

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”



First Sunday after Christmas

December 29, 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: O Lord, You came to earth to go about doing the Father's business. We thank You for all the work You have performed. And we thank You for showing us how to continue the work of the Father in this world. May all that we do make the Father proud.

Son of the Father, may we bring glory to God above.

OUR WORSHIP TODAY

- ORDER OF SERVICE:**as projected
- HYMNS:**380; 362; 384; 370; 387; 359; 386; 366
- FIRST LESSON:**.....Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15
- EPISTLE LESSON:**.....Colossians 3:12-17
- GOSPEL LESSON:**Luke 2:22-40
- SERMON:** Is It Too Late for a Christmas Greeting? – Luke 2:36-38

WELCOME! It is a joy to have you with us today, especially the visitors who have joined us this morning. We gather together this day to be fed with the life-giving word of God. If you are visiting with us today, we hope you will join us again and find the joy, peace and life we have as God's people. We also hope you will sign our guest book at the back of the 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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: There was no Sunday School class today, as children are on Christmas break. We pray that God would bless them as they celebrate the birth of our Saviour with their families. Sunday School will resume next Sunday, January 5th.

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Organist..... Deaconess Miriam Winstanley
 Ushers.....Elfrieda Heiden; Tim Roth
 Communion Assistant Robert Kaut
 AV OperatorsBrenda Bode; Eden/Paxton Knudtson

THIS WEEK AT FLC

Today		Hymn Sing Sunday with Holy Communion
Tuesday	6:00 am	Prayer Vigil Begins
	6:30 pm	New Year's Eve Service with Holy Communion
Wednesday		Prayer Vigil continues until 6:00 pm (No evening service, office closed)
Saturday	9:00 am	Men's Breakfast
Sunday	9:00 am	Education Hour
	10:15 am	Epiphany/LWMLC Sunday Pot Blessing

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:



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.

LAST WEEK AT FLC

Week of:	Sunday	December 24 (3 Special Services)	December 25 (10:15)
December 22	133	205+75+36	47

**Attendance includes online participation.*

OUR STEWARDSHIP OF GOD'S GIFTS

Weekly Offering Needs	\$7,404.00	Our Budget Goal \$385,000.00
Envelope Gifts Received Last Week	\$18,379.20	
Envelope Gifts Received to Date	\$367,465.70	+/- YTD

Total Offerings Needed to Date	\$377,596.15	-\$10,130.45
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Non-Budget/Miscellaneous Gifts: Plate 87.00; Sunday School 5.00; Student Residence Rent 2,500.00; Canadian Lutheran World Relief 100.00 FLC Youth Gathering Fund 100.00.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR January 5 "**In the Beginning Was Dialogue**" with Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Do you need more faith? Then you need the Word. Faith comes from hearing the Word of Christ. (John 1:1) 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.



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PASTOR ERIC, KAYLA AND FAMILY will be away until January 1, 2025. We pray for safe travel and a restful time away.



JOIN US NEW YEAR'S EVE as we give thanks for the blessings of the year gone by and pray for His blessings upon the new year. We will celebrate Holy Communion as part of this service. We will worship at 6:30 pm.

JANUARY 5 IS LWMLC SUNDAY: and the ladies of the Foothills LWMLC Society, who support mission projects and mites at home and abroad, invite you to join us for a **pot blessing** after the worship service. Your help with bringing some finger foods is appreciated.



OUR MEN'S BIBLE STUDY will meet this Saturday, **January 4th** at 9:00 am. We start with breakfast at 9:00, followed by our study. We wrap up by 10:30. We invite the men of the congregation to join us.

MISSION OF THE MONTH:**LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE - CANADA**

Based on the biblical story of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1-4 KJV), "mites" offerings above and beyond the support given to the congregation and the synod are collected by women of Lutheran Church-Canada. Mite contributions amount to thousands of dollars, supporting LWML-Canada district and national grants to mission projects around the world as well as implementing the LWML-Canada program. Mite offerings are gathered at meetings, preferably with prayer or special devotions. This month we are giving all our members an opportunity to support this work through our Mission of the Month.

A MESSAGE FROM CAROL: Thank you to the ministry staff, and you, my church family, for the opportunity to serve you and His church these past 7.5 years. It has been an absolute pleasure getting to know you and to learn the many varied responsibilities as your office administrator. I wish my replacement, Amber Myers, all the very best and challenge her to love and appreciate the role as much as I did. God bless you all. ~Carol Kehler

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!

FOOT PRINT: To read a comprehensive report on the "Foothills Direction Committee Update", pick up a copy of the January/February 2025 Foot Print. Copies are available on the Welcome Desk.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: There is no coffee today. We will resume in January.

MISSION PRAYER This week, we pray for Rev. David Milete who serves as pastor of l'Eglise luthérienne du Bon Berger (Good Shepherd Lutheran Church) in Moncton, New Brunswick. He also provides support for LCC's French Ministries.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, as Your Son sent forth His Church to make disciples in all nations, we lift up before You, Pastor Milete, 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 do expect the print copies to arrive very soon.

PORTALS OF PRAYER: The large print have arrived, and we expect the remainder shortly. We thank you for your patience.

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).

THE NEW OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2025 have been distributed. If you haven't picked up your envelopes, they are available on the table outside Deaconess Miriam's office. If you need offering envelopes, and don't see a set with your name on them, please let the office know. **Please remember to recycle old envelopes and only use the new envelopes starting January. 1st, as numbers may have changed.**



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.



Growing
FAITH
at home

FIRST SUNDAY
AFTER
CHRISTMAS

YEAR B

We praise
God for
Christ's birth.



growministries
LCA CHILD YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY



www.growministries.org.au



CONVERSATIONS

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

1. Tell about when you waited a long time for something. What was it like waiting and what was it like when the waiting was over?
2. What were Simeon and Anna waiting for (Luke 2:25-38)? How did they react to seeing baby Jesus?
3. Imagine yourself in the place of Simeon and Anna. What would you say?



BIBLE READINGS

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

S	Luke 2:22-40	Jesus presented in the temple
M	Isaiah 61:10-62:3	Rejoice in the Lord
T	Galatians 4:4-7	Adoption as God's children
W	Ecclesiastes 3:1-15	For everything a season
T	2 Corinthians 6:1-10	Now is the time of salvation
F	Isaiah 43:16-21	The Lord is doing a new thing
S	Psalms 148	All creation praises God

VERSE OF THE WEEK

I have seen your salvation which you
have prepared for all people.

LUKE 2:30-31



CREATIVE RESPONSE

Take time this New Year's Eve to reflect on the past year with family and friends. As the evening proceeds, share memories together.

Consider using the following questions:

- What were some good things that happened this past year?
- What were some challenges you faced?
- What are your hopes and concerns for the coming year?
- What have you learned from your experiences this past year and how does it connect with your faith in the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem?
- What commitments would you like to make for reading the Bible and to prayer in 2021?

Finish this time of conversation with prayer for one another, asking God to bless and care for one another, the church, and world in the coming year. End with the Lord's Prayer.



ACTION RESPONSE

In the temple in Jerusalem, Simeon and Anna encouraged and blessed two young, first-time parents, Mary and Joseph.

Contact parents with young children in your church or community and offer to carry out a household act of service. (e.g. Help out with cleaning, ironing or childcare so they can enjoy some time out together.)



MEALTIME PRAYER

Praise the Lord all children, women and men, for God gives us food for our bodies and Jesus as our Saviour. Amen.



PRAYER

Lord God, thank you for Jesus, through whom we are adopted as your children. Let all you have made praise you! Amen.



BLESSING

May the Lord make you strong and wise, and bless you with God's saving grace.