

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 Phone: 507-433-8191

Church Office:

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 <u>PRAYER</u>: Oh Lord God, our heavenly Father, who of Your great goodness and mercy has caused Your only begotten Son to become incarnate, that we through Him might be redeemed from sin and everlasting death; O Lord, we pray, enlighten our hearts that we may be truly thankful for His gracious incarnation and birth, that we may be comforted by His birth in all time of tribulation and temptation, and in the end receive everlasting salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, and our precious Savior. Amen.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE: p. 22 in supplement

HYMNS: 90; 108; 99; 97

THE EPISTLE LESSON: Hebrews 1:1-6

In these last days God has spoken to us by His Son. Jesus is the eternal Son who possesses the full glory of God. Jesus, born of Mary, is the Son of God. Jesus purged our sins, and now sits at the right hand of God the Father. He will again bring His firstborn into the world and God has commanded all the angels to worship Him. Let us worship and praise Jesus as our God and Savior!

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 2:22-32

Jesus, born under the law was taken to the temple as an infant where faithful Simeon waited. He had been told that he would see the Lord, and having held the child in his arms he was ready to depart this life in peace. While Jesus is the glory of His people Israel, He is also the light to lighten the Gentiles. That light has shone in our hearts so that we hold Jesus in our hearts by faith. We also possess that peace that has prepared us for eternal life.

THE SERMON: Micah 5:1-3

Theme: The Birth of the Ruler to Rise out of Bethlehem Foretold

- I. The Scepter Departs From Judah
- II. Bethlehem Produces the New Ruler of Israel
- III. Israel's Glory Restored

CALENDAR

TODAY: Sunday school and Bible class are in holiday break.

<u>WEDNESDAY</u>: New Year's Eve worship with Holy Communion at 7:00 p.m.

<u>NEXT SUNDAY</u>: Worship at 9:30 Sunday school will follow the service. Adults will be taking down our Christmas decorations and the removing the Christmas tree. Sermon text: 1 John 3:1-6.

FUTURE DATES TO REMEMBER

January 18: Council meets in preparation for annual voters' meeting.

January 25: Annual voters' meeting is scheduled for 12:30 p.m.

SERVING TODAY

<u>Pianist:</u> Erica Barthels <u>Ushers:</u> Preston Johnson, Andy Ball, Joe Ubl, Ken Nickson <u>Cleaning:</u> Ubl

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL:

Attendance: Dec. 21 Worship 28 Sunday school 5; No Bible Class , Christmas Eve – 58 Christmas Day - 28

Weekly Offerings Needed	\$ 1,080.00	Other Offerings:
Offerings Received	3,902.00	Missions - \$10.00
Needed for Year:	54,380.00	
Received for Year:	49,757.00	

Christmas bag donations total \$76.00

<u>CLC NEWS</u>: Pastor Frank Gantt has received the call to Resurrection Lutheran Church in Corpus Christi Texas. He is also considering the call to Calvary Lutheran church in Marquette, MI.

Immanuel Positions: Immanuel Lutheran College is hiring a new dormitory supervisor for our female students and a new food services manager/head cook. Job descriptions are available from your pastor. To apply, please contact ILC President Steven Sippert (steve.sippert@ilc.edu / 715.836.6620) prior to the deadline on January 11, 2015.

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.

PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNEL: Please note that Charter has changed the public access channel from channel 6 to channel 181. Our services should now be available on at 7:30 on Mondays and Wednesdays, on cable channel 181.