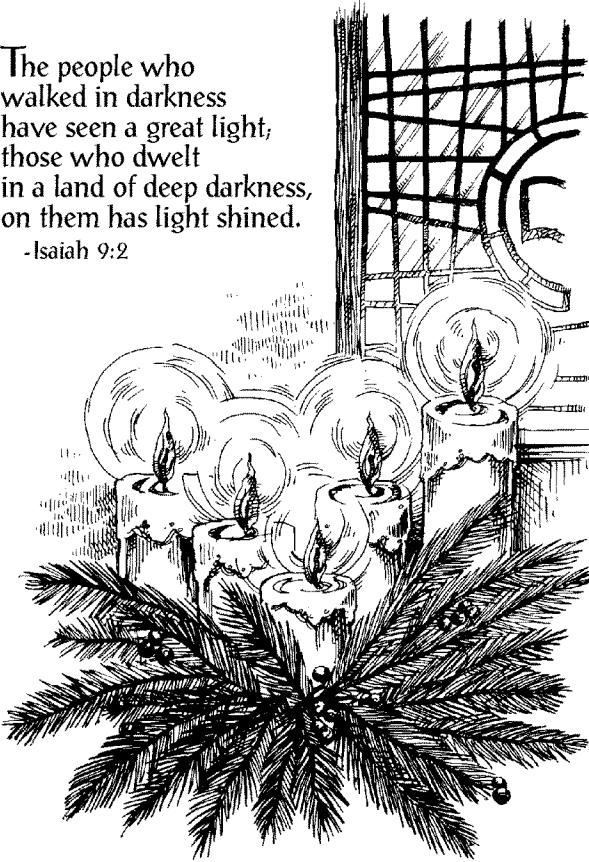


The people who
walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt
in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shined.
-Isaiah 9:2



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 181, M & W, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Affiliated with
CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION
stpaulclcaustin.wordpress.com
www.CLClutheran.org
www.ilc.edu/home.htm

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 (248:1-3)

HYMNS: 55; 66; 704; 399:3,4

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 61:1-3

Isaiah prophetically places words in the Savior's mouth, describing His special office as the Christ. He was to be anointed by the Holy Spirit to preach the good news of our salvation. And what good news it is! He frees the captive and proclaims the acceptable year of the Lord that is a year which cancels all our debts, and lifts our spirits. We need not mourn anymore, not over our sin or sin's horrible consequences. Now we are "trees of righteousness, The planting of the Lord." Glorious indeed!

THE EPISTLE LESSON: Revelation 1:4-8

The eternal God extends to us a great blessing of grace and peace. He brings this blessing to us through His spirit and His Son—our Lord Jesus Christ, the first born from the dead. He loved us and washed us clean with His blood so that we could be exalted, as priests and kings, together with Him. He is coming again and all shall see Him. Unbelievers shall mourn at His coming. Jesus is Almighty God, the Judge of all the earth!

THE SERMON: Luke 1:68-79

Theme: God has Visited and Redeemed His People

- I. Just as God Promised
- II. That We Might Serve Him
- III. His Herald Announces His Visitation

CALENDAR

TODAY: Sunday school and Bible Class follow the service.

WEDNESDAY: Advent meditation at 7:00 p.m. Text Genesis 22:16-18.
Soup and Sandwich Supper begins serving at 6:00 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY: 1st Sunday in Advent -Worship at 9:30 with Sunday school and Bible Class following the service. Sermon text: Luke 1:68-79.

FUTURE DATES TO REMEMBER

December 3, 10, 17: Midweek Advent meditations! Soup and sandwich supper will begin serving at 6:00 p.m. with Advent meditation at 7:00. For our Advent meditations we will be revisiting our advent series from 2007 with the theme *Advent Stars*.

December 7: Christmas fellowship with potluck meal and Christmas decorating follow after the Sunday service.

December 24: Christmas Eve Children's service begins at **6:00** p.m.

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

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

SERVING TODAY

Organist: Denise Barthels

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

Cleaning: Larson

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL:

Attendance: November 23 Worship 24, Sunday school 4; Bible Class - 8

Weekly Offerings Needed	\$ 1,080.00	Other Offerings:
Offerings Received	828.00	
Needed for Year:	50,060.00	
Received for Year:	42,949.00	

CLC NEWS: Redemption Lutheran, Lynnwood, WA has called the Rev.

Wayne Eichstadt, pastor of Immanuel Lutheran, Mankato, MN. <>
Prince of Peace Lutheran, Loveland, CO, has called Pastor emeritus John Klatt of Rapid City, SD and he has accepted the call.

AT THE HOSPITAL: Samantha Barthels was released from Methodist Hospital Thanksgiving Day after receiving the stem cell transplant on Wednesday afternoon. She is staying at the house she has rented in Rochester which is at 1016 13th Ave NW, Rochester, MN 55901. Her parents are taking turns with half weeks serving as Samantha's care givers during this critical stage in her treatment. Pastor will be in Rochester from Sunday afternoon through Wednesday afternoon each week. They can be reached on their cell numbers.

CALENDARS: Our 2015 congregation calendars have arrived (courtesy of Worlein Funeral Home). Please feel free to take what you can use or even one for a friend. We have a good supply and it would be good to see them in people's homes.