

Foothills Lutheran Church

3104 – 34 Ave NW Calgary, AB T2L 2A3 403-284-1342 www.foothillslutheran.com

“Connecting People with Christ through Worship, Relationships & Service”

The Kingdom of God



FIRST A LEAF
BLADE PUSHED
THROUGH AND
LATER THE WHEAT
HEADS APPEARED
AND FINALLY THE
GRAIN RIPENED.

^^ A R K 4:28

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 16, 2024

Senior Pastor: David Bode (flcpastor@foothillslutheran.com)	DPS: Deaconess Miriam Winstanley (miriam@foothillslutheran.com)
Associate Pastor: Eric Moffett (flcpastoreric@foothillslutheran.com)	Office Administrator: Carol Kehler (office@foothillslutheran.com)
Pastor Emeritus: Eldon Ohlinger	

A Prayer Upon Entering: O God of growth, work within the soil of our souls. Bring about new and glorious changes within us. And prepare us for further development as disciples of Christ.

Creator God, we grow by Your grace.

OUR WORSHIP TODAY

ORDER OF SERVICE:Confession and Absolution, p. 151;
.....Service of Prayer and Preaching, p. 260; Holy Communion
HYMNS500; 748; 742; 923; 633; 570; 672
FIRST LESSON:.....Ezekiel 17:22-24
EPISTLE LESSON:..... 2 Corinthians 5:1-17
GOSPEL LESSON: Mark 4:26-34
SERMON: A Homeward Look – 2 Corinthians 5:1-10

WELCOME: If you come as a visitor today, we hope you will leave as a friend. Whether you are a newcomer to the community or to our church, we are honoured to have you here. If you are a member of this congregation, please be sure to extend a warm greeting and a friendly welcome to our sisters and brothers in Christ. Speak to someone you don't know before you speak to someone you know.

WE CELEBRATE HOLY COMMUNION TODAY as our Lord offers us His true body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith. By partaking of this Sacrament together, we confess our unity in faith and are drawn closer to one another and to the Lord. If you are a visitor, not belonging to the Lutheran Church-Canada, and wish to commune, please speak with the pastor before the service.

A NOTE ABOUT OUR OFFERINGS: We are blessed through the faithful stewardship of God's people. Many of our members have chosen to give their gifts either through pre-authorized payments or by e-transfer. If you wish to give your gifts to the Lord by e-transfer, you can do it through your online account. The transfer address is: financials@foothillslutheran.com.

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Music..... Deaconess Miriam Winstanley
Ushers..... Anne Marie Kothari; Lorne Rosenau
Lector Heather Sommers
Communion ElderRick Nelson
AV Operators Christine Heumann; Evan Stene

THIS WEEK AT FLC

Today	1:00 pm	Voter's Meeting
Tuesday	7:30 pm	Ladies Bible Study
Wednesday	1:30 pm	Silver Saints
	6:30 pm	Midweek Worship
Thursday	1:30 pm	Ladies Bible Study
Sunday	9:00 am	Adult Bible Study
	10:15 am	Worship

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

In Hospital:

Homebound:

For Special Intercession:

Family Focus:

WE EXTEND OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY and the glorious hope of the resurrection to LuAnn and Dwayne Zahara and family at the death of LuAnn's father, Albert (Al) Engel. We pray that the Lord would comfort them with His everlasting comfort.

We also extend that comfort to Linda Van Loon and all her family, at the death of her mother, Edith. May God keep these people in His peace.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Today was our last time together in Sunday School until Rally Day, September 8th. God's blessings to our students, and we give thanks to God today for our teachers, who prepare their lessons with diligence and find creative ways to unpack Scripture for their students. Our tradition has been to do some sort of service activity on our last day. Today our students stuffed comfort bears that were knitted by our very own LWML-C ladies and others in the congregation. Once they are stitched up, they go to Hope Mission for distribution. Thank you to our students and teachers for this service to others!

SILVER SAINTS: We invite our 65+ members to gather Wednesday, **June 19th** at 1:30 pm for a devotion and some time together to discuss re-starting our Silver Saints group. Coffee and tea (and maybe even some snacks) will be served!

LAST WEEK AT FLC

Week of	Sunday	Education Hour	Wednesday/Communion
June 9	110	17	11/10

**Attendance includes online participation.*

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: Registration is filling up for “A Week with Jesus”, our summer Vacation Bible School, running the mornings of **July 22-26**. Complete a copy of the registration (available on the Welcome Desk) or register online at <https://www.foothillslutheran.com/ministries/christian-education/vbs2024/>,



OUR STEWARDSHIP OF GOD’S GIFTS

Weekly Offering Needs	\$7,404.00	Our Budget Goal
Envelope Gifts Received Last Week	\$4,460.00	
Envelope Gifts Received to Date	\$168,029.00	+/- YTD
Total Offerings Needed to Date	\$170,288.46	-\$2,259.46

Non-Budget/Miscellaneous Gifts: Visitor 105.00; FLSR 500.00; CLWR 80.00; Concordia Seminary 80.00; LWMLC 50.00; Hope Mission 100.00; Youth 100.00; Office Recoveries 100.00.

MISSION OF THE MONTH: HOPE MISSION

Hope Mission exists to serve, strengthen and uplift men, women, youth and children through the life-changing gospel of Jesus Christ. Working in the Forest Lawn area of Calgary, they provide meals and care to people in need. Much of the effort provides for children. Your gifts help them help others in need.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR: "Water Power" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. God's mission is like water. Without changing what it is, the Good News of God's Kingdom takes the shape of its cultural container, crossing boundaries and barriers (Acts 16:5). Hear this inspirational message on CHRB 1140 AM at 8:00 and/or CJLI-The Light-700 AM at 9:30 Sunday mornings. Streaming audio and podcasts are available at www.lutheranhour.ca.

PASTOR ERIC ON MENTAL HEALTH LEAVE: We ask you to pray for him and his family, that God would provide healing and strength. If you wish to contact him to provide encouragement, please do so with a written card in the mail to his home address or placed in his church mailslot, or via email. If you have any questions about the leave, please ask any of the Elders. Please also pray for God’s guidance and strength for those who are covering for Pastor Eric and working to help progress the healing process.

A VBS REQUEST: We are looking for those stretchy bags that you get oranges, onions, shallots, avocados, etc. packaged in. Please leave them in my mailbox and thank you for your help!!! ~ Christine Heumann

HAPPY FATHERS DAY to all our dads, papas, fathers and Abbas (look that one up in the Bible!) We pray that God would continue to bless you and grant you

His fatherhood as a guide, strength and encouragement of your care for your families.

A LOVING REMINDER: Sunday is our time to come together as a family in Christ to worship the Lord who has done all things for us. This is true for our staff, too. We do ask that the office related needs and work items be reserved for our work days, not our worship days. We thank you for allowing our staff to worship with you. They will respond to your needs as soon as possible during the week.

Our financial stewards may also be working in the office, working to give proper attention to the gifts and offerings given by God's people. If the office door is closed, please do not disturb the counters, so that they can complete their tasks in a timely and efficient manner.

MISSION PRAYER: This week, we pray for **Rev. Frank Morgret** who serves as Resident Pastoral Advisor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity in Sainte-Foy (Quebec City). **Prayer:** Heavenly Father, as Your Son sent forth His Church to make disciples in all nations, we lift up before You, Pastor Morgret, asking You to sustain him by Your Spirit and bless his labours for the sake of the Gospel; Lord in Your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer.**



WE EXTEND OUR CONGRATULATIONS AND GOD'S BLESSINGS to our high school graduates this year: Luke Abraham, Gage Cormier, Derek Kiefer, Paige and Annika Simpson and Erica and Gillian Zwick. May the Lord grant you success in your future studies or in the paths to which He leads you.

STAMPEDE BREAKFAST this year is going to be a little different. Due to a number of factors, we won't be able to host it during the Calgary Stampede. It will instead be shifted to Rally Sunday as a LUNCH (September 8) for this year. We understand this may disappoint some, but we hope that we will still have many energetic volunteers to help with this event! Please plan to invite family members, friends and neighbours. Sign up sheet will be available already this month so we can have lots of time to plan ahead!

PORTALS OF PRAYERS for July – September 2024 are available on the Welcome Desk. Please help yourself.

VOTERS MEETING: We will gather **today at 1:00 pm** to receive the Annual Report and to elect officers. Please plan to attend as we work together in the Lord's Kingdom. Copies of the 2023 Annual Report and the Voter's package are available on the Welcome Desk.

OUR REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP EFFORT: As we did several years ago, we are working to sponsor a family—in this case, one with ties to our congregation.

Some of the needs for this have changed, and we need to have funds on deposit with Canadian Lutheran World Relief before this work can begin. We are looking for your support as we seek to show Christian love and care for this family. You can make your gift by simply marking it, “Refugee Sponsorship”.

LUTHERAN HOSPITAL MINISTRIES: We’d like to thank our record number of walkers who helped exceed our fundraising goal. You raised \$17,453 during our annual fundraising walk, run or roll through Confederation Park. God truly blessed us. Anyone is welcome to join us for next year – last Saturday in April. We’d also like to thank everyone who joined us for our educational luncheon on June 1st. Between folks who joined us in person and to those who joined us online, we had 60 people listening to this informative talk on Medical Assistance in Death.

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN: It’s Father’s Day! Time to bring in your filled baby bottles, or simply write a cheque or donate online. If everyone makes a small donation, together we will make a significant difference and build healthy families in our community.

The Pregnancy Care Centre has programs for dads too. Dads need support, and someone to come alongside and provide education and a listening ear. We can all play a significant role in creating strong families by donating to (or volunteering at) the Pregnancy Care Centre. As of July 1st, the Pregnancy Care Center becomes Mainsprings Pregnancy and Family Support.

Our Lutheran Worship: The Prayer of the Church

Strengthened by the speaking of God’s Word, we together, as the Body of Christ, pray the Prayer of the Church. We give thanks to God for His gifts, especially the preaching of God’s Word. The prayer also ties the worship service to the life of God’s people, bringing our petitions before Him for the church, for those in our homes and for the world. St. Paul reminds us: *“First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.”* (1 Timothy 2:1–2, ESV) The prayer may be responsive, but it is the prayer of the church and the congregation’s response of amen shows that this is the prayer of each member as well.



Growing FAITH at home

PROPER 6

YEAR B

The kingdom of God grows



GrowMinistries

LCA CHILD YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY



LUTHERAN
CHURCH
OF AUSTRALIA

where love comes to life

www.growministries.org.au

Sunday between
June 12 and June 18
(if after Trinity Sunday)



CONVERSATIONS

Share your highs and lows, or respond to the following:

1. What is one way that you have grown over the past year?
2. Jesus talked about the kingdom of God growing from a tiny seed into a large plant. What do you think he meant?
3. God planted the seed of the kingdom in each of us at baptism. In what ways have you been growing as a child of God?



BIBLE READINGS

*Read the following Bible readings throughout this week.
Talk about what words or phrases stand out for you.*

S	Mark 4:26-34	The use of parables
M	Ezekiel 17:22-24	Israel to return from exile
T	2 Corinthians 5:6-17	Living by faith
W	Proverbs 3:1-12	Trusting in God
T	Hebrews 11:1-40	The meaning of faith
F	Revelation 21:22-22:5	The tree of life
S	Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15	A song for the sabbath day

VERSE OF THE WEEK

So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord we walk by faith, not by sight.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:6-7



CREATIVE RESPONSE

As a household activity, visit a plant nursery, botanic garden or conservatory.

Talk about the difference you see between the plants on display, and what is needed to help them grow.

Talk about what we need as humans and what is needed to help us grow and be healthy.



ACTION RESPONSE

Jesus used parables to make it easier for people to understand what he was trying to say. Many parables were about farming and growing things in the earth.

Find out if there is anyone in your congregation or neighbourhood who needs some help with their garden. Offer to spend time helping them.



MEALTIME PRAYER

God has planted,
God has fed. Thanks
be to God for daily
bread. Amen.



PRAYER

Gracious God,
help us to see with
eyes of faith that
your kingdom is
present in our lives
and world, bringing
mercy and steadfast
love through Christ
our Lord. Amen.



BLESSING

May the God of
steadfast love give
you a thankful heart
morning and night
and all the day long.