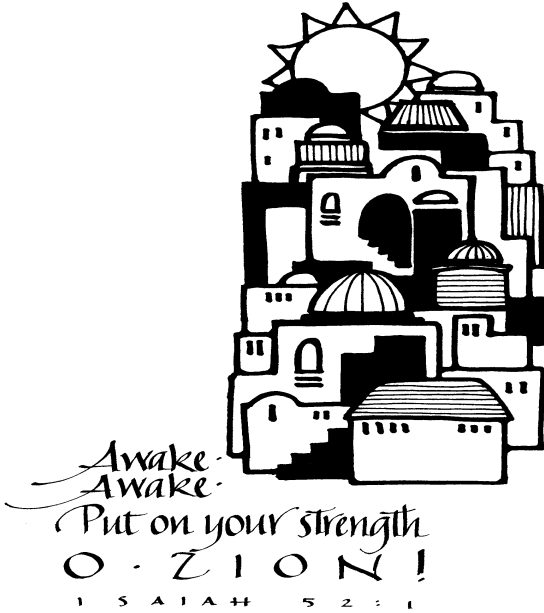


Foothills Lutheran Church

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

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:30 am-1:00 pm.

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



Third Sunday in Advent

December 15, 2024

Education Hour..... 9:00 am
Morning Worship (Holy Communion: 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays) 10:15 am
Wednesday Evening Worship..... 6:30 pm

Senior Pastor: David Bode – flcpastor@foothillslutheran.com
Associate Pastor: Eric Moffett – flcpastoreric@foothillslutheran.com
DPS: Deaconess Miriam Winstanley – miriam@foothillslutheran.com
Office Administrator: Amber Myers – office@foothillslutheran.com
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Eldon Ohlinger

A Prayer Upon Entering: The day is coming, O Lord, when You will clear away our sins and gather Your people together. Make us ready to receive You and make us glad to call You the Christ, the Son of the living God.

O Jesus Christ, may Your Good News come alive in us.

OUR WORSHIP TODAY

ORDER OF SERVICE:as projected

HYMNS:803; 515; 349; 353; 354; 340

FIRST LESSON:.....Zephaniah 3:14-20

EPISTLE LESSON:.....Philippians 1:2-11

GOSPEL LESSON:Luke 7:18-35

SERMON: We Can't Say It Enough - Philippians 4:4-7

A JOYOUS WELCOME to all who worship here this morning. May you find forgiveness and strengthening through God's Word and promise. If you are visiting, please honour us by signing our guest book at the back of the church. If there is any way we can be of service to you, please speak to the pastor or one of the elders. If you have no church home of your own, please consider making Foothills your church.

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.

PASTOR ERIC HAS RECEIVED A CALL to serve as pastor of St. John Lutheran Church, Vernon, BC. Please keep him in your prayers, as well as St. John and Foothills, that he may know the Lord's will for him and His church.

WE ARE BLESSED TODAY though the service of our Sunday School children and staff, as they share the good news of our Saviour's birth. We thank them for their participation and message shared this day.

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Organist..... Deaconess Miriam Winstanley
 Ushers..... Elfrieda Heiden; Lorne Rosenau
 Acolyte..... Keira Puchbauer
 Lector..... Heather Sommers
 Communion Assistant..... Kellen Rosenau
 AV Operator.....Eden/Paxton Knudtson; Evan Stene
 Coffee Team..... Violet Dusterhoft; Anne Marie Kothari

THIS WEEK AT FLC

Today		Children’s Christmas Service Purdy’s Order Pick-up
Tuesday	7:00 pm	Silver Saints Sing at Foothills Manor & Boardwalk Retirement Community
	7:30 pm	Ladies’ Bible Study
Wednesday	6:30 pm	Advent Worship
Thursday	1:30 pm	Ladies Bible Study
	6:00 pm	Children’s Choir
Friday	7:00 pm	Youth Group Ice Skating Event
Sunday	9:00 am	Education Hour
	10:15 am	Worship

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

In Hospital:

Homebound:

For Special Intercession:

Family Focus:

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Today, we will study “Silence before a Son.” Doubting the angel’s announcement of his coming son, Zechariah finds himself silenced until the boy’s birth. Upon writing “His name is John,” Zechariah regains his voice and prophesies concerning his son’s work.



THE FLOWERS which grace our altar today are given to the glory of God by Donna Poirier in memory of her parents, Cliff and Ruth Oberhammer.

LAST WEEK AT FLC

Week of	Sunday	Education Hour	Wednesday/Communed
December 8	151	34	20/19

**Attendance includes online participation.*

OUR STEWARDSHIP OF GOD'S GIFTS

Weekly Offering Needs	\$7,404.00	Our Budget Goal
Envelope Gifts Received Last Week	\$12,916	
Envelope Gifts Received to Date	\$341,456	+/- YTD
Total Offerings Needed to Date	\$362,788.46	-\$21,322.46

Non-Budget/Miscellaneous Gifts: Plate 107.00; Sunday School 6.00; Lutheran Hospital Ministries 160.00; LWML 50.00; Youth Gathering Fund 50.00; Canadian Lutheran Bible Translators 150.00; Canadian Lutheran World Relief 230.00; Concordia Seminary 80.00; Chairs 190.00



THE JOYOUS SEASON OF CHRISTMAS is a wonderful time to share your joy and worship of the Newborn King. We know many people would consider coming to worship, if only someone would invite them. Will you invite

someone to share the good news of the Saviour born to save us, with others?

Our festive services are as follows:

- ☆ Dec 24 Candlelight Carol Services at 4:00 pm; 6:00 pm; 11:00 pm.
(Communion at 11:00 pm)
- ☆ Dec 25 10:15 am Christmas Day Family Celebration (Communion)
- ☆ Dec. 31 6:30 pm New Years' Eve Service with Holy Communion.

OUR ADVENT MIDWEEK SERVICES: How Did They Get in There?

Join us this Wednesday as we continue our look at three of the women in the Saviour's family tree. This week we look at Bathsheba, whose adultery with David is one of the better known accounts in Scripture. We worship at 6:30 pm.

THE FUNERAL SERVICE for Rev. Dr. Ed Lehmann will be held Friday, December 20th at 11:00 at Concordia Lutheran Church, Edmonton. Please note that Pastor Moffett, Deaconess Miriam and Pastor Bode will be attending. The office will be closed that day as a result. God bless this family with His comfort in these days.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR: December 22 "Does It Matter If Jesus Is God?"
Jesus sets a good example, but good examples can't help dead people. Only God's Son can make us alive again (Luke 2:10-11). With Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. 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.



PRAYER VIGIL: December 31 – January 1. As a congregation we are anticipating some changes and transitions in 2025. The Foothills Direction Committee asks you to join together in prayer for God’s guidance and wisdom as we look to the future. Please sign up for our Prayer Vigil, either on the bulletin board next to Deaconess Miriam’s office, or online at: bit.ly/2024prayervigil The vigil will begin at 6:00 am on

December 31 and run to 6:00 pm on January 1. Don’t worry if more than one person is signed up for the same slot! We will provide you with some prayer resources for your encouragement.

BOTTLE DRIVE: As you gather with friends and family over Christmas and New Year’s, the Youth Group would be grateful if you would save any refundable bottles for our next fundraiser. Funds raised from your bottle donations will be added to the travel fund for the National Youth Gathering, to be held in July 2025. We’d be grateful if you would bring them to the church on either (or both!) Sunday January 5 and Sunday January 12, 2025. Please drop off your bottles and cans beside the trailer in the lower parking lot, either before or after service. The Youth of FLC thank you!

THE BLESSINGS TREE IS BACK! Have you noticed it in the narthex? If you would like to bless someone with a gift this Christmas there are 2 ways to do that. Take a yellow note off the tree, purchase your gift, write the name on the note of who it is to be delivered to, and leave it in the office. OR, purchase your gift, bring it to church and attach a note to it, then leave it in the office. There were so many people who were surprised with a gift last year that it brought joy to my heart when I was delivering them. If you have any questions, please contact me. Blessings to all of you and your families this season - may it be one of peace and joy! *Christine Heumann*

FOOTHILLS DIRECTION SURVEY RESULTS Thank you to all of you who submitted surveys on the future direction of our church. We have compiled the surveys and will be presenting the results to our members shortly. We will also present the results and give members a chance to provide additional feedback at a couple of town hall meetings that will be scheduled in the New Year.

ARE YOU A HANDY PERSON? The church is currently without a person to run our **Church Properties Board**. Please contact Dale Dusterhoft if you have an interest in this position, or if you just want to help with some one-off projects that need to be completed at various times. There are often small tasks that need to be completed around the church or the student residence that we could use some short-term volunteer help on.

MISSION OF THE MONTH: LUTHERAN HOSPITAL MINISTRIES

Through Lutheran Hospital Ministries of Southern Alberta, trained visitors give support to Lutheran patients in Calgary hospitals and care centres through compassionate listening, prayer and Scripture. Visitors are always needed, and regular training is scheduled. Your gift helps provide the resources and staffing that makes this ministry a blessing to those in the hospital and care centres of our area.

THE MAINSPRINGS PREGNANCY AND FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

supports pregnant women and their families. As they prepare to collect for their Christmas Client Care Project, we encourage you to donate some of the items needed. A list is on the Fellowship bulletin board. You can drop off items with Heather Sommers. **New items only, please.**



MISSION PRAYER This week, we pray for **Rev. Marco-Antonio Jacobsen** who serves as Assistant Missionary-at-Large for LCC's French ministries in Quebec. **Prayer:** Heavenly Father, as Your Son sent forth His Church to make disciples in all nations, we lift up before You, Pastor Jacobsen, 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.**

THE CANADIAN LUTHERAN is delayed due to the postal strike. The current issue can be read online at <https://issuu.com/thecanadianlutheran>

WE ARE LOOKING FOR GREETERS to welcome people here at Foothills. Please contact Barb Vincent at (403) 590-7975 or barbaraann@shaw.ca.

OUR REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP EFFORT: The PPC supports the work of sponsoring a family, as we have previously shared and will present a motion on this at the next Voters' meeting. The cost of this is around \$67,000.00. We will be looking at a greater fundraising effort to help with this. Your gifts can still be given now. May we show our love for others as we seek to "welcome the stranger" (Romans 12:13).



Growing
FAITH
at home

THIRD SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

YEAR B

Advent is a
time for joy as
we look to the
birth of Jesus.



Grow Ministries
LCA CHILD YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY



**LUTHERAN
CHURCH**
OF AUSTRALIA

where love comes to life

www.growministries.org.au



CONVERSATIONS

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

1. What does it mean to be joyful? Tell about a time you were filled with joy.
2. Is there a difference between joy and happiness? Explain your answer.
3. The apostle Paul tells Christians to be "joyful always". Why can all Christians be joyful? How do we show our joy?



BIBLE READINGS

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

S	John 1:6-8, 19-28	John's witness to the light
M	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11	Good news of deliverance
T	Thessalonians 5:16-24	A call to rejoice
W	Luke 1:46b-55	Mary's song of praise
T	Psalms 63:1-8	In God's presence I sing for joy
F	Acts 16:25-34	A jailer is filled with joy
S	Psalms 126	A people who dream

VERSE OF THE WEEK

Always be joyful, pray continually and give thanks whatever happens. That is what God wants for you in Christ Jesus.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18



CREATIVE RESPONSE

Advent is a time to slow down, savour and see things in the light of Christ.

Use or imagine a nativity set. Hold or imagine one piece of your nativity set each day.

Think what it was like to be that character in Bethlehem. What did that character see? Experience? Hear? How was that person changed? How are you changed?

Talk about your thoughts with family and friends.

Conclude by singing *Away in a Manger*.



ACTION RESPONSE

We show the joy that we have because of Jesus by putting others ahead of ourselves.

Share your Christmas joy with your neighbours by baking Christmas cookies for them. If possible, use icing to write the word "joy" on the cookies.



MEALTIME PRAYER

Lord God, you fill the hungry with good things. With all my heart I praise the Lord, and I am glad because of God my Saviour. Amen.



PRAYER

Lord Jesus, we are joyful because of you. Help us to be thankful no matter what happens each day. Amen.



BLESSING

God is the God who gives peace. May he make you holy through and through.