

Foothills Lutheran Church

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



Second Sunday after Christmas

January 2, 2022

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

Associate Pastor: Eric Moffett
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DPS: Deaconess Miriam Winstanley
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Office Administrator: Carol Kehler
(office@foothillslutheran.com)

Pastor Emeritus: Eldon Ohlinger

A Prayer Upon Entering: O Word Made Flesh, You have made Your home among us. May we receive You with joy. May we be enlightened by Your love. And may we see Your glory revealed in our everyday lives.

O Lord Jesus Christ, make our hearts Your home.

OUR WORSHIP TODAY

ORDER OF SERVICE: Divine Service 4, p. 203

HYMNS:981; 410; 523; 403; 358

FIRST LESSON:..... 1 Kings 3:4-15

EPISTLE LESSON:Ephesians 1:3-14

GOSPEL LESSON:Luke 2:40-52

SERMON: *A Better Place To Be* – Luke 2:40-52

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 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.

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY:

Organist..... Deaconess Miriam Winstanley

Ushers..... Robert Kubke; Heather Sommers

THIS WEEK AT FLC

Monday		Church Office Closed
Tuesday	10:00 am	LifeLight Bible Study
	6:30 pm	Elders
	7:30 pm	Ladies Bible Study
Wednesday	6:30 pm	Midweek Worship
Thursday	1:30 pm	Ladies Bible Study
Saturday	9:00 am	Men's Bible Study
Sunday	10:15 am	Sunday Worship

LAST WEEK AT FLC

Week of:	In-person Attendance	Online Views	Communion
December 24	65/55/27	28	23
December 25	39	12	37
December 26	39	27	

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	Our Budget Goal \$425,000.00
Envelope Gifts Received Last Week	\$19,930.00	
Envelope Gifts Received to Date	\$403,211.95	+/- YTD
Total Offerings Needed to Date	\$425,000.00	-\$21,788.05

**Note: All data includes offerings for Dec 24, 25 and 26.*

Non-Budget and Miscellaneous Gifts: Plate 78.45; Visitor 6.050.00; Parking Revenue 200.00; CLWR 50.00; Lutheran Hour 300.00; LWML 400.00; Organ Fund 10.00; Recoveries 31.47.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR: "Gospel Power for Personal Patience" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz. No one likes to wait! Hear God's promises for impatient people. (Luke 2:40-52) Hear this inspirational message on CHRB 1140 AM at 8:00 am Sunday morning. Streaming audio and podcasts at www.lutheranhour.ca

OUR MEN'S BIBLE STUDY will meet on Saturday, January 8th. We meet at 9:00 am We meet at church, observing COVID protocols, and we wrap up by 10:30. We invite all the men to come and join us. Is there something you would like to study, men?



A NEW FLOWER CHART is posted on the Worship Bulletin Board by Deaconess Miriam's office. We appreciate the gift of fresh flowers to beautify the Lord's altar. We thank Joan Copeland for the work she has been doing in providing flowers on the altar.

MISSION OF THE MONTH: LWML-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.

January 9th we will celebrate LWML Sunday, and during this month we are giving all our members an opportunity to support this work through our Mission of the Month.



MISSION PRAYER: **Rev. Marvin Antonio Donaire** is the current president of the I.L.S.N. He also serves both EL Calvario Lutheran Church and Lutheran Church of God in Jesus Christ in the community of La Joya, Nicaragua. **Prayer:** Heavenly Father, as Your Son sent forth His Church to make disciples in all nations, we lift up before You, Rev. Donaire 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.**

WE HAVE AN AMAZING GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS who diligently work to keep us safe at worship each and every Sunday, without complaint! Thank you to all of you who have stepped up during this pandemic to fill the positions needed to guide our members to their seats safely. We do, however, occasionally have difficulty finding enough volunteers to help with our registration desk and are looking for people who are willing to help. This position can be done alongside someone else or independently. The more volunteers we have, the less work we put on each person. Consider your God given gifts and contact Sarah Knudtson (knudtson.sarah@gmail.com) or the office if you feel called to help.

"FAMILY" BOARD GAMES NIGHT: Join the youth on **Friday, January 14th**, for our annual family board game night! The whole Foothills family is invited to play board games from 7 to 10pm in the Fellowship Hall. Invite a friend, and come prepared to try some new games! Please RVSP to Pastor Eric by the 10th so we have an idea of how many people to set up for.

**DON'T
FORGET:**

HAVE YOU CHECKED YOUR MAILBOX LATELY? We don't want you to miss the information we seek to share. Please check your mailbox—and why not take the mail of someone who hasn't or can't be here. It is a good way of sharing with them and helping them stay connected to the church. If we don't have a mailbox for you, please let the office know.



PLEASE START USING YOUR 2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES. We made some adjustments to the numbers, so your envelope number may have changed. Please **do not** use your old envelopes anymore. God has blessed us to be a blessing, and provides for us, so that we may use His gifts to His glory. If you need offering envelopes, but don't presently have them, please let the office know.

How much should you give? Scripture says: *Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.* (2 Corinthians 9:7 - ESV) But as we look at the Scripture guidelines for giving, we would note that we should:

- **Give regularly** - we should set aside a portion of our income weekly (and yes, even when we are absent) for the work of the Lord's church.
- **Give faithfully** - recognize that it is God who has provided all we have. He entrusts it to us, to be used properly and to His glory. This also includes the fact that we should give first to the Lord, not from the leftovers we have.
- **Give generously** - its not about our fair share or simply giving to the budget. We are to give from our hearts, especially the heart that is overjoyed at knowing the wonderful blessings of God.

May God enable us to be faithful stewards throughout the whole year!

MANY OF OUR MEMBERS HAVE SWITCHED THEIR GIVING to electronic contributions and no longer require offering envelopes. We will order our 2023 offering envelopes in January to take advantage of early order discounts. Please let the church office know if you no longer require offering envelopes and we will adjust our order. If we don't hear from you, we will proceed with ordering envelopes for you. Regardless of the way, may God enable us to be faithful stewards of His gifts first given to us!

Your support in the Lord's work is highly treasured and we are pleased to be able provide you with a pre-authorized alternative of giving. Should you prefer this style of offering, please contact office@foothillslutheran.com. We will provide you with an agreement from the Bank of Montreal where you will be asked to provide your identification and financial institution details. A 'void' cheque is helpful as well. Once this form has been completed, return it to the church office.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED AGAIN TOMORROW. With the busyness of the days, we did want to give our staff a "New Years" break, too. Many things resume Tuesday, so please take note of the activities and be involved in the things we do together!

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.

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: Matthew 5:16. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.



Growing
FAITH
at home

2nd January 2022
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Jesus became human

Caring Conversations



SHARE

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

1

Share about a time when you were amongst people speaking a different language. How did you communicate?

2

John 1:1-2 calls Jesus 'the Word'. What do you think this means?

3

How does God communicate with us? How do you communicate with him?



Devotions



READ Daily Bible Readings

S	John 1:1-18	The Word became flesh
M	1 John 1:1-4	The Word of life
T	Philippians 2:6-11	Jesus became our servant
W	Matthew 2:1-12	Wise men worship Christ the King
T	Isaiah 60:1-6	Nations will come to the light
F	John 8:12-20	Jesus, the light of the world
S	Psalm 72	Kings will present him with gifts
S	Luke 3:15-17, 21-22	The baptism of Jesus



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,
light of the world,
shine through me
this day. Amen.



BLESS

Child of God,
may the light of
Jesus shine in
your heart, today
and forever.
Amen.

Christmas

WHITE is the colour of purity, light and completeness.

It is used at Christmas to celebrate Jesus' purity and glory as the Son of God and the joy we find in him.

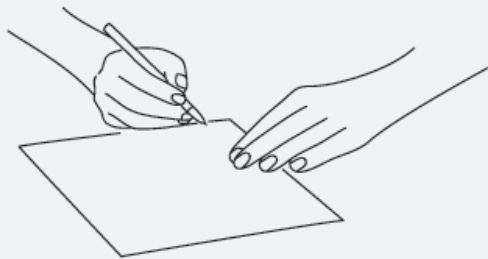
Creative Response

Jesus has been called 'God's love letter' to the world.

As part of your home devotion times this week, have each household member compose a short letter to God (if you have young children in your home, help by writing down their words).

Share your letters with one another.

Say a prayer of thanks for God's communication with us in and through Jesus.



mealtime prayer

Lord Jesus, make our home your home.
Bless our food and our sharing, so that we
may bless others. Amen.

verse for the week

The Word became a human being and lived here with us. We saw his true glory, the glory of the only son of the Father. From him all the kindness and all the truth of God have come down to us.

JOHN 1:14

Service



Sometimes people use the phrase 'We are Jesus' hands and feet'. How can you show someone the love of Jesus this week? Think of something you could do for someone else, and let them know Jesus loves them.



Grow Ministries
Let your words & actions matter

