



Elim Church

December 4, 2022, 10:00 am

“Don't Worry'- Preparing for the Kingdom”

“But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” Matthew 6:33

Welcome to Worship!

What A Beautiful Name

**Announcements and [Offering](#)
Welcoming New Members to Elim Church**

How Far Love Goes

Lighting of the 2nd Advent Candle: Jezierski Family

Advent Responsive Reading by Marilyn Johnson, & Prayer

*O Come, Let Us Adore Him
Here I Am To Worship **

**“Don't Worry' - Preparing for the Kingdom”
(SOTM, Part 12)**

Pastor Paul Stephen Olson

*O Night Most Holy
(tune of “Be Thou My Vision)*

Benediction

Postlude



SERMON
ON THE
MOUNT
SERMON SERIES

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

Join us next week in-person or online at 10 am
at facebook.com/elimchurchmple/live

Check out audio sermons from past weeks
at www.elimchurch.com/sermon-archive

EVENTS Today Masks are not required for attendees at Elim. As always, please take any precautions to protect your health and the health of others

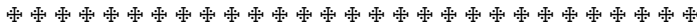
WELCOME TO ELIM THIS MORNING!

- 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-12 pm Sunday Connections, Adult, Youth, and Children's Ministry Options

UPCOMING EVENTS and NEWS

CHRISTMAS BUDDIES have arrived!

Can you pray for an Elim kid/youth during Advent? Look for the Christmas Buddies display in the foyer to give your information and select one of the 35+ names to adopt as a secret prayer buddy. Be ready to encourage anonymously through prayer, notes, and, if you would like, small tokens! No gifts are expected or required. If you watch online and would like to claim a name, email ElimChristmasBuddies@gmail.com.

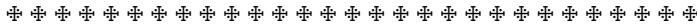


12/10 &/or 11: HELPERS are needed for the Christmas Brunch and preparation.

Suzanne Dahl and Naudeanne St. Hiliare are looking for some help on

- Saturday, December 10, 9 am to 12 pm, as well as
- Sunday, December 11, 8:30 to 9:15 am, for serving food and on
- Sunday, December 11, 9:45 to 10:15 am, for cleanup

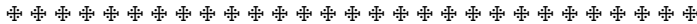
Helpers can contact Naudeanne or Suzanne.



12/14: MerryMakers Pot Luck Christmas Lunch will take place on December 14th at 12:30 pm at Clayton & Doris Nolby's home: 2800 105th Avenue NE in Blaine. Bring some cookies!

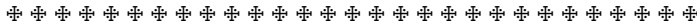
A-M last names bring salads or side dishes

N-Z last names bring a main dish



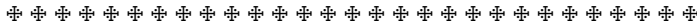
Noon Prayer Time Holiday Schedule: No noon prayer time on the following dates

- December 26, 2022, through January 2, 2022 – for the Christmas Holiday (beginning again on January 3)



Deep Prayer Art Work

The art installation in the gathering area is made by Polly McCann who attended Elim years ago. She created these painted upholstery canvases to represent the 12 tribes of Israel. As you view the artwork think deeply about the prayers attached to each one. These 12 panels show twelve types of people and communities we can pray for.



UPDATED Hope Avenue Twin Cities: We are raising the funds to open an overnight shelter this winter for men in need as we hold out the hope, healing, and love of Christ. We invite you to partner with us through your financial donation, the gifting of used winter clothing, or volunteering of your time. However, we covet your prayer. We do not receive federal or county funds to support the shelter because we will not compromise on speaking the Gospel. As such we look to God's people to lead His work.

You may designate your tax-deductible gift to *Hope Avenue Twin Cities*, and just put it in the offering or mail it to the shelter. Together we can make it happen!! Or you can click on: www.hope-avenue.org and click on donate.

This Week (Dec. 4-11)

- 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#
- Mon:** 10 am Women's Bible Study on Mark at the online link above
- Tues:** 6-8:30 pm Building Maintenance meeting
- Wed:** 6-7 pm *Re-Covering in God* Bible Study
- 6:30-8 pm Youth Group meeting
- 6:30-8 pm GriefShare in the Lounge (Last meeting)
- Fri:** 8-9:30 am Men's Bible Study online
- Sun:** 8:30-9:45 am Christmas Brunch in the dining room
- 11 am During Sunday Connections we are going to be celebrating Advent together as a church family. These times are for all ages and will be fun and appropriate for all ages. Meets in the Dining Room.



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

- ~~ Tues, 12/13, 6:30 pm Leadership Team meeting
- ~~ Wed, 12/14, 12:30 pm MerryMakers Pot Luck Christmas Lunch
- ~~ Wed, 12/14, 6:30 pm Wednesday Night Live w/supper by Hot Wok and a Better Together discussion.
- ~~ Sat, 12/24, 3 pm Christmas Eve Service at Mill City (Las Estrellas School, 1201 University Ave NE, w/childcare for 5 & under.)
- ~~ Sun, 12/25, 10 am Christmas Day Worship at Elim (Pastor Paul and Becky, Pastor Stephanie O'Brien, Jonathan (JD) O'Brien, & Pastor Adaobi Nduka from MCC will also join us!)
- ~~ Sun, 1/1, 10 am New Years Day Worship Service at Elim – Dr. Pat, of News Service 2000 will be here during the Sunday Connections Time to give an update on the global church movement that is experiencing persecution.

SERMON NOTES

“Don't Worry' - Preparing for the Kingdom” (SOTM Part 12)

Pastor Paul Stephen Olson

Text: Matthew 6:25-34

Second Sunday of Advent: Candle of Preparation

Advent Verses: Luke 1:26-38, Isaiah 40:3-5

Past Weeks from the Sermon on the Mount:

- Jesus calls his followers to carry out His transformational initiatives
- Christian practice involves a secret life of righteous rewards
- God gives us an everlasting kingdom hope that does not disappoint (Advent 1)

This Week (Advent 2): Preparing for Christ's coming means releasing our worries and discovering and receiving God's favor.

“The Age of Anxiety” - W.H. Auden (do we have a purpose?)

Fear vs. Anxiety: anxiety is universal to human existence and, given its unknown cause, paralyzes the senses, inhibits action, and leaves us oblivious as to how to diminish our discomfort. (S. Kierkegaard)

Christmas Anxiety (in the Movies)

Jesus' Discourse on Anxiety/Worry about Everyday Matters - Matt 6:25-34

Creaturely Activity

Reaping, sowing, storing in barns

Toiling, spinning, fading

Solomon's Glory

Worrying, striving

vs.

Creator God's Activity

Heavenly father feeds them

God so clothes the grass

The Glory of God

Kingdom Striving, all these added to you

Christmas Worries: How did Mary overcome her 'troubled spirit'?

Luke 1:26-38 - Despite being greatly troubled by the greeting of the angel Gabriel, Mary receives news of the coming Messiah and partners with God's plan for God's son to be conceived through her own body!

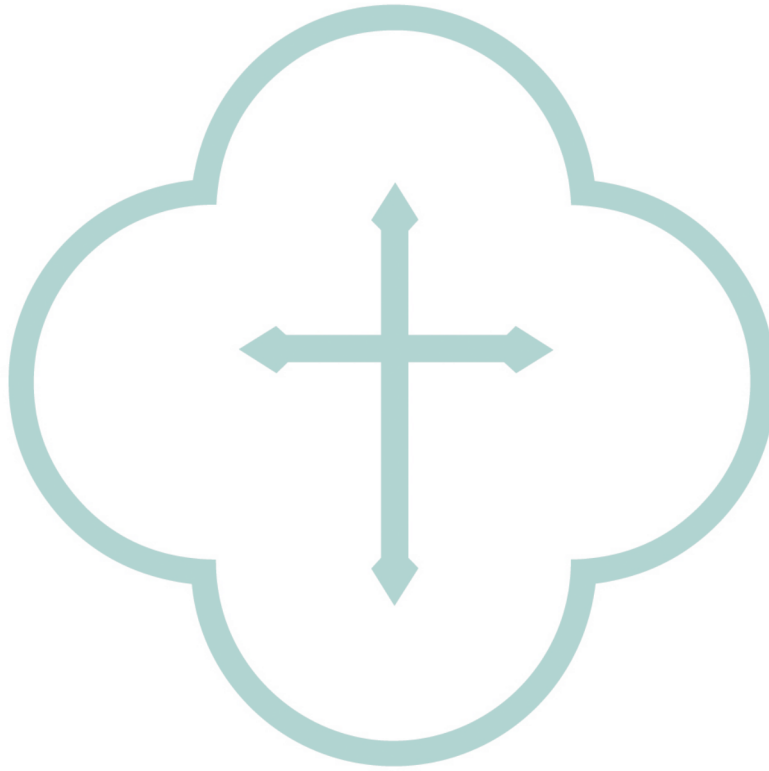
1) Mary is reminded of God's loving favor for her and her family (vv. 26-33)

2) Mary understands the role of the Holy Spirit in accomplishing the impossible (34-37)

3) Mary partners willingly with God to conceive and carry out God's plan (38)

Preparing for Christmas by interrogating our worries: How does this worry remind me of God's loving favor? Does this worry help me understand and long for the work of the Holy Spirit? Does this worry invite me to participate in partnership with God to see His plan take place?

Next Week: SOTM Matt 7:1-6, Isaiah 35:1-10 – "The Candle of Joy"—Seeing and Savoring Joy



Giving at a Glance

October Giving:

Needed – \$ 39,500
Received – \$ 45,035

Fiscal Year-to-Date:

Needed – \$ 276,500
Received – \$ 277,359

Paul Stephen Olson - Lead Pastor

Interim, Youth Leader

paul@elimchurch.com

Becky Hanson - Pastor, Congregational Care

becky@elimchurch.com

Kari Nelson - Pastor, Children's Ministry

kari@elimchurch.com

Leadership Team

leadership@elimchurch.com

Leslie Smith - Chair of Leadership Team

leslie@elimchurch.com

Melanie Eslinger - Worship Coordinator

melanie@elimchurch.com

Gloria Metz - Office Manager

info@elimchurch.com

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

www.elimchurch.com

Phone: 612-789-3591

Email: info@elimchurch.com