

# Foothills Lutheran Church

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



## *Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost* *August 20, 2023*

<b>Senior Pastor:</b> David Bode (flcpastor@foothillslutheran.com)	<b>DPS:</b> Deaconess Miriam Winstanley (miriam@foothillslutheran.com)
<b>Associate Pastor:</b> Eric Moffett (flcpastoreric@foothillslutheran.com)	<b>Office Administrator:</b> Carol Kehler (office@foothillslutheran.com)
<b>Pastor Emeritus:</b> Eldon Ohlinger	

**A Prayer Upon Entering:** Keep us constant in our prayers to You, O Lord. Prepare us for answers we may not expect. Provide us with solutions that strengthen and inspire us. And give us, at last, the greatest gift of all--Your presence with us always.

*Ever-present Lord, listen to our prayers.*

### **OUR WORSHIP TODAY**

**ORDER OF SERVICE:** ..... Devine Service Setting 1, p. 151

**HYMNS:** .....901; 935; 779; 613; 832; 615; 620

**FIRST LESSON:**..... Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

**EPISTLE LESSON:** ..... Romans 11:1-2a, 13-15, 28-32

**GOSPEL LESSON:** .....Matthew 15:21-28

**SERMON:** *No, Nothing Has Changed* – Matthew 15:21-28

**WELCOME:** If you come as a visitor today, we hope you will leave as a friend. Whether you are a newcomer to the community or to our church, we are honoured to have you here. If you are a member of this congregation, please be sure to extend a warm greeting and a friendly welcome to our sisters and brothers in Christ. Speak to someone you don't know before you speak to someone you know.

**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](mailto:financials@foothillslutheran.com). Since the banks are changing the ways they provide information to us, **please ensure you include your name and/or envelope number in the message box.**

Offering plates are at the door, both before and after service, for those who want to give their offerings in God's house. These will be brought to the altar during the service.

In all things, let us remember that we give from the bounty that our Lord first bestows upon us. Thanks be to Him for every good and perfect gift!

**SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY**

Ushers..... Anne Marie Kothari; Ellen Wagner  
Lector ..... Heather Sommers  
AV Operators ..... Ralf Hinterleitner; Evan Stene

**THIS WEEK AT FLC**

<b>Tuesday</b>	7:00 pm	Ladies Walk/Devotion
<b>Wednesday</b>	6:30 pm	Midweek Worship
<b>Thursday</b>	1:30 pm	Ladies Bible Study
<b>Sunday</b>	10:15 am	Morning Worship

**IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:**

*In Hospital:*

*Homebound:*

*For Special Intercession:*

*Family Focus:*

**THE LUTHERAN HOUR: "The Latest Polls"** Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus. What people think about something--that's a poll. What that something actually is--that's the truth. (Matthew 21:8-11 and Luke 23:23-25). Hear this inspirational message on CHRB 1140 at 8:00 Sunday morning. Streaming audio and podcasts are available at [www.lutheranhour.ca](http://www.lutheranhour.ca).

**MISSION OF THE MONTH: MUSTARD SEED**

The Mustard Seed is a Christian non-profit organization that has been caring for individuals experiencing homelessness and poverty since 1984. Operating in five cities across Alberta and British Columbia, The Mustard Seed is a supportive haven where people can have their physical, mental, and spiritual needs met and grow toward greater health and independence. We have served dinners in the past, but your gift always offers care to someone in need.

**PASTOR AND BRENDA BODE** will be on vacation August 21<sup>st</sup> – August 28<sup>th</sup>. Pastor will return to the office on August 29<sup>th</sup>.

## LAST WEEK AT FLC

<b>Week of:</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Wednesday/Communion</b>
August 13	117	14/14

\* Attendance includes online participants.

### OUR STEWARDSHIP OF GOD'S GIFTS

Weekly Offering Needs	\$8,288.46	<b>Our Budget Goal</b>
Envelope Gifts Received Last Week	\$3,025.00	
Envelope Gifts Received to Date	\$214,074.00	<b>+/- YTD</b>
<b>Total Offerings Needed to Date</b>	<b>\$273,519.23</b>	<b>-\$59,445.23</b>

**Non-Budget/ Miscellaneous Gifts:** Plate 30.00; Visitor 340.00; Facility Rentals 250.00; CLWR 25.00; LWML 25.00; Mustard Seed 105.00; IMPACT Youth Gathering 675.00; Flowers 25.00; Youth 14.40; Office Recovery 124.75.



**JOIN US FOR OUR MIDWEEK SUMMER SERVICES**, especially if you are travelling and can't be with us on Sunday morning. Jesus called the Word the one thing needful. Don't forsake the spiritual food that we need so desperately; come and worship on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. It's a great midweek lift, too! The sermons are different from Sunday. Communion is offered the Wednesday after the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month.

**FROM THE BOARD OF FELLOWSHIP:** Are you bringing, or planning to bring treats to help with fellowship at coffee time? Fantastic! We have one request. If you bring in goodies to share, kindly either bring them in already arranged on a plate or platter ready to be set out on the table or spend some time in the kitchen yourself before church to lay out your treats on the church dishes as needed for your treat. Unfortunately, we only have a couple of people in the kitchen before church and they already have many tasks to perform, and they can end up missing a lot of the service with last minute drop-offs. Thank you for your cooperation and thank you for your donations!



**VBS UPDATE:** Sixty-two children participated in "Loved by God", our 2023 VBS. We give thanks to God for them, and for the 35 volunteers and staff who made it possible to offer VBS again this year. A full report will be included in our next newsletter!

**PLANS FOR OUR FALL CONFIRMATION PROGRAM** have begun. We have sent letters to returning students and to those we hope will be enrolled this year. If you have not received a letter and believe your child should be in Confirmation, please contact the pastors or Deaconess Miriam. Confirmation is an important part of our spiritual growth, and we hope all our families will find the blessing of growing through the study of God's Word.



**CHILDREN'S CHOIR REBOOT?** Some interest has been expressed through VBS in a Children's Choir. If you would be interested in having your children age 4 through 11 participate in a regular time of singing and learning about music, please contact Deaconess Miriam.

**AS STUDENTS PREPARE TO RETURN TO UNIVERSITY** it is a good time to remind you of our *Parking Policy for Student Parking*. Using some of our spaces for student parking has always been a benefit to students but cannot impede the work we do as a church. We have established the following guidelines:

- A Priority Qualified Student ("PQS") is allowed a parking space at no charge. A PQS is a student attending the University of Calgary who is an active, communicant member of the church. (They attend and commune regularly.)
- A Qualified Student ("QS") is a student that is a member of Foothills Lutheran Church who is not active; however, their parents or grandparents are active as described above. A qualified student will be granted parking privileges at half the public rate (\$200.00 per semester).
- Remaining spaces (there is a limit of 32 available in total) will be rented to those who apply, at a cost of \$400.00 per semester.

**BLESSED BY GOD**, we seek to use those blessings in service to Him and to one another. Our financial stewardship has fallen off a fair bit in the past months. We believe this is complicated by problems that have arisen as a result of email problems outside our control. Summer is always a slow time financially, but we do encourage you to remember the needs of God's church, as we respond in thanksgiving to the gifts He has first given to us.



**MISSION PRAYER:** This week, we pray for Rev. Guillermo Zùniga who serves as pastor in the Lutheran Church Jesus Christ King of Kings in the City of Granada.

**Prayer:** Heavenly Father, as Your Son sent forth His Church to make disciples in all nations, we lift up before You, Pastor Zùniga, 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.

**SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES:** From ushering to hosting coffee; serving as greeters or as counters/financial stewards, there are many ways of serving the Lord and His people as we use our gifts together. Sunday School will soon begin again, and there are opportunities to serve through this ministry to children. God has given each and every one of us a gift to be used, as St. Paul says, "for the common good." (1 Corinthians 12:7, ESV) How is God calling you to serve?



***THE SUMMER GOES BY SO QUICKLY!*** Before we know it, we will be back to our regular fall schedule.

Various Bible studies will begin, as will Sunday School. Our Tuesday morning LifeLight study will begin and Pastor Bode is still hoping to resume the Thursday bible study in his home, following LifeLight as well. Sunday School, Youth Bible Study, and Confirmation begin Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>! Sunday School begins at 9:00 am with opening being held downstairs. Watch your bulletin and newsletter for more information on classes, meetings and the ‘regular’ activities of our congregation.

Other things that begin early in September:

- August 28<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm Confirmation Families meet
- August 29<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm Board of Education meets
- September 9<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am Men’s Bible Study
- September 10<sup>th</sup> Rally Day
- September 12<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am LifeLight Bible Study

***AS STUDENTS MOVE AWAY FOR SCHOOL,*** or move to Calgary for their studies, we want to encourage them in their spiritual life. If you, or someone you know, is moving to another city for study, please share that with Pastor Eric. We’ll try to get them connected with a local church. If you know a student moving to Calgary, let him know that, too, so we can reach out to them and invite them to join us.

***LEARNING FROM THE CATECHISM: The First Article***

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

*What does this mean?*

I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

Luther. (2017). Luther’s Small Catechism with Explanation (p. 133). Concordia Publishing House.



## Growing FAITH at home

20 August 2023

TWELFTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST  
– PROPER 15

## FAITH IN JESUS



Grow Ministries  
LGA CHILD YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY



[www.growministries.org.au](http://www.growministries.org.au)



## CONVERSATIONS

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

1. Name someone you know who has a great faith. Why do you say that about them?
2. Share ways you can help each other to have a great faith.



## BIBLE READINGS

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

1st reading

### **Genesis 45:1-15**

Joseph makes  
himself known

2nd reading

### **Romans 11:1-32**

God saves Jews  
and Gentiles

Gospel reading

### **Matthew 15:10-28**

A woman's faith

## DISCUSS

Jesus said that the Canaanite woman who came to him had 'great faith' (Matthew 15:21-28). How did she show her faith?



### ACTION RESPONSE

The Canaanite woman who came to Jesus for help wasn't made very welcome by his disciples (Matt 15:23). Are newcomers welcomed at your church? What part do you play in welcoming others? Plan a way to make someone who is relatively new to your church feel more at home, or offer to serve as part of your congregation's greeting/welcoming ministry.



### PRAYER

Father God, thank you for sending us your Holy Spirit to help us have faith in you. Give us courage to live out our faith and share it with others. Amen.



### MEALTIME PRAYER

Lord, we give you praise and gratitude, for food and drink and family too. And also for a roof above, but most of all for your great love. Amen.



### BLESSING

May God show loving kindness towards you and make his face shine upon you.

JESUS ANSWERED,  
"WOMAN, YOU HAVE GREAT FAITH!  
YOUR REQUEST IS GRANTED."

MATTHEW 15:28

VERSE OF THE WEEK

