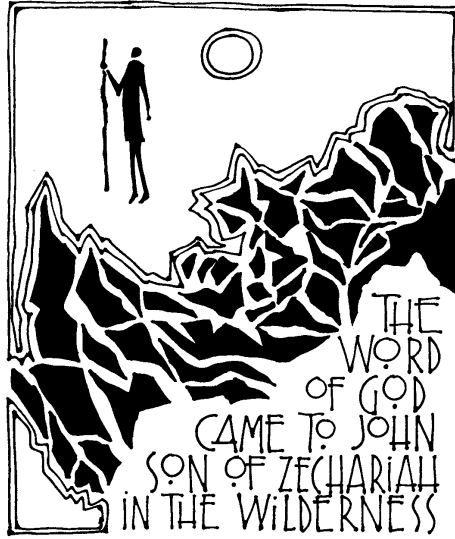


Foothills Lutheran Church

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

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:30 am-1:00 pm.

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



L U K E 3 : 2

Second Sunday in Advent

December 8, 2024

Education Hour.....	9:00 am
Morning Worship (Holy Communion: 1 st , 3 rd and 5 th Sundays)	10:15 am
Wednesday Evening Worship.....	6:30 pm

Senior Pastor: David Bode – flcpastor@foothillslutheran.com

Associate Pastor: Eric Moffett – flcpastoreric@foothillslutheran.com

DPS: Deaconess Miriam Winstanley – miriam@foothillslutheran.com

Office Administrator: Amber Myers – office@foothillslutheran.com

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Eldon Ohlinger

A Prayer Upon Entering: Come to us, O Christ, and smooth out the rough spots in our lives. Fill in the empty spaces with Your love. And even out all the crooked pathways in our lives, so that we may be led straight to You.

O Christ, our Leader and Redeemer, be our constant companion on the road of life.

OUR WORSHIP TODAY

ORDER OF SERVICE:As projected

HYMNS: Here I am to Worship; Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone);
..... Always; All the Earth Will Sing Your Praises; One Thing Remains

FIRST LESSON:.....Malachi 3:1-7b

EPISTLE LESSON:.....Philippians 1: 2-11

GOSPEL LESSON:Luke 3:1-14

SERMON:

A JOYOUS WELCOME to all who worship here this morning. May you find forgiveness and strengthening through God's Word and promise. If you are visiting, please honour us by signing our guest book at the back of the church. If there is any way we can be of service to you, please speak to the pastor or one of the elders. If you have no church home of your own, please consider making Foothills your church.

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.

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.

PASTOR ERIC HAS RECEIVED A CALL to serve as pastor of St. John Lutheran Church, Vernon, BC. Please keep him in your prayers, as well as St. John and Foothills, that he may know the Lord's will for him and His church.

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Music..... Contemporary Musicians; Men’s Chorus
 Ushers.....Robert Kubke; Tobi Stene
 Acolyte Maliyah Chan
 Lector Christine Heumann
 AV Operator.....Eden/Paxton Knudtson
 Coffee Team.....Hannah Eden; Robb McLean; Jessica Tonn; Christian Kuhl
 Greeters Christine Heumann; Bill MacLeish

THIS WEEK AT FLC

Monday	6:30 pm	Elder’s Meeting
	6:30 pm	Sunday School Meeting
Tuesday	10:00 am	LifeLight Bible Study
	7:30 pm	Ladies Bible Study
Wednesday	6:30 pm	Advent Worship/Communion
	7:30 pm	PPC Meeting
Thursday	1:30 pm	Ladies Bible Study
	6:00 pm	Children’s Choir
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir
	7:00 pm	
Friday		Youth @ OCC?
Saturday	10:00 am	Children’s Christmas Practice
Sunday	9:00 am	Education Hour
	10:15 am	Worship

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

In Hospital:

Homebound:

For Special Intercession

Family Focus:

ADVENT DEVOTIONS FROM LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES, in regular and large print are available to you on the Welcome Desk. May this help you in your Advent preparation.

LAST WEEK AT FLC

Week of	Sunday/Communed	Education Hour	Wednesday
December 1	137/112	41	23

**Attendance includes online participation.*

OUR STEWARDSHIP OF GOD'S GIFTS

Weekly Offering Needs	\$7,404.00	Our Budget Goal
Envelope Gifts Received Last Week	\$5,785.00	
Envelope Gifts Received to Date	\$328,540.00	+/- YTD
Total Offerings Needed to Date	\$355,384.62	

Non-Budget/Miscellaneous Gifts: Plate 180.00; Visitor 250.00; Sunday School 10.00; Lutheran Hospital Ministries 20.00; LWML 25.00; Youth Gathering Fund 45.00.



THE JOYOUS SEASON OF CHRISTMAS is a wonderful time to share your joy and worship of the Newborn King. We know many people would consider coming to worship, if only someone would invite them. Will you

invite someone to share the good news of the Saviour born to save us, with others?

Our festive services are as follows:

- ☆ Dec 24 Candlelight Carol Services at 4:00 pm; 6:00 pm; 11:00 pm.
(Communion at 11:00 pm)
- ☆ Dec 25 10:15 am Christmas Day Family Celebration (Communion)
- ☆ Dec. 31 6:30 pm New Years' Eve Service with Holy Communion.

OUR ADVENT MIDWEEK SERVICES: How Did They Get in There?

Join us this Wednesday as we continue our look at three of the women in the Saviour's family tree. This week we look at Ruth, the foreigner who found a home among God's people. We worship at 6:30 pm.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: The lesson this week is "An Angel Announces." Mary receives an angelic announcement telling her that, despite her virginity, she will give birth to the long-awaited Savior. The child in Elizabeth's womb leaps within her when the mother of the promised Messiah approaches. Elizabeth rejoices in the reaction and welcomes Mary to stay with her for a time. Mary's song of praise, the Magnificat, resounds in the Church to this day.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR GREETERS to welcome people here at Foothills. Please contact Barb Vincent at (403) 590-7975 or barbaraann@shaw.ca.

OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN'S SERVICE will be part of our worship on Sunday, **December 15th**. Over the next few weeks, the children will be preparing for their part in our worship that day. Please keep the children and the teachers in your prayers, as they prepare to share the good news of the Saviour's birth with us in this special part of our Christmas celebration.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR: December 15 "Sorrow Welcomed Here"

The church welcomes people, but does it also welcome their problems? Dr. Michael Zeigler says the church should be a place that makes room for both joy and sorrow. (Zephaniah 3:14-20) Hear this inspirational message on CHR 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.



PRAYER VIGIL: December 31 – January 1 As a congregation we are anticipating some changes and transitions in 2025. The Foothills Direction Committee asks you to join together in prayer for God's guidance and wisdom as we look to the future. Please sign up for our Prayer Vigil, either on the bulletin board next to Deaconess Miriam's office, or online at: bit.ly/2024prayervigil The vigil will begin at 6:00 am on

December 31 and run to 6:00 pm on January 1. Don't worry if more than one person is signed up for the same slot! We will provide you with some prayer resources for your encouragement.

HELP US PREPARE SOME "CHRISTMAS HAMPERS" for those in need. To make this practical and simple, we are planning to collect gift cards. We will give these to families in need within our congregation, as well as those outside our congregation. If you would like to help with this, simply bring a card of your choice (groceries are most practical) and leave it in the office or with one of the staff. Please bring the cards by **December 8, 2024**.

THE BLESSINGS TREE IS BACK! Have you noticed it in the narthex? If you would like to bless someone with a gift this Christmas there are 2 ways to do that. Take a yellow note off the tree, purchase your gift, write the name on the note of who it is to be delivered to, and leave it in the office. OR, purchase your gift, bring it to church and attach a note to it, then leave it in the office. There were so many people who were surprised with a gift last year that it brought joy to my heart when I was delivering them. If you have any questions, please contact me. Blessings to all of you and your families this season - may it be one of peace and joy! *Christine Heumann*

PURDY'S FUNDRAISER UPDATE: Thank you to those who supported our youth by buying chocolates for activities like the NYG in 2025! We were able to raise \$929.11, and it will help our youth have once in a lifetime faith experiences to build their relationship with Jesus. Your orders should be ready for pick up on December 15. Contact Sarah Knudtson if you need to make other arrangements.

FOOTHILLS DIRECTION SURVEY RESULTS Thank you to all of you who submitted surveys on the future direction of our church. We have compiled the surveys and will be presenting the results to our members shortly. We will also present the results and give members a chance to provide additional feedback at a couple of town hall meetings that will be scheduled in the New Year.

ARE YOU A HANDY PERSON? The church is currently without a person to run our **Church Properties Board**. Please contact Dale Dusterhoft if you have an interest in this position, or if you just want to help with some one-off projects that need to be completed at various times. There are often small tasks that need to be completed around the church or the student residence that we could use some short-term volunteer help on.

MISSION OF THE MONTH: LUTHERAN HOSPITAL MINISTRIES

Through Lutheran Hospital Ministries of Southern Alberta, trained visitors give support to Lutheran patients in Calgary hospitals and care centres through compassionate listening, prayer and Scripture. Visitors are always needed, and regular training is scheduled. Your gift helps provide the resources and staffing that makes this ministry a blessing to those in the hospital and care centres of our area.

AFTER SEVEN YEARS OF SERVICE to the Lord and His Church, our office administrator, Carol Kehler has retired. We have been very blessed through her service to our congregation and thank her for her work on our behalf.

We are pleased to welcome Amber Myers into the office as Carol's successor. We know that you will get to know Amber in the coming months, and we are grateful for the work of our elders in arranging this new staff person. God's blessings to you both, Carol and Amber!

THE MAINSPRINGS PREGNANCY AND FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER supports pregnant women and their families. As they prepare to collect for their Christmas Client Care Project, we encourage you to donate some of the items needed. A list is on the Fellowship bulletin board. You can drop off items with Heather Sommers. **New items only, please.**



Growing
FAITH
at home

SECOND
SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

YEAR B

Now is the time
to prepare the
way of the Lord



growministries
LCA CHILD YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY



www.growministries.org.au



CONVERSATIONS

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

1. Talk about how you have been comforted during a time of need.
2. Tell about a time you have felt God's comfort in your life.
3. Mark 1:1 speaks of the beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ. Reflect on how this good news is filled with the comfort of God's love and forgiveness.



BIBLE READINGS

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

S	Mark 1:1-8	The beginning of the good news
M	Isaiah 40:1-11	Comfort my people
T	2 Peter 3:8-15a	Promise of the Lord's coming
W	1 John 4:16-21	God is love
T	1 Timothy 1:12-17	Gratitude for God's mercy
F	Malachi 3:1-4	God promises a messenger
S	Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13	A prayer for God's peace

VERSE OF THE WEEK

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

ISAIAH 40:3



CREATIVE RESPONSE

As a household decorate and number enough envelopes for each day left before Christmas.

String them on a ribbon or cord and hang it up.

Place a symbol, Bible verse or small treasure (e.g. an ornament, or lolly) in each envelope and seal it.

Take turns opening a packet each day.

The anticipation grows as the line of packages decreases and Christmas approaches.



ACTION RESPONSE

We can share God's message of love with others by doing deeds of kindness.

Using card or other materials, make a "road" to attach to a wall in your home. Write the words of Mark 1:3 on your road. As your household journeys through the second week of Advent, use sticky notes to record any acts of service you perform. Attach these notes to your road. Pray that your acts of service may help others to see and know Jesus.



MEALTIME PRAYER

God our Saviour, thank you for this food and all who prepared it. Help us to prepare the way for you. Amen.



PRAYER

Lord God, make us ready to be your messengers of comfort, love, and forgiveness through Christ our Lord. Amen.



BLESSING

May the God of love and comfort, fill you with the good news of Jesus Christ and give you peace.