

Foothills Lutheran Church

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



THE
Good news
TO THE POOR.
MATTHEW 2:5

Third Sunday in Advent

December 15, 2019

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

A Prayer Upon Entering: O Advent Lord, come to us and bring joy to the world. By Your birth, announce to us the good news that sorrow will cease, pain will disappear, and healing will come our way. May we, like the angels, sing, "Glory to God in the highest" with happiness in our hearts.

O Coming Christ, may Your glad tidings fill us with joy.

OUR WORSHIP TODAY

ORDER OF SERVICE: As projected

HYMNS:.....354; 345; 379; 578; 380; *Little Children, Can You Tell*; 412

CHOIR:..... *Child of Light*

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 35:1-10.....p. 757

EPISTLE LESSON: James 5:7-11.....p. 1291

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 11:2-15p. 1036

SERMON: Let There Be Light! John 1:9-13

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, in which 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. Anyone is welcome to come to the Altar for a blessing, please simply cross your arms across your chest and the Elders will know how to respond.

THE NURSERY is available for times that children are restless and is equipped with a sound system to enable parents to continue worshipping. Because some of our children and parents have severe nut allergies, **please keep the nursery a nut-free zone.**

LARGE PRINT HYMNS AND SERVICE are available for your use. Please pick up a copy from the tables at the back of the sanctuary or ask an usher for a copy.

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS, crayons, scrap paper and busy bags are available on the bookshelves by the sanctuary doors for children to use during worship.



THE FLOWERS which beautify our altar this month are given to the glory of God by Marilyn Harrison in loving memory of her husband, Bruce.

LAST WEEK AT FLC

Week of:	Sunday Worship	Advent Worship/Communion	Education Hour
December 8	184	38 /37	50

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY:

Narthex Greeters Gary & Laurel Anderson; Marj Fiesel; Rick Bennetts
 Sanctuary Greeters Jan Geggie; Loleta Ziprick; Elke Bittman; Marj Fiesel
 Acolyte Eden Knudtson
 Organist Miriam Winstanley
 Lector Christine Heumann
 Coffee Team Lloyd & Carol Sandau; Bob & Elsie Will; Bill & Erika Schultz
 Counters Merv & Kareen Borgeson

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

In Hospital:

Homebound:

For Special Intercession:

For Our Missions: Please pray for the health of our preschool students and staff as flu season has arrived.

Family Focus:

MISSION OF THE MONTH – Robert Ohlinger Scholarship Fund

The Robert Ohlinger Scholarship Fund was set up to assist Foothills Lutheran members who are studying to go into professional church work. It is administered by the Board of Elders of Foothills Lutheran Church. The fund was initiated by donations in memory of Robert Ohlinger, the oldest son of our Pastor Emeritus, Eldon Ohlinger, and his wife, Marian. Robert was struck and killed by a car in May 1975 at the age of 14 as he was walking home from a school band activity. Robert played clarinet, bass clarinet, piano and guitar. He enjoyed using his musical gifts as one of FLC's musicians for Sunday morning folk services.

WE'RE HOLDING AN USHER TRAINING SESSION after service on December 22nd. This is for new ushers, as well as our experienced ushers. We have a sign-up list posted on the bulletin board beside Deaconess Miriam's office. Even if you can't be with us, please sign up. We'll be about ½ hour, and it is important that we be working together to welcome those who come to be with us in worship. Please join us!

WE EXTEND OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY and the glorious hope of the resurrection to the Chandler Family on the passing of Brian's father, Al. We pray that God would comfort the family with His everlasting love and comfort.

This Week at Foothills

Tuesday: 7:30 pm Ladies Bible Study @ Deaconess Miriam's
Wednesday: 5:30 pm Soup Supper

	6:30 pm	Advent Worship
	7:30 pm	Choir
Thursday:	9:30 am	Moms & Tots
	2:30 am	Afternoon Preschool Class Christmas Celebration
	7:00 pm	Front to Back Bible Study @ Bodes'
Friday:	7:00 pm	Morning Preschool Class Christmas Celebration
Sunday:	9:00 am	Education Hour
	10:15 am	Worship

PARENTING FAMILIES...FROM ME TO WE: If you have children of any age, this course is for you! The 6-session course is a combination of video and discussion, covering basic strategies around Commitment, Communication, Consistency, Consequences, Conflict and Crisis and making Connections. Classes will run Saturday mornings, January 11th, 18th, 25th, and February 1st, 8th and 15th. Please contact Deaconess Miriam with questions or to register. Childcare will be offered during the sessions so that mom and dad can attend together!



THE LUTHERAN HOUR: (Dec 22nd) “Christmas” (Matthew 1:18-25) A special Christmas message from Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Hear this inspirational message on CHR 1140/am at 8:00 am Sunday mornings. Streaming audio and pod-casts at www.lutheranhour.ca.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: In this week’s lesson, “A Nativity Night,” Mary and Joseph travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem, where a simple stable serves as the birthplace for the promised Christ Child. Angelic hosts announce the birth of the Savior to ordinary shepherds, who hasten to worship the child. Having seen the Savior in the flesh, the shepherds quickly spread the news of His birth. Ask one another, “How can we share the message of the birth of the Savior today?”



2020 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available in the Narthex and are in alphabetical order. If you need offering envelopes, and don’t see a set with your name on them, please let the office know. **Continue to use your current envelopes until Dec. 31st, then please use the new envelopes starting Jan. 1st, as numbers may have changed.**

HYMN SING SUNDAY: December 29th is the fifth Sunday of the month and we invite you to submit your favourite Christmas hymns for this service. Please let the pastors know your choices as soon as possible.



OUR THANKS TO THE SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN for their participation in our worship this morning. We are also blessed through the efforts of our teachers and helpers, who show their love of the Lord and for the children in their work with them. We thank God for all of you, and your desire to share the joyous message of Christmas with us.



THE JOYOUS SEASON OF CHRISTMAS is a wonderful time to invite people to come and worship the Newborn King. We continue to hear that many people would consider coming to worship, if only someone would invite them. You are our best advertising—speak positively of your church, and joyously invite others to come and see Jesus! Our festive services are as follows:

December 24	4:00 pm; 6:00 pm	Candlelight Carol Service
December 24	11:00 pm	Candlelight Communion Service
December 25	10:15 am	Christmas Day Family Celebration (Communion)
December 31	6:30 pm	New Year's Eve Service (Communion)

Please note that with all the extra festive services, there will **not** be a Wednesday service on Christmas Day or on January 1st.



SILVER SAINTS: Many thanks to all who participated in our Fall/early Winter programs. Pastor Bode, Ruth and Gunther Maekelburger, Cheryl and Phil Lemke and Charlotte Rentz. Thanks to Vi and Oto Dusterhoft for planning and hosting our Christmas Dinner. We are planning the events for the next months and awaiting confirmation from the January guest speakers. When available, the information will be posted on the bulletin board as well as in the Sunday bulletin. We look forward to interesting and entertaining events in the new Year.

USED EYEGLASSES & POSTAGE STAMPS: Operation Eyesight sends used eyeglasses to countries around the world to help people with vision problems. Canadian Bible Society sells postage stamps to stamp collectors. Proceeds are used to purchase Bibles for inmates in Canadian prisons. (Please leave 1/4" border around the stamps.) These are ongoing mission projects. Please place your donations in the designated bins in the church foyer. Thanks!

DO YOU FILL IN A "COMMUNION CARD?" These cards help in a variety of ways. First, by reviewing the card, you are reminded of the ways that you can prepare to take the Lord's Supper in a worthy manner. They help you remember the precious gift Jesus gives us as He gives us His body and blood. When you fill them in, it also helps us know our attendance at communion, which helps in our preparing the altar, and which helps the Elders and Pastors as they minister to the needs of God's people. It only takes a moment, and it does help us help you. Please remember to fill them in each time you come to Holy Communion!

YOUTH FUNDRAISER: Thank you to everyone who bought lunch at the youth group's taco-in-a-bag fundraiser, and thank-you to the 14 youth and the parents who helped us raise just over \$530.00! Your support helps with costs so the youth can attend retreats like the 2020 IMPACT Gathering (the registration fee is \$325) and the 2021 Lutheran Church-Canada National Youth Gathering (the registration fee will be about \$500), which are awesome opportunities for learning and fellowship.

MAXINE'S PASSION –ART AND MUSIC: Thank you for participating in my art show. With your generosity, a donation was given to the "organ fund". For those who missed it, another show is planned for early January. Watch for the date.

"FAMILY" BOARD GAMES NIGHT: Join the youth on Friday, January 10th, 2020 for our annual family board games night! The whole Foothills family is invited to play board games from 7 to 10pm in the Fellowship Hall. Invite a friend and bring a snack to share and come prepared to try some new games and meet some new people! Please RVSP to Pastor Eric so we have an idea of how many people to set up for.

Welcome



WE REJOICE THAT WE WERE PRIVILEGED TO WELCOME new members into our church family last week, by transfer and by profession of faith. We welcome and thank God for the participation of:

Kathy Beckley; Gwen Carson; Rick and Kathy Jubenville; Gale Ortis; Kelvin and Audrey Schindel; Steven, Stefanie, Kaitlyn, Lukas and Zachery Tofan; John and Diane Voss. May God bless your fellowship with us in Christ, our Lord!

REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP: This is an update about our Refugee Sponsorship, the Ibrahim family. Each of the 4 members has progressed well in their ESL classes; Essam the son, will have completed level 6 this month, and will hopefully find employment. If you have any contacts for a job, please let me know - my phone number is in the Congregational directory (403-286-9823).

Our family is registered with Alberta Works for support, but only receive \$2,750/month, so finances are very tight. Not many families of 4 adults can manage well on that amount! They do need help and anything that we can do will be greatly appreciated. So, this is a call for donations for a congregational Christmas Hamper. There is a well-marked hamper with "refugee family" in the Narthex, which we will present to the family on December 15th. The family will be here that day, as they asked to attend one of our Christmas services. At that time, Pastor Bode will present Rabie, the dad, with an Arabic/English New Testament, which he had asked for.

Examples of items that the family would be grateful to receive include the following: **Staple food items** – staples such as rice, non-perishables and canned food, and chocolates; **Household items** – toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, soap, dish soap, toilet paper, garbage bags, food storage containers or bags; and **Gift Cards** – for Superstore or Walmart. Thank you for helping our refugee family; through your generosity, Rabie, Faiza, Essam and Awadia Ibrahim continue to feel welcome in Canada! Thank you. Jan Gergie

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Preschool Teacher/Principal:

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Pastor Emeritus: Eldon Ohlinger