



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

2100 16th Street SW, Austin, MN 55912

Worship: 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School and Bible Class: 10:30 a.m.

Pastor Theodore W. Barthels

Phone: 507-433-1957

Cell: 507-219-2517

Church Office:

Phone: 507-433-8191

Worship Services broadcast on Austin Cable Channel 6, M & W, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Affiliated with
CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION

[HTTP://stpaulclcaustin.wordpress.com](http://stpaulclcaustin.wordpress.com)

www.CLclutheran.org

www.ilc.edu/home.htm

PRE-SERVICE PRAYER: Heavenly Father, in this Advent season it is time once again to prepare our hearts for the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Grant us the grace of Your Holy Spirit, that as we hear Your Word the Spirit may work in our hearts that we may come before You in true repentance, confessing our sin, and trusting in Jesus for full and free forgiveness. As we prepare to celebrate His birth, ready our hearts for His return that we may live before you for all eternity, in Jesus' name. Amen.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE: p. 5 (387:1,5)

HYMNS: 20, 66; 65; 377:10

THE EPISTLE LESSON: Revelation 1:4-8

Jesus is the eternal God with God the Father and the Holy Spirit, who has revealed the truth of salvation to us through the complete and inspired Scripture. The Son came down to earth as our Savior and He has washed us from our sins in His own blood. He has made us kings and priests to reign with Him. This same Jesus shall come again in glory and every eye shall see Him. Sadly, people around the globe shall mourn at His coming, for He is the eternal God!

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 1:68-79

Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist, was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied of our salvation in Jesus Christ at the time of John's naming. His first words in over nine months were in praise of God, who has visited and redeemed His people! God fulfills His covenant of grace, that in Christ Jesus we are delivered from our enemies. John the Baptist was to prepare the way before Him. Let us hear him, that our feet may be guided in the way of peace.

THE SERMON: Isaiah 61:1-3

Theme: Jesus Comes with Purpose

I. He Comes with Divine Purpose

II. He comes with Spiritual Purpose

III. He Comes with an Effective Purpose

CALENDAR

TODAY: Sunday School and Bible Class follow the service this morning.

WEDNESDAY: Midweek advent services begin. Soup and sandwich supper begins serving at 6:00 p.m. Advent meditation begins at 7:00.

NEXT SUNDAY: Worship at 9:30. Sunday school (CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICE) and Bible class will follow the service. Sermon text: 1 Timothy 6:11-16.

FUTURE DATES TO REMEMBER

December 11, 18: Midweek Advent services. Soup and Sandwich Supper begins serving at 6:00 p.m. Advent meditation begins at 7:00.

December 15: Congregation Christmas fellowship and church decorating follow the service.

December 20: ILC Christmas Concert presented at Messiah Lutheran Church beginning at 7:30 p.m.

December 24: Christmas Eve Children's Program is scheduled for 6:00 p.m.

December 25: Christmas Festival Worship at 9:30 a.m.

December 31: New Year's Eve worship with holy communion at 7:00 p.m.

SERVING TODAY

Organist: Denise Barthels

Ushers: Arnie Ottjes, Joe Ubl, Norm Schwartz, Phil Egtvedt

Cleaning: Egtvedt

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL:

Attendance November 24 Worship – 28 Bible class – 10

Sunday school – 5 Thanksgiving attendance -- 37

Weekly Offerings Needed	\$ 1,045.00	Other Offerings / Memorials	
Offerings Received	476.80		
Needed for Year:	48,060.00		
Received for Year:	40,771.55		

CHRISTMAS BAGS DONATIONS. Each Christmas Eve approximately 60 bags of fruit, nuts and candy and are given out to children and guests and families at the Christmas Eve service. Each year we endeavor to fund this custom without using our general operating funds. Your generous gifts make this possible. Donations for this purpose will be received for the next three Sundays in the designated basket in the narthex.

CLC NEWS: The 2013 **ILC Christmas Concert** is scheduled for **7:30 p.m., Friday, December 20** at Messiah Lutheran Church in Eau Claire, WI. The students in the choir are currently preparing to sing the famous and familiar "**Hallelujah Chorus**" from Handel's "Messiah". But not to sing it alone! The present plan is to include in the singing of that triumphant piece those in the assembly who are interested in participating. If you are planning to attend the concert and would like to sing along from your place in the pews, you are asked to bring with you a copy of the score. A downloadable version (from the choral public domain library) is available at the following address:

<http://www0.cpd.org/wiki/images/sheet/han-m42c.pdf>

BIBLE READING PLAN: This 3 year plan devised by one of the members of Faith Lutheran in Ballwin, Missouri, is available for any who are interested. Average reading length is about a chapter a day Monday – Saturday of each week. It is a very workable aid to assist Bible readers to actually read through the entire Bible. Available on the table immediately outside the Nave by the calendars.