

She will give birth to a son,
and you are to give him the
name Jesus, because he will
save his people from their sins.



M a t t h e w 1 : 2 1

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

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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

PRESERVICE 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 so that we 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. 15 (73:1-3)

HYMNS: 62; 95; 108; 645:5

THE INTROIT: (responsive reading) Psalm 130:5-8, Isaiah 64:1

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,

And in His word I do hope.

My soul *waits* for the Lord

More than those who watch for the morning—

Yes, more than those who watch for the morning.

O Israel, hope in the Lord;

For with the Lord *there is* mercy,

And with Him *is* abundant redemption.

And He shall redeem Israel From all his iniquities.

Oh, that You would rend the heavens! That You would come down!

That the mountains might shake at Your presence

Glory be to the Father...

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 7:10-14

The Lord Himself gave King Ahaz a sign, that a virgin would conceive and bear a Son who would be called Immanuel. This Child would be in the lineage of David, and so a descendent of this wicked King Ahaz, but also the incarnate Son of God. And so Isaiah foretold our Savior's birth.

THE EPISTLE LESSON: Matthew 1:18-25

Matthew reports the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy. Joseph was a direct descendent of Ahaz, and yet he was not the physical father of the Child conceived in Mary, his betrothed. The angel of the Lord

reassured Joseph regarding the true parentage of the Child, that He was conceived by the Holy Ghost. This Child who is Immanuel was to be called Jesus, for He would “save His people from their sins.”

THE SERMON: Romans 1:1-7

Theme: Christ Comes into the World

- I. As Promised through the Prophets
- II. As Son of David and Son of God
- III. To Bring Us God’s Grace

THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

If you are a visitor here you may find that that we regard the Lord’s Supper with far greater seriousness than you may be accustomed to. Please speak with the pastor first if you desire to commune. Thank you!

CALENDAR

TODAY: Program Practice and Church Council follow after the service this morning.

SATURDAY: Christmas Eve service at 6:00 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY: Christmas Festival Worship at 9:30. Sunday school and Bible Class in holiday recess. *Sermon text: Titus 2:11-14*

FUTURE DATES TO REMEMBER

Sunday January 1: New Year’s worship at 9:30. No Sunday school or Bible class.

SERVING TODAY

Organist: Denise Barthels

Ushers: Preston Johnson, Andy Ball, Joe Ubl, Ken Nickson

Cleaning: Hellickson

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL:

Attendance: December 11 Worship – 14 Sunday school – 0; Dec. 14 Advent worship - 15

Weekly Offerings Needed	\$ 1,155.00	Other Offerings:	
Offerings Received	3,490.00	ILC Student Aid Fund	\$25.00
Needed for Year:	56,595.00		
Received for Year:	47,718.92		

CLC Financial Report - November

CLC Financial Report Operating Funds	Balance 7/1/2016	YTD Revenu e	YTD Disburs ed	Budget 5 Months	Balance 11/30/20 16
General Fund	0	361,585	381,608	\$375,000	-20,023
ILC Operations	0	562,570	493,562	\$310,000	69,008
Total	\$0	\$924,155	\$875,170	\$685,000	\$48,985
Auxiliary Funds					
ILC Improvement Fund (IIF)	15,928	5935	10,492		11,371
ILC Building Projects (AC/Dorm)	12,682	112,633	70,608,		54,707
Mission Development Fund (MDF)	46,243	82,250	119,070		9,423
Kinship	56,626	26,799	49,204		34,221
Church Extension Fund (CEF)	1,291,661	513,101	393,772		1,410,990
Student Aid Fund (SAF)	10,103	57,613	80,988		-13,272
Reserve Fund	119,697	0	0		146,111
Total	\$1,552,940	\$798,331	\$724,134		\$1,653,551

ILC Academic Center Mortgage (& North Hall Renovation)	
Beginning Balance January 1, 2010	\$1,751,804
Current Balance October 31, 2016	\$1,249,923
Principal paid to date	\$501,881
North Hall Reno Budget \$300,000. YTD Spent:	\$13,700

Notes:

- * **General Fund** offerings in November totaled \$79,508 vs disbursements of \$79,069. Offerings for the first 5 months of the fiscal year slipped behind another \$2,000 in November to a budget short-fall in the General Fund of -\$20,023. The General Fund is supported by congregational offerings to the CLC Budget, which provides the basic monthly subsidy needed for the work of our Boards of Trustees, Missions, ILC, & Education/Publication. The budgeted needs of the General Fund is \$75,000/month.
- * **ILC Building Projects** offerings in November totaled \$5,178 vs disbursements of \$21,672. Disbursements included the \$8,000 monthly payment on our CEF loan for the Academic Center (AC), as well as \$13,700 in initial expenses (roof repairs) for the \$300,000 renovation project of the **North Hall** boys' dorm. Accumulated North Hall renovation expenses will be added to our existing CEF loan for the Academic Center.

- * **MDF:** offerings in November totaled \$17,726 vs disbursements of \$27,662, which included \$8,000 for Myanmar's 4th & final installment for a construction project, and \$11,250 for a Rice Aid Christmas gift for 750 BELC pastors in 22 districts in southern India, approved by the 2016 CLC Convention last summer.
- * **SAF:** received \$13,000 in offerings & student loans repaid in November vs \$9,000 in loans & family discounts allocated to student accounts during the month. SAF needs \$13,000 in December to balance 1st semester.

James E. Sandeen, CLC Treasurer

Thomas J. Lentz, Chairman, CLC Board of Trustees