

# Foothills Lutheran Church

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

God  
GIVES WISDOM •  
KNOWLEDGE AND  
JOY  
ECCLES. 2:26

*Third Sunday in Advent*

*December 12, 2021*

**Senior Pastor:** David Bode  
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**Associate Pastor:** Eric Moffett  
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**DPS:** Deaconess Miriam Winstanley  
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**Office Administrator:** Carol Kehler  
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**Pastor Emeritus:** 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, Bringer of Good News, may Your Good News come alive in us.*

**OUR WORSHIP TODAY**

**ORDER OF SERVICE:** ..... As projected

**HYMNS:** ..... Build Your Kingdom Here; Christmas Offering; 357; 387

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

**EPISTLE LESSON:** ..... Philippians 4:4-7

**GOSPEL LESSON:** ..... Luke 7:18-28

**SERMON:**

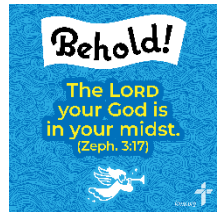
**WELCOME:** We gather to rejoice this day in the goodness of the Lord! We invite you to join us in our songs of praise, our words of love, our prayers, and as we listen to the Word of God. May God bless your worship here today and fill your life with His love as you go through this coming week!

**WE CELEBRATE HOLY COMMUNION WEDNESDAY** 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.

**SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY:**

Music..... Contemporary Musicians; Miriam Winstanley  
Ushers.....Carter Stene; Jaxson Stene  
Acolyte..... Natalia Bishop

**THE SACRED SEASON OF ADVENT** is upon us 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. Our theme is “Behold!”, and this week we look at “The Lord Is In Your Midst”. We hope you will be with us for this special time of preparation and devotion!



***THIS WEEK AT FLC***

<b>Tuesday</b>	10:00 am	LifeLight Bible Study
	7:30 pm	Ladies Bible Study
<b>Wednesday</b>	6:30 pm	Midweek Advent Worship/Communion
<b>Thursday</b>	1:30 pm	Ladies Bible Study
<b>Friday</b>	7:00	Youth @ FLC
<b>Sunday</b>	9:00 am	Sunday School/Confirmation
	10:15 am	Sunday Advent Worship/Communion

***LAST WEEK AT FLC***

<b>Week of</b>	<b>Attendance/Communion</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
December 5	141/82	19

*Attendance numbers include online participants*

***IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:***

***In Hospital:***

***Homebound:***

***For Special Intercession:***

***Family Focus:***

***OUR STEWARDSHIP OF GOD'S GIFTS***

Weekly Offering Needs	\$8,173.08	<b>Our Budget Goal</b>
Envelope Gifts Received Last Week	\$10,165.00	\$425,000.00
Envelope Gifts Received to Date	\$352,940.00	<b>+/- YTD</b>
<b>Total Offerings Needed to Date</b>	\$400,480.77	-\$47,540.77

***Miscellaneous Offerings:*** Visitor 20.00; CLWR 50.00; LWML 75.00; Benevolence 100.00; Organ 120.00; Worship Recoveries 27.91.

***SUNDAY SCHOOL:*** Today's lesson, "The Faith-Full Family," tells of Ruth's loyalty to her widowed mother-in-law, Naomi. Returning to Naomi's ancestral home in Bethlehem, Ruth gleanes Boaz's fields to provide food for herself and Naomi. Ruth finds favor with Boaz, who purchases Naomi's land and redeems Ruth from her widowhood. Having married Boaz, Ruth bears a son, Obed, the grandfather of King David.

***THE LUTHERAN HOUR:*** "When You're Expecting" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. The season of Advent is about living in the middle of a story that is still unfolding, between what is already and what is yet to come. (Luke 1:26-80). Hear this inspirational message on CHRB 1140 AM at 8:00 am Sunday morning. Streaming audio and podcasts at [www.lutheranhour.ca](http://www.lutheranhour.ca)



**THANK YOU TO ALL THE PARTICIPANTS** who added to the Sunday School Christmas Service today. This is the second year we have presented this service through a video format, and we truly hope that we will be able to return to a more traditional presentation next year. One blessing has been that we have taken an inter-generational approach, and we are grateful for the families across all ages of the congregation who have added to this time of remembrance and celebration of the Saviour's birth. Thank you, boys and girls; thanks to all who helped put this together today. A special word of thanks to Evan Stene for his efforts in putting all the clips together into the video today.

**OUR LORD HAS GIVEN US A PRECIOUS GIFT** in that life-giving meal of the Lord's Supper. We rejoice that more and more of our members are able to commune, but we know there are those who are still restricted by health needs and concerns surrounding COVID. We are still here to help you! Christ gives us His body and blood in this meal to forgive our sins and strengthen our faith. He calls us to *do this*. If you are unable to be with us on Sundays or Wednesdays for Holy Communion, let the pastors know, and we will arrange a time for you to receive this glorious gift of God's grace.

**MISSION OF THE MONTH  
FLC BENEVOLENCE FUND**

There are many times when our members have been in need of help and support. Different from our Human Care Ministries budget, this fund would provide for special needs – typically within Foothills or even larger needs than we generally support now.



*Give us today our daily bread.*

**THANKS** to all of you who colored a “Daily Bread” placemat for a resident of Foothills Manor or for one of our congregational shut-ins. To ensure their extended usefulness, the 40 placemats were laminated by Carol Kehler, our faithful church secretary.

Each recipient was also gifted a large-print Advent Devotional Booklet entitled “Child of Promise” by Lutheran Hour Ministries, a Christmas plate of cookies and candies, and an angel candle votive, handcrafted by Jutta Colhoun, and a battery-operated candle.

**HELPING HAND:** We have had a request from a member for assistance crossing the street before and after Sunday worship services. If you are able to assist this individual and prevent a possible fall, please contact the pastors for more information.



**DID YOU LOSE SOMETHING?** Lost and found items are on display in the narthex. Did you misplace a pair of reading glasses? They, too,

are on the same table. Also on display are unclaimed dishes from the kitchen. Pick them up soon, before we pass them on to Goodwill.

**CHRISTMAS GOODIE EXCHANGE:** Thank you to those of you who have signed up for the Christmas Goodie Exchange this year! You should have received instructions by email or phone. Please remember to have your goodies delivered to the Church by December 17<sup>th</sup> and pick up your new package of Goodies after Church on December 19<sup>th</sup>.

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR A RECORDING SECRETARY** for our PPC and Voters' meetings. We thank Elfrieda Heiden for her service in this way for the past few years. The secretary is asked to be present at all Voters' Meetings of the congregation and at all meetings of the Parish Planning Council and shall enter the minutes of all said groups in a permanent record book. Please speak to Tim Roth if you are able to serve in this way.



**MISSION PRAYER:** Rev. Mao Saron is the Pastor of Tbong Khumum Lutheran Church and serves on the Board Directors of Cambodia Lutheran Church. **Prayer:** Heavenly Father, as Your Son sent forth His Church to make disciples in all nations, we lift up before You, Rev. Saron asking You to sustain him by Your Spirit and bless his labours for the sake of the Gospel.

**GIFTS FROM THE HEART:** Give a meaningful gift from the comfort of home with CLWR'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](http://www.clwr.org/GFTH) to learn more. Catalogues are located on the Welcome Desk.

**WE THANK YOU FOR REGISTERING** for our Christmas service. We know that there are those who visit churches on Christmas and who may not register. We are eager to share the Good News of Christ's birth with them. We are hoping to use the parish hall for some extra overflow as a contingency if needed and are asking for volunteers to consider being in God's house, but worshipping in the hall. Please speak to the pastors if you are willing to help in this way.

**WE EXTEND OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** and the hope of the resurrection to the Jasper family, at the death of Lorraine. It is expected that the funeral will be in the new year. We pray that God would comfort this family with His everlasting love and grace.

**WITH MULTIPLE CHRISTMAS SERVICES** it will be necessary to sanitize the pews before each service. With many hands this is a relatively simple task. Our caretaker, Brian Vincent, would love to have your help. Let him know, or let us know in the office, that you can assist with this.

The Oromo congregation also has returned to worship. We will need to sanitize each week, to enable them to be able to worship. They will sanitize after their service. Again, if you can help, please let us know.



**THE NEW OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2022** are available on the tables 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. **Continue to use your current envelopes until December 31<sup>st</sup>, then please use the new envelopes starting January 1<sup>st</sup>, as numbers may have changed.**

**THE JOYOUS SEASON OF CHRISTMAS** is a wonderful time to share your joy and worship of the Newborn King. We continue to hear that many people would consider coming to worship, if only someone would invite them. Of course, this year we don't have the same in-person opportunities as in the past but invite them to join us online. **Our 4:00 pm service will be streamed at [facebook.com/foothillslutheran](https://www.facebook.com/foothillslutheran).** If you cannot watch it live, you can always access it after that time. Our festive services are as follows (**please note that registration is required for all these services**)

- ☆ Dec 24 4:00 pm; 6:00 pm; 11:00 pm - Candlelight Carol Services
- ☆ Dec 25 10:15 am Christmas Day Family Celebration (Communion)  
(also online)
- ☆ Dec 31 6:30 pm New Year's Eve Vespers (Communion) (also online)

**With all the festive services, there will not be a Wednesday service December 22<sup>nd</sup> or December 29<sup>th</sup>.**

### **OUR MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE**

**How do we memorize?** For each verse take two minutes every night and say it through twice, together, or once in the morning and once in the evening." Do this as a family at mealtimes. Do it every day of the week. Repetition is important.

**This week's verse: Ephesians 5:1–2** Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.



Growing  
**FAITH**  
at home

12th December 2021

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

one more powerful is coming

Caring Conversations



SHARE

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

1

What makes you anxious?  
What are you worried about?

2

What is God's promise to us in Philippians 4:6-7? How does this reassure us?



Devotions



READ Daily Bible Readings

<b>S</b>	Luke 3:7-18	One more powerful is coming
<b>M</b>	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Restoration of Israel's remnant
<b>T</b>	Philippians 4:4-7	Rejoice in the Lord always
<b>W</b>	Acts 13:16-31,38-39	Paul preaches about John
<b>T</b>	Acts 17:22-31	Paul speaks of repentance
<b>F</b>	John 15:1-8	Producing fruit in Christ
<b>S</b>	Isaiah 12:2-6	Songs of praise
<b>S</b>	Luke 1:39-55	Mary visits Elizabeth



TALK

Talk about the Bible verse. What word or phrase was important to you as you read these verses?

Rituals and Traditions



PRAY

Lord Jesus, bless us with the Holy Spirit. Make our hearts burn with love for you. Amen.



BLESS

May the Lord Jesus watch over your heart and your mind and give you his peace.

## Advent

Advent is a time for preparing, a time of waiting and watching. We celebrate Advent with the colour BLUE as this communicates the message of hope. Our Christian faith rests on the hope that one day Jesus will come again.

## Creative Response

As a household set aside time during this week to read one or two favourite Christmas stories, share past Christmas memories, and sing Christmas carols.

Sit around your meal table or Christmas tree, light a candle and play Christmas music.

You might also enjoy a cup of hot chocolate and some Christmas treats.



### mealtime prayer

Lord Jesus, bless our home with hope this Advent.  
As we enjoy your gifts, make us ready for your coming again. Amen.

## verse for the week

Do not worry about anything, but pray and ask God for everything you need, always giving thanks. And God's peace, which is so great we cannot understand it, will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7

## Service



Make the gift of service one of your Christmas gifts this year.

Talk together about acts of service that could be offered to different household members. For example, doing the dishes, making a bed, helping prepare a meal, giving a massage, time spent gardening. Have each person select an act of service they could offer to each household member (these don't need to be the same). Write these down on index cards and collate booklets of redeemable 'service vouchers' to give to members of the household at Christmas time.



growministries  
Let your hearts be filled with love

