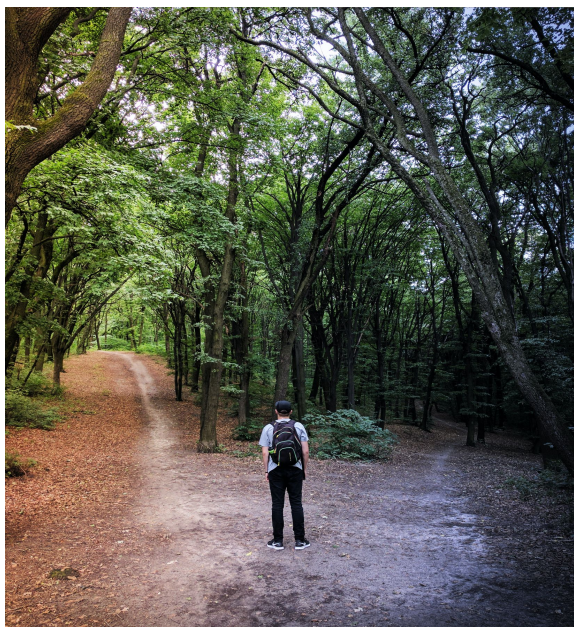


February 20, 2022, 10:00 am



## ***Seeking Spiritual Victory: Pursuing God's Will Together***

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*"Who among the gods is like you, Lord?  
Who is like you—  
majestic in holiness, awesome in glory,  
working wonders?" Exodus 15:11*

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Welcome & Announcements

Offering ([Online Giving](#))

Pastoral Prayer

*Mountain of the Living God*

*1 Corinthians 13, recited by Elim Kids*

*Your Labor Is Not In Vain*

Time of Reflection and Prayer

*Your Will Be Done \**

Sermon — *"Seeking Spiritual Victory: Pursuing God's Will Together"*  
-- Pastor Paul Stephen Olson

Benediction Prayer

Postlude

\* *Children, ages 3-5th grade, will be dismissed to Children's Church.*

## EVENTS THIS WEEK

- TODAY:** 9:30 am The Gathering with Bagels and Beverages (Dining Room)  
9:45 am Prayer Room for anyone needing prayer with the pastors  
10 am **Worship Service** (in person and on Facebook)  
<https://www.facebook.com/ElimChurchMpls/live>  
11:15 am-Noon Sunday Connections, Adult, Youth and Children's Ministry Options,  
plus Online Membership Class
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**Mon-Fri:** 12 noon Noon Online Prayer Meeting  
URL: <https://meet.google.com/ast-cxmh-ykk>  
Phone: +1 401-684-3085 PIN: 724 649 481#

**Tues:** 10 am Women's Tuesday Study on the book of Mark at the online link above  
6:30-8:30 pm Leadership Team Meeting

**Wed:** 6-7 pm *Re-Covering in God* Bible Study  
6:30-8 pm Youth Group meeting

**Fri:** 8-9:30 am Men's Bible Study online

**Sat:** 8-10 am Hope Avenue Ministry operating with updated hours

**Save the date (check the events page for information that may be available):**

~~ Sun, 2/27, 12:30-2 pm Elim Staff Meeting

## UPCOMING EVENTS and NEWS

**The church office is closed on Fridays** through March 31 as we cut expenses across the church to balance the budget.

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### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

**The Kidz Klozet** is seeking volunteers to help with the organization and distribution of clothing. Please connect with Erin Hernick with questions.

**The Gathering:** We are in need of a few volunteers to set up food and coffee for the Gathering. Also, clean up the bagels and beverages after Sunday Connections. Please express your willingness to the church office, [info@elimchurch.com](mailto:info@elimchurch.com)

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### UPDATE! Introducing the Online Elim Membership Class

We are migrating our "E-class" to fit an online format. This takes time and a little extra effort on our part but this class has expanded teaching and information about what it means to be a 'member' at Elim and of the 'Body of Christ'.

“E” in E-class stands for Elim,  
the Ekklesia (church), and  
Ephesians, a letter from the Bible we reference often in the class.

### How long does it take?

The class is designed to have 4 weeks online and a final meeting in person. By completing all the weeks and attending in person you will receive an Elim Church mug!

### What if I am a member already?

If you are already a member, please take the class!

[www.elimchurch.com/courses/e-class](http://www.elimchurch.com/courses/e-class)

### How do I get started?

- Register for the class with an email address at the address above as soon as possible, so that you can complete all four weeks by the in-person meeting on March 6, 2022, after the Sunday church service in Room 401.
- Start with week 1 (weeks 2-4 will be made available and an announcement will be made).
- You won't complete the course until you've finished all four weeks, including the in-person session!

I am excited to welcome you and new members to Elim through this class. It will cover the biblical basics of membership, theology, and values of our church, plus our origin stories and roots in pietism and the baptistic movement.

Don't wait any longer... Start your membership journey and complete all the e-class sessions before our in-person meeting on March 6th by coming to Room 401 after the service. I hope to see many of you there! –Pastor Paul

### **Prayerful Pause**

*“As you begin the discernment process, ask, ‘Is it good? Is there a sense of rightness to it? Does it draw me (and us) toward the good – toward God?’”* Ruth Haley Barton

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**Paul Stephen Olson** - Lead Pastor

[paul@elimchurch.com](mailto:paul@elimchurch.com)

**Becky Hanson** - Pastor, Congregational Care

[becky@elimchurch.com](mailto:becky@elimchurch.com)

**Melanie Eslinger** - Worship Coordinator

[melanie@elimchurch.com](mailto:melanie@elimchurch.com)

**Jill Jezierski** - Chair of Leadership Team

[jill@elimchurch.com](mailto:jill@elimchurch.com)

**Andy Johnson** - Youth Leader & Mission Resident

[andy@elimchurch.com](mailto:andy@elimchurch.com)

**Gloria Metz & Kim Beck**, Elim Church Office Staff

[info@elimchurch.com](mailto:info@elimchurch.com)

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**Address:** 685 13th Ave NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413

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**Email:** [info@elimchurch.com](mailto:info@elimchurch.com)

## SERMON NOTES

### “Seeking Spiritual Victory: Pursuing God’s Will Together”

Pastor Paul Stephen Olson, MDiv

**Our goal:** *“finding God in all things in order that we might love and serve God in all.”*

- St. Ignatius of Loyola

**Key Question:** What does it mean to live a victorious Christian life? Before we get discernment, we need transformation, and before transformation, we need to choose the path of “holy endeavor” before us that leads us on to victory.

#### Today's Scripture Texts:

Victory: Resistance to Evil and Oppression (Exodus 15:1-19, 27; 20:18-21)  
Chaos or Community?

Victory: Rejection of the Kingdoms of this World (John 6:1-15, Mark 4:8-9)  
Crisis or Christ?

Victory: Return from Human ‘Estrangement’ (Hebrews 12:18-29)  
Corruption or Character?

#### Group Spiritual Practices:

Submitting to a Group Discernment Process  
Forming A ‘Rule of Life’  
Fixed Hour Prayer

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#### **Morning Prayer** (from the book *Pursuing God’s Will Together*, pgs. 125-26)

*O God, open our lips and we shall declare your praise.* (Ps. 51:15)

God said: Let there be light; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good.

This very day the Lord has acted! *Let us Rejoice!* Praise the Lord!

*God’s name be praised!*

New every morning is your love, great God of light,  
And all day long you are working for good in the world.

*Stir up in us desire to serve you, to live peacefully with our neighbors,  
And to devote this day to your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.*

#### [Silence and then Response]

*We praise you with joy, loving God, for your grace is better than life itself.  
You have sustained us through the darkness; you bless us with life in this new day.  
In the shadow of your wings, we sing for joy and bless your holy name. Amen.*

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**Next Week:** *Seeking Spiritual Intimacy* in the series: Pursuing God’s Will Together.