

Foothills Lutheran Church

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

Well done
Thou good and faithful servant

M A T T H E W 2 5 : 2 1

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 19, 2023

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

A Prayer Upon Entering: We thank you this day for all the talents and abilities you have given us, O Lord. Help us to see all the ways that we can use our gifts to your glory. Give us the courage to use the gifts you have given us whenever we have the opportunity to share them. And help us to shape and sharpen our skills into what you want them to be.

O Giver of all that is good, work through us to bring blessings to others.

OUR WORSHIP TODAY

ORDER OF SERVICE:Service of Prayer and Preaching, p. 260
.....Service of Holy Communion
HYMNS:516; 411; 336; 655; 627; 730
FIRST LESSON:.....Zephaniah 1:7-16
EPISTLE LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
GOSPEL LESSON:Matthew 25:14-30
SERMON: *Until That Day...* (1 Thessalonians 5:1-11)

WELCOME in the powerful and precious name of Jesus! We invite you to pray with us; sing with us; learn from God's Word with us. We are glad that you have joined us, and we hope you will come again. Please take a moment to sign our guest book at the back of the church. May God richly bless your worship here today!

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.

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!

THE FLOWERS which beautify our altar today are given to the glory of God by Vi Dusterhoft in loving memory of her husband, Otto.

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Organist..... Deaconess Miriam Winstanley
 Ushers..... Anne Marie Kothari; Ellen Wagner
 Acolyte..... Emmy Legroulx
 Lector Christine Heumann
 Coffee Team..... Knudtson Family
 AV OperatorsSacha Kiefer; Derek Kiefer

THIS WEEK AT FLC

Today		Pot Blessing Luncheon
Tuesday	10:00 am	LifeLight
	7:30 pm	Ladies Bible Study
Wednesday	6:30 pm	Midweek Worship
Thursday	1:30 pm	Ladies Bible Study
	6:00 pm	Children’s Choir
Friday	7:00 pm	Youth Bowling
Sunday	9:00 am	Education Hour
	10:15 am	Worship

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

In Hospital:

Homebound:

For Special Intercession:

Family Focus:

SUNDAY SCHOOL: “To a New Generation” is the title of this week’s Bible lesson. Paul writes this instructive letter to his spiritual son, Timothy. As the pastor of the Church in Ephesus, young Timothy relies on Paul’s experience and advice. Paul’s words to Timothy encourage all believers in Christ: “The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost” (1 Timothy 1:15).

THE LUTHERAN HOUR: "Until that Day" Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Anthony (Tony) Cook. No one knows when Christ will return. Until that day, we live in certain uncertainty (1 Thessalonians 5:1-11). Hear this inspirational message on CHRB 1140 AM at 8:00 and/or CJLI-The Light-700 AM at 9:30 Sunday mornings. Streaming audio and podcasts are available at www.lutheranhour.ca.

LAST WEEK AT FLC

Week of:	Sunday	Education Hour	Wednesday
November 12	128	9	11/11

**Attendance includes online participation.*

OUR STEWARDSHIP OF GOD'S GIFTS

Weekly Offering Needs	\$8,288.46	Our Budget Goal
Envelope Gifts Received Last Week	\$5,175.00	
Envelope Gifts Received to Date	\$300,264.95	+/- YTD
Total Offerings Needed to Date	\$381,269.23	-\$81,004.28

Non-Budget/ Miscellaneous Gifts: Plate 61.00; Visitor 95.00; FLSR 500.00; Inn from the Cold 40.00.

FROM THE BOARD OF FELLOWSHIP: Do you like to bake or is there a favorite cookie that the grocery store has? We are running low on treats to have with coffee and fellowship after the service. If you are interested in helping, please drop off your goodies in the kitchen and we can put them in the cupboard or freezer. Any questions? Contact Sarah Knudtson or Heather Sommers.



MISSION OF THE MONTH: INN FROM THE COLD

Inn from the Cold started when several downtown churches met to decide how to help the homeless. It provides shelter and hope to homeless families and others in need. Families and single people are housed in the permanent facility (purchased in 2008) or churches, community centres, etc. Many families come to the Inn with nothing but the clothes on their backs. We are asking for donations again this year to support this organization in meeting the needs of their guests this Christmas season. Donated items can be placed in the box marked Inn from the Cold and is located outside the library doors. Please note they no longer accept any handmade items, only new purchased ones.

PURDY'S CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER: To help support youth group trips like the 2025 National Youth Gathering, we will be selling chocolates from Purdy's, and they will be delivered in time for Christmas! You can order online at <https://fundraising.purdys.com/26420-107953> and pay with a credit card. The order/payment deadline is **November 26**. Orders will be available for pick up on Sunday, December 10. Thank you for your support!

A SPECIAL VOTERS MEETING will be held on **December 3rd** to approve the budget to proceed to renovate the church kitchen. The meeting will be after the service. The PPC has approved a \$200,000 budget for this project. This is a major effort, and we appreciate your input. Information will be on the Welcome Desk.

LWMLC FOOTHILLS SOCIETY is meeting on **Monday, November 27**, from 1 to 3pm, in the Fellowship Hall for a Bible Study, followed by a short business meeting. All ladies are welcome!



Friday, December 8, 2-4pm - Advent Tea at the Manor - singing Christmas carols, sharing memories of Christmas' past and enjoying goodies. Everyone is welcome. For more info, contact Jutta Colhoun at jvc_mymail@yahoo.ca or 403-280-0980.

THE NEW OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2024 will be available soon. As we draw near to the end of the year, we want to use the blessings God provides to complete the work we do together through our tithes and offerings. God has blessed us to be a blessing, and provides for us, so that we may use His gifts to His glory. We encourage your faithful stewardship. If you need a set of offering envelopes, please let the office know **OR** if you wish to contribute via Interact transactions, in which case you will no longer need a set of envelopes, please let the office know before December 1st.



OUR ADVENT MIDWEEK SERVICES: *Beyond the Cliches*

You will see the words *Faith, Hope, Love* together in so many places. The Bible links them in that great “love chapter” of Scripture: ***So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.*** (1 Corinthians 13:13 - ESV)

People often speak of faith hope and love apart from the Lord who comes to save us. These words often become clichés—tied to greeting cards and warm, fuzzy sentimentalism, without any real promise or power behind them. In our Advent services we will look beyond the clichés, and see how true faith, hope and love are tied to the coming of our gracious Saviour.

We hope you will join us for these special services, which will also be online. We hope to have soup suppers, if we have volunteers to provide the soup, and these would begin at 5:30 pm each week. Worship begins at 6:30 pm so all our families can participate. Be with us, as we join in fellowship in worship and at the table, as we share our hope and joy together.

PLEASE CHECK THE DOORS! We had a door left ajar, creating a security risk for our building. It only takes a moment to ensure that a locked door has locked and latched properly. Please help us protect and care for the building; if you enter or exit through a locked door, we ask that you make sure the door closes properly. A quick pull on the handle will help you know the door is locked again! We also remind you of the need to practice vigilance with your possessions. Please do not to leave valuables such as keys in coat pockets in the narthex. Our extra care can prevent loss or inconvenience, especially in these hectic days.

ADVENT TEA AND TALENT NIGHT: All are invited to participate in our second annual Advent Tea and Talent Night **Saturday, December 9th at 6:30 pm.** Share your talents by reading a poem, telling jokes, displaying artwork, performing a skit with your family, doing a gymnastics or ballet routine, telling

jokes, playing an instrument, singing, or whatever your gift is! All for fun and fellowship. Please bring ½ dozen of your favourite cookies or squares to share. Sign up on the Fellowship Board or contact Sarah Knudtson.

GIFTS FROM THE HEART: When communities are devastated by disaster, drought, etc., your gifts provide life-saving support to help families begin to recover. Everywhere the Canadian Lutheran World Relief works, the response is guided by the voices of the people they serve. Visit www.clwr.org/GFTH to learn more. Catalogues are available on the Welcome Desk.

MISSION PRAYER NICARAGUA: 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.**



PASSING THE PLATE: The psalmist says: *“Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts!”* (Psalm 96:8, ESV)

Those words of the psalmist remind us that giving our offerings is an act of worship. Our gifts, which come from His gifts to us, show our trust of His goodness and declare our thanks to Him. They remind us that God is worthy of our praise and worship. We use them to rejoice in the glory He has made known to us, especially that glory of salvation in Christ.

During the days of COVID isolation and our concerns about transmission of that disease, we made the careful and wise decision to leave the offering plates by the doors, rather than “passing the plate”. We know that many of our members have changed their giving to e-transfers and online giving. Yet there are also those who miss the act of receiving offerings in our worship.

The elders have discussed this and have made the decision to begin receiving our offerings in the service. We believe that this act of worship will also help us think of our stewardship of God’s gifts in a positive light.

The past few months have been hard months for us financially. Stewardship has fallen off substantially. Our online giving has dropped even more. We thank our members for their support of this church. We thank God for all His gifts to us. We encourage your faithful stewardship and pray that God will continue to bless us as we use His gifts to His glory.



Growing FAITH at home

19 November 2023

TWENTY-FIFTH
SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST –
PROPER 28

USING OUR GOD-GIVEN GIFTS AND TALENTS



growministries
LCA CHILD YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY



LUTHERAN
CHURCH
OF AUSTRALIA

where love comes to life

www.growministries.org.au



CONVERSATIONS

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

1. What is a talent?
2. What can stop us from using our talents?



BIBLE READINGS

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



DISCUSS

In what ways you are using your talents to serve God? What does God promise to those who use their talents well (Matthew 25:29)?



ACTION RESPONSE

Think of a person in your congregation or community who is developing or using their God-given gifts and talents, and whom you would like to encourage. Write them an encouragement note or prepare an encouraging gift for them.



PRAYER

Lord God, teach us to wisely use all the time we have, help us to be faithful servants who make the most of your gifts. Amen.



MEALTIME PRAYER

For food and drink and happy days we offer up our thanks and praise. Amen.



BLESSING

Child of light, may God bless you with faith, hope and love, this day and always.

ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER AND
BUILD EACH OTHER UP.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:11A

VERSE OF THE WEEK

