



Sunday, February 2, 2025

***The East Koshkonong Lutheran Church
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***FACEBOOK PAGE – Please “Like” us on
East Koshkonong Lutheran Church Facebook!***

Ministers of East Koshkonong ~ All the people of God

Presider ~ Pastor Eric Hanson

Organist ~ Judy Rusch

Assisting Minister ~ Carolyn Lien

Acolyte ~ Mia Frodel

Lector ~ Joy Graffin

Greeter ~ Gloria Fruit

Ushers ~ Terland Family

Offering Counters ~ Joy Graffin & Gloria Fruit

Sermon One with Children

Sunday School Special Music Deep and Wide

Gathering Hymn Dearest Jesus, at Your Word ELW #520

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen.**

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God, you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

A: Almighty and ever-living God, your only-begotten Son was presented this day in the temple. May we be presented to you with clean and pure hearts by the same Jesus Christ, our great high priest, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Reading Malachi 3:1-4

¹ See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like washers' soap; ³ he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD, as in the days of old and as in former years.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 84

¹ How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts!

² **My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.**

³ Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young, by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my king and my God.

⁴ **Happy are they who dwell in your house! They will always be praising you.**

⁵ Happy are the people whose strength is in you, whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

⁶ **Those who go through the balsam valley will find it a place of springs, for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.**

⁷ They will climb from height to height, and the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

⁸ LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob.

⁹ Behold our defender, O God; and look upon the face of your anointed.

¹⁰ For one day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

¹¹ For the LORD God is both sun and shield, bestowing grace and glory; no good thing will the LORD withhold from those who walk with integrity.

¹² O LORD of hosts, happy are they who put their trust in you!

Second Reading Hebrews 2:14-18

¹⁴ Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, [Jesus] himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶ For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God

Gospel

P: The holy gospel according to Luke 4:14-30

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁴ Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵ He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

¹⁶ When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found

the place where it was written:

¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,

¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” ²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, ‘Is not this Joseph’s son?’ ²³ He said to them, ‘Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, “Doctor, cure yourself!” And you will say, “Do here also in your home town the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.”’ ²⁴ And he said, ‘Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet’s home town. ²⁵ But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up for three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶ yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷ There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.’ ²⁸ When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰ But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Two

Creed

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

God of generations, you instilled in Anna and Simeon faith, dreams, and the welcome of a child. Bless elders who embody faith and hope; bless the newly baptized. Energize us to share faith from generation to generation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of creation, in you the sparrow finds a home and we find lush valleys and living water. Bless the birds of the air, the animals of the valley, and renew our stewardship of this bountiful creation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of the nations, strengthen our resolve to care for all children and strive for peace among nations. Refine our nation where we have failed to root out racism (*especially as we honor Black History Month*) and guide us in truth-telling and reconciliation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of hope, many long to see your presence revealed amid challenging circumstances. We hold in prayer all longing for sustainable housing, secure employment, access to medical care, and health and wellness *especially* Jackie, Maxine, Ju-

dy, Mary Lou, Brandan, Lisa, Landon, Terry, Ed, Kathy, Cherie, Gary, Barb, Lindsay, Betsy, Jim, Chris, Robert, Andy, Michelle, Karen, Monica, Gwendolyn, and the family of Stanley. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of the people, you are made known in caring ministries. Bless those who serve as communion servers, homebound visitors, baptismal sponsors, confirmation mentors, and as prayer support. Reveal yourself in the neighborly care we give and receive. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of life, we thank you for Jesus' life and for his death that has destroyed death. We remember the dearly departed as they dwell with you in your holy courts now and forever. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

Noisy Offering-For Sunday School Mission Project for ELCA World Hunger

Offering Prayer

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Words of Institution

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C: 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.

Invitation to Communion

Jesus invites you to this table.

Come, eat and live.

Prayer after Communion

Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,
Amen.

Blessing

The Spirit of the triune God bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

C: Amen.

Sending Song Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee ELW #836

Dismissal

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God.

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Calendar

Sunday, February 2, 2025

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

10:00 a.m. The Chosen Bible Study

6:00 p.m. Worship Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

5:30 p.m. Worship

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

Thursday, February 6, 2025

Pin & Sew

Sunday, February 9, 2025

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship

Announcements

We are glad you joined us! We hope that you will experience the good news in mind, body, and spirit as we pray, listen, sing and share the peace of Christ and the meal of Holy Communion. You are invited to worship in as many ways as you are comfortable and able. In this bulletin, **bold print** indicates congregation's responses. The presence, energy, and noise of children are most welcome here! The sound of children in worship is the sound of a new disciple being formed. This congregation is glad to share in this work. We welcome and invite children to participate in worship.

The Annual Meeting is Sunday, February 16th following worship. Our new council will then have a short meeting to elect officers afterwards.

Copies of the proposed 2025 budget and 2024 financial statements are available for the congregation to review.

Our noisy offering for September, November, and December 2024 totaled \$725. Thank you for your generosity!

The Chosen Bible Study will continue Tuesdays at 10 am, weather permitting.

2025 Offering boxes are in the narthex. Please pick yours up

We are still in the process of searching for a church office administrator.

Worship with us Wednesday nights or Sunday mornings in-person or on YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChUv6MDQV54yCWz60IGW_ezw

EKLC will once again be participating in the Cambridge Schools Blue Jay Backpack program through the Cambridge Food Pantry. We will be collecting foods listed below to provide meals for about 30 students. Collecting will begin on January 26, 2025. Backpacks for the month of March will be distributed at the school on February 27, 2025. These backpacks will supplement meals for students who normally get breakfast/lunch provided at school through the Everybody Eats program at school. We are trying to make sure they have at least one meal (microwaveable, self-contained) for lunch, as well as one breakfast item for each weekend day, and several snacks, granola bars, cookies, etc. You will find the green collection tub located in the Narthex. Final day for collection will be February 23, 2025. We will pack the backpacks after worship that day. Thank you in advance for helping make this program successful.

Food items could include substantial, healthy food items that students can easily prepare and eat to supplement meals that they aren't receiving through school during holiday and other extended breaks/weekends.

Here are some ideas: (feel free to add your own ideas also)

Individual Fruit Cups

Ramen Noodles

Canned Soup

Ravioli (prefer cans; may be any pasta meal in a can)

Individual Grits or Oatmeal Packets

Granola Bars

Small Boxes of Cereal (individual servings)

Mac-n-Cheese (microwavable, individual servings)

Individually wrapped snacks (peanut butter crackers, Cheez-its, pudding cups, cookies, etc.



You may make a secure offering/donation to EKLC by following the directions below. All donations are secured through Vanco. Thank you for your generous offering in this way! Online giving directions: With all of these options, you may set up recurring donations or make a one-time donation.

Option 1: Go to www.eastkoshkonong.org and click on Donate. Create a profile through this secure website, if you haven't already, and complete the form on the website.

Option 2: Download the GivePlus app on your smartphone for either Android or iOS. If needed, create an account with your email address. Sign into your account and search for "East Koshkonong Lutheran Church." Select the plus "+" sign and complete the form.

If you don't have online access for this giving

option, you are welcome to fill out a form from the church office: 608-423-3017 or

eastkoshkononglutheranchurch@gmail.com

OFFERINGS ARE ALSO ALWAYS APPRECIATED BY MAILING TO: EAST KOSHKONONG LUTHERAN CHURCH, 454 EAST CHURCH ROAD, CAMBRIDGE, WI 53523