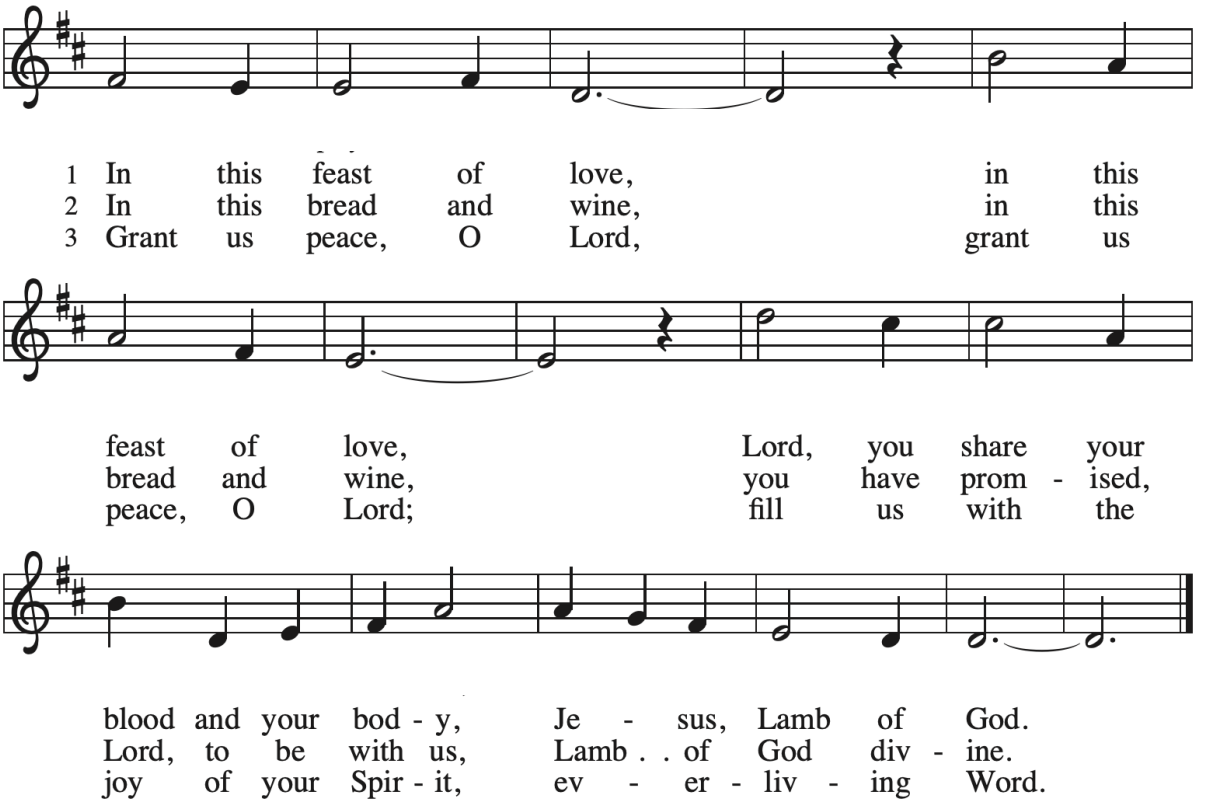
COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes everyone to his table and so we offer to everyone, without exception, to share in Holy Communion. If you would like to receive communion with us today, please come forward and hold out your hands. If you would like a gluten-free wafer, please let the server know. When you receive the bread you may dip it in the wine (darker in color) / juice (lighter in color). If you choose to take the individual cup,. please discard the cup after drinking. If you would like to receive a blessing instead, please place your hand over your heart. If you are a visitor and would feel more comfortable, you are welcome to remain seated.

If you would like to receive communion but cannot come forward, please let an usher know and communion will be brought to you.

COMMUNION HYMN: IN THIS FEAST OF LOVE ACS 962



Text: Jarkko Maukonen; tr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954
Music: TÄSSÄ PÖYDÄSSÄ, Jarkko Maukonen; arr. Mark Sedio
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COMMUNION HYMN: SOUL, ADORN YOURSELF WITH GLADNESS ELW 488

high, and ho - ly, deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
loved one nev - er; dwell with - in my heart for - ev - er."
con - so - la - tion, pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion.
me re - ceive you, and, so fa - vored, nev - er leave you.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: SCHMÜCKE DICH, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
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Please stand as you are able

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ALM: Compassionate God,

All: **through the gifts of bread and wine**
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.

RECOGNITION FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

BENEDICTION

Response after blessing: **Amen**

SENDING HYMN: RISING SUN CCLI

Verse 1
Praise Him all you sinners
Sing oh sing you weary
Oh praise Him all you children of God

Verse 2
We lift high His glory
Shown throughout our stories
We praise Him as the children of God

Chorus
Our great Redeemer glorious Savior
Your Name is higher than the rising sun
Light of the morning You shine forever
Your Name is higher than the rising sun
Your Name is higher than the rising sun

Verse 3
Praise His Name forever
Speak it loud and clear now
Oh praise Him all you children of God

Chorus
Our great Redeemer glorious Savior
Your Name is higher than the rising sun
Light of the morning You shine forever
Your Name is higher than the rising sun
Your Name is higher than the rising sun

Bridge
Oh oh oh oh
Oh oh oh oh
Hallelujah name above all
Simply to speak Your Name is praise
Hallelujah now and always
Forever we lift Your Name in praise
Hallelujah our God You reign
Simply to speak Your Name is praise oh

Chorus
Our great Redeemer glorious Savior
Your Name is higher than the rising sun
Light of the morning You shine forever
Your Name is higher than the rising sun
Your Name is higher than the rising sun
Your Name is higher than the rising sun

CCLI Song # 6364759
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SENDING

ALM: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
All: Thanks be to God.

Next Week:

July 26, 9th Sunday after Pentecost

Intro: As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

Readings: 1 Kings 3:5-12 / Psalm 119:129-136 / Romans 8:26-39 / Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Elim Worship Team

The Rev. Kathryn Gulbranson, Pastor ····· Presiding Minister
Robin Merrill ····· Assistant Lay Minister
Lauren Haile ····· Music Director
Erin Hetrick-Hohenner ····· Office Manager (Elim Express, Announcements)
Barb Villa ····· Bulletin Production
Richard Maxon ····· Bookkeeper
Paul Haile, Andy Hohenner, Kevin Prime, Maria Svinth ····· Tech Audio/Video

Special thanks to all our volunteers who helped with our worship service

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