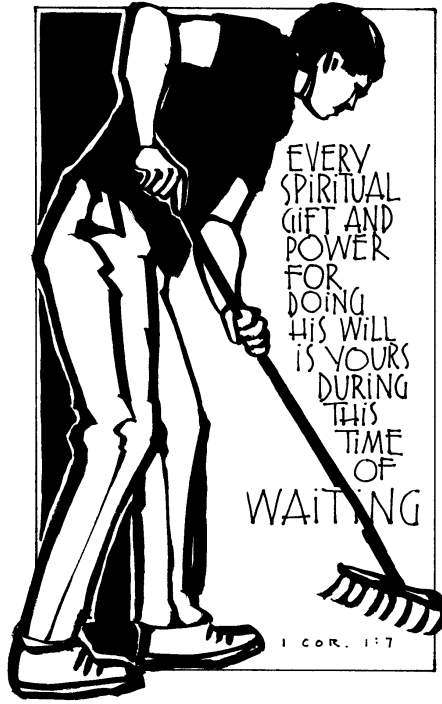


Foothills Lutheran Church

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

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



First Sunday in Advent

November 29, 2020

Senior Pastor: David Bode
(flcpastor@foothillslutheran.com)

Associate Pastor: Eric Moffett
(flcpastoreric@foothillslutheran.com)

DPS: Deaconess Miriam Winstanley
(miriam@foothillslutheran.com)

Office Administrator: Carol Kehler
(office@foothillslutheran.com)

Pastor Emeritus: Eldon Ohlinger

A Prayer Upon Entering: O Lord, help us this Advent to "keep awake"-- to make ourselves aware of all that God is doing in the world through Your birth, to open our eyes to the signs and wonders of salvation, and to make ourselves ready for Your coming among us.

Christ, our Dayspring from on high, make Yourself known to us this season.

OUR WORSHIP TODAY

ORDER OF SERVICE:Divine Service Setting 1, p. 151

HYMNS: 331; 332; 350; 340

FIRST LESSON:.....Isaiah 64:1-9

EPISTLE LESSON:1 Corinthians 1:3-9

GOSPEL LESSON:Mark 13:24-37

SERMON: Peace With God: Peace with God - Isaiah 64:1-9

WELCOME TO ALL, especially our visitors this morning! We are happy to have you with us to praise the Lord together. Visitors, please honour us by signing our Guest Register before you leave, and, if you do not have a regular church home, please consider joining us here at Foothills.

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 we will know how to respond.

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

In Hospital:

Homebound:

For Special Intercession:

Family Focus:

LAST WEEK AT FLC

Week of:	Attendance/ Online	Wednesday/Communion/ Online	Education Hour
November 22	64/48	10/9/9	35

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY:

Organist..... Deaconess Miriam Winstanley
 Acolyte..... Faith Dueck
 Cantors..... Mark Kihn; Ellen Wagner

OUR STEWARDSHIP OF GOD'S GIFTS

Weekly Offering Needs	\$8,173.08	Our Budget Goal \$425,000.00
Offerings Received Last Week	\$6,745.00	
Total Offerings Received to Date	\$353,468.70	+/- YTD
Total Offerings Needed to Date	\$384,134.62	-\$30,665.92

Non-Budget and Miscellaneous Gifts: Visitor Offering 180.00; Mission of the Month 20.00; Memorial 150.00; Organ Fund 21.15; A/R 26.52.



THE LATEST COVID CONCERNS have brought more changes to our province. Fortunately, the new protocols have not brought any changes to our worship gathering. We do want to lead by example, showing ourselves to be honouring the law and caring about those around us. To aid in that and to provide the highest level of comfort for our people, we have determined that our Bible classes and Confirmation will all be online via Zoom until the beginning of the year. There will not be a Sunday morning Bible study in house, and Sunday School will be at home with a Zoom opening, and parents using materials provided by the church.

The government has stated that “in-person faith group meetings conducted at a place of worship can continue”. While that allows us to hold classes, we are looking to meet the needs of all our members. We will still hold our Voters’ Meeting at 1:30 pm on Saturday, December 5th. We will meet in the sanctuary, as we need the space for our distancing. Check-ins and masks will be required, and we ask you to register on our worship registration page. We know we are all struggling with the limitations and requirements brought on by COVID-19. We continue to beseech your patience and understanding, as we work together for the sake of all we are as a church. We hope you are able to join us.

THIS WEEK AT FOOTHILLS

Monday	1:00 pm	LWMLC
Tuesday	10:00 am	Bible Study– contact Pastor Bode
	6:30 pm	Elders
	7:30 pm	Ladies Bible Study - contact Deaconess Miriam
Wednesday	1:15 pm	Ladies Bible Study– contact Deaconess Miriam
	6:30 pm	Advent Worship in-person and at Facebook.com\foothillslutheran)
Thursday	7:00 pm	Front to Back Bible Study – contact Pastor Bode
	7:00 pm	LifeLight
Friday:	7:00 pm	Virtual Bible Study & Games
Saturday:	1:30 pm	Voters’ Meeting – In-person
Sunday	10:15 am	Worship w/Communion

OUR MEN’S BIBLE STUDY, scheduled for December 5th will be postponed until January. We encourage your participation in our Voters’ Meeting that afternoon.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR: (November 29) "Magnum Opus" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. How is God like a band director? Learn how God enables us to play our part in His "Magnum Opus." (Daniel 8:27) Hear this inspiration message on CHRB 1140 AM at 8:00 am Sunday morning. Streaming audio and podcasts at www.lutheranhour.ca

SUNDAY SCHOOL: This week's Bible lesson is "A Shepherd Loves" Jesus calls Himself the Good Shepherd as He promises to lead and guide His sheep. Jesus willingly laid down His life for His sheep, even those who often ignore the voice of the Shepherd. His flock includes "other sheep" (John 10:16), Gentiles not descended from Abraham. David's familiar Twenty-third Psalm describes the work of our Good Shepherd. Discuss, "When do we often hear Psalm 23 spoken?"



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD: Thank you to everyone who supported Operation Christmas Child. We received 46 boxes at the church as well as those who did their boxes online or sent in a financial donation. Thank you to Jutta Colhoun for her contribution of completed comfort dolls and to Deaconess Miriam for taking the boxes to the warehouse.

I know Operation Christmas Child appreciates all your donations during these difficult days. Many children will be so happy when they receive your gifts and to hear the message of Jesus. ~
Elke Bittmann

MISSION OF THE MONTH – INN FROM THE COLD

Homelessness is a problem in Calgary, and like the Mustard Seed, Inn from the Cold seeks to help. The needs have grown, as COVID creates additional problems. Your gift helps in a time of great need.

AN IMPORTANT CHANGE: Effective immediately, we will require registration for worship. This applies to our Sunday services as well as our Wednesday services. Registration is important, as we seek to make the best use of the space we have available for worship. While we haven't actually had to turn anyone away because of space limitations, there have been times when we have been very close to capacity. We know that you may find this inconvenient, but as many other churches have discovered, this is essential for good order.

Our online registration is accessed by going to <https://reopen.church/r/aTJSxeNQ>. No internet? Call the office by noon on Friday to register for the Sunday service. For Wednesday registration, please call / go online by Tuesday noon.

For those who want a smaller group, consider our Wednesday services. There is ample room, as we come together as God's people to be fed on His Word and on the Sacrament of the Altar.

Thank you to the members of FLC's COVID-19 Committee, Christine Heumann, Lorne and Pat Rosenau for their efforts to help us in these days.

GIFTS FROM THE HEART: Give a meaningful gift from the comfort of home with Canadian Lutheran World Relief's Gifts from the Heart catalogue. Your gift to a loved one will provide meaningful, tangible items for people around the world facing hunger, poverty, and the threat of COVID-19. No matter which gift you choose, the gifts you give will change lives and touch your loved ones! Visit www.clwr.org/GFTH to learn more.



THE SACRED SEASON OF ADVENT begins today and we look forward in joyful expectation to the Lord who comes to save His people. We invite you to make our midweek Advent Services a special part of this preparation. Services are Wednesdays, at 6:30 pm and at Facebook.com/foothillslutheran). We hope you will be with us for this special time of preparation and devotion! We will focus on the ancient “O Antiphons”. The hymn “O, Come, O, Come, Emmanuel” (LSB 357) is a rendition of these medieval antiphons, also called the “Greater Antiphons.” An Antiphon is a selection of Scripture and prayer chanted responsively by the officiant and assembly. The purpose of the Antiphon is to set the focus for the reading selected for that particular day of the Church year.

The O Antiphons were to be sung during Vespers one on each day seven days before the feast of the Nativity of Christ: from December 17th through the 23rd. Each Antiphon focuses on a Scriptural title for Christ as He is named in Biblical prophecy and a petition to Christ to come fulfilling the promise made through that title and prophecy. We’ll look at several each Wednesday, and hope you will join us for this countdown to Christmas, and celebration of the Christ who comes to save us. Services are at 6:30 pm, both in-person and online.

LWMLC FOOTHILLS SOCIETY MEETING TOMORROW: All ladies are welcome! We will meet at 1:00 by ZOOM. We begin with Bible Study followed by a short business meeting. If you would like to participate, please e-mail Cheryl Lemke at cheryl.lemke@shaw.ca or phone her at (403) 851-2049.



Christmas Gift Bags for Foothills Manor Residents sponsored by Foothills LWMLC Society. Thank you to everyone who contributed gifts for the thirty residents of Foothills Manor! Included in each Christmas gift bag were: Advent Devotional booklet, Portals of Prayer: January-March), a Christmas tree ornament, a hand knit neck warmer and mask ear-saver, chocolates and a candy cane. Jesus said, “*Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.*” (Matthew 5:16)



MISSION PRAYER: Deaconess Srey Mom serves the Lutheran Church in Kampot as an instructor of the faith. **Prayer:** Heavenly Father, since Your Son has saved the world through His holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death and sent forth His Church to proclaim the Good News of this salvation to the ends of the earth and to distribute His saving gifts of grace, we pray that You would sustain Deaconess Mom by Your Spirit and richly bless her labours for the sake of the Gospel; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen**

ON THE WELCOME DESK: Please note the many things available to you, such as:

- The **Agenda & Minutes** for the December 5th Voters’ Meeting.
- **Gifts from the Heart**, opportunities to give gifts that also become gifts to those in need.
- **Advent Devotional Booklets** from Lutheran Hour Ministries, to assist you in your celebration of the coming Saviour.]
- **Portals of Prayer** for January – March 2021.



As Christmas approaches, the Calgary Pregnancy Center is looking for items to include in their Christmas Client Care packages. Due to COVID, items must be NEW and can be dropped off at the church office or I can pick up when convenient. For questions, please contact Heather Sommers at (403) 829-23696. If you are interested, below are some of the items requested.

Nice journals and 2021 day-timers/schedulers
Adult coloring books and coloring supplies
Phone chargers and/or headphones
Pajamas, nightgowns, bathrobes and slippers

Scarf, mitts and toque sets
Bath and body products for Moms
Fleece throws/blankets
Gift cards or bus tickets

OUR COMMUNION PREPARATION

Many of our members have used the cards in the pew racks to help them with their preparation for Holy Communion. We removed the cards and the pencils because of the difficulty of proper sanitization in these days of COVID-19. To help you, we have the questions from the card below, along with the prayers before and after Communion that were in the hymnal. We pray that this will help you prepare your heart as you come to the Lord's Table.

By celebrating Holy Communion, I give witness that:

- I believe that Jesus Christ is my Saviour and Lord.
- I have examined my life in the light of God's Word and have confessed my sinfulness to God.
- I believe that Christ's body and blood are truly present in, with and under the bread and wine.
- I believe that in this Sacrament God gives me the forgiveness of my sins.
- I believe that God the Holy Spirit strengthens my faith and renews my life.
- I resolve, in the power of the Holy Spirit, to amend my sinful ways.

A Prayer before communing:

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation we come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let us find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of our souls and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament

Almighty and everlasting God, we thank and praise You for feeding us the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send us Your Holy Spirit that, having with our mouths received the holy Sacrament, we may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.



Growing
FAITH
at home

29 November 2020

FIRST SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

Caring Conversations

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

1

Talk about a time you were waiting for something or someone.

2

Advent begins with a focus on Christ's second coming. How does your Christian faith help you keep alert for Christ's return? Reflect on how waiting for Christ's return is an important part of the Christian faith. Jesus said, "my words will never pass away" (Mark 13:31).

3

What words or stories of Jesus are especially important to you?

Devotions



Daily Bible Readings

S	Mark 13:24-37	The day and hour unknown
M	Isaiah 64:1-9	A communal prayer for help
T	1 Corinthians 1:3-9	God is faithful
W	Isaiah 9:1-7	The promised messiah
T	Matthew 24:29-31	The coming of the Son of Man
F	Revelation 1:1-6	Christ sends a message
S	Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19	Prayer for Israel's restoration
S	Mark 1:1-8	The beginning of the good news

Discuss the bible reading. What word or phrase was important to you as you read these verses?

Rituals and Traditions



PRAYER

Gracious God, we thank you for your love that reaches out to us through Christ our Saviour. Give us joy and gladness as we wait for his coming again. Amen.

BLESSING

May the God of grace and peace and the Lord Jesus Christ keep you strong in your faith until Jesus comes again.

Advent is a time to be alert
for the coming of Christ

Creative Response

Make a paper chain with a link for each day of December up to Christmas Day. Write one of the instructions listed below on each link. Remove a link each day and do what it says:

1. Share: "What gives you peace?"
2. Share: "What gives you joy?"
3. Share: "What gives you hope?"
4. Share compliments with each other.
5. Read Jeremiah 33:14-16.
6. Share hugs with one another.
7. Share good Christmas memories.
8. Read Isaiah 11:1-3.
9. Play a game together.
10. Sing a Christmas carol.
11. Share what you like about Christmas.
12. Read Micah 5:2-4.
13. Tell the nativity story to each other.
14. Prepare Christmas cards to give out.
15. Read Isaiah 7:14.
16. Sing another Christmas carol.
17. Do deeds of service for each other.
18. Share a Christmas food.
19. Read Isaiah 9:6-7.
20. Go for a walk together.
21. Draw a Christmas picture together.
22. Read Luke 1:26-38.
23. Read Matthew 1:18-24.
24. Read Luke 2:1-7



mealtime prayer

Lord God, thank you for giving us hope for the
heart and food for the plate. For Jesus our saviour
we watch and we wait. Amen.

verse for the week

Beware, keep
alert; for you
do not know
when the time
will come.

MARK 13:33

Service



Part of Christian
waiting for Christ's
coming again
is to care for
others with loving
service. Purchase
nonperishable grocery
items to donate to a
local food shelf. Pray
for the people who will
receive the food.

