



“... you know that
the kingdom of God
is near.”

Luke 21:31

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

2100 16th Street SW, Austin, MN 55912

Worship: 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School and Bible Class: 10:45 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: Blessed Lord, who has caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we might reverently hear them, read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of Your Holy Word we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life which You have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ, through whose name alone we pray. Amen.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE: p. 5 (73:1-3)

HYMNS: 55; 71; 64; 413:6

THE RESPONSIVE INTROIT: (Psalm 25 NKJV)

Behold, your King is coming to you;

He is just and having salvation,

To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

² O my God, I trust in You;

Let me not be ashamed;

Let not my enemies triumph over me.

³ Indeed, let no one who waits on You be ashamed;

Let those be ashamed who deal treacherously without cause.;

Behold, your King is coming to you;

He is just and having salvation,

Glory be to the Father...

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 63:16-17, 64:1-8

“You, O Lord are our Father; Our Redeemer from Everlasting is Your name!” This is also our confession. We must join in acknowledging our sin, even our continuing sinfulness. “We need to be saved.” This salvation comes to us in Jesus; as He came into the world, as He comes into our hearts by the gospel, as He will come again to receive us to Himself in heaven.

THE EPISTLE LESSON: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Paul highlights the blessings of Advent. We have been enriched spiritually. Even now we also eagerly anticipate the coming of Christ. It is Jesus’ presence and power in our hearts and lives that preserves us in faith unto eternal life.

THE SERMON: Mark 13:32-37

Theme: Advent Watchfulness

- I. Pay Attention
- II. Attention to Duty
- III. Anticipation of Jesus' Return.

CALENDAR

TODAY: Sunday school and church decorating and Christmas fellowship pot luck follow the service.

TUESDAY: Catechism class at 4:15 p.m.

WEDNESDAY: Midweek Advent meditations begin. Soup and sandwich supper serving begins at 6:00p.m. Meditation begins at 7:00 p.m. Theme for this year is *Stars of Promise*: Text: Genesis 22:16-18.

NEXT SUNDAY: Worship at 9:30. Sunday school and Church Council follow the service. Church council is one week early this month because of anticipated program rehearsal. *Sermon text: Isaiah 40:1-11.*

FUTURE DATES TO REMEMBER

DECEMBER. 6, 13, 20: Midweek Advent services. Soup and sandwich suppers at 6:00. Advent meditations begin at 7:00. p.m.

DECEMBER 24: Christmas Eve! **No** Sunday morning service. Christmas Eve program is set for 4:00.

DECEMBER 25: Christmas Festival worship at 9:30.

DECEMBER 31: New Year's Eve Day morning worship only beginning at 9:30.

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL:

Attendance: Nov. 26 Worship - 14 Sunday school - 0, Bible class - 11

Weekly Offerings Needed	\$ 1,207.00	Other Offerings:	
Offerings Received	\$1345.00	Memorials: Ellie Rhodes	
Needed for Year:	\$57,936.00	Prop. Imprv. Fund	\$30.00
Received for Year:	\$47,324.00		

SERVING TODAY

Organist: Denise Barthels

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

December Cleaning – Hellickson

500th ANNIVERSARY OF THE REFORMATION GEMS FROM MARTIN LUTHER

(Concerning Saving Faith)

The true knowledge of Christ, or faith, does not enter into an argument about whether you have done god works for righteousness or bad ones for damnation; but it simply holds this: If you have done good works, you will not be justified because of them; if you have done bad ones, you will not be damned because of them. I do not rob good works of their glory, and I do not praise bad ones; but I do say that in the matter of justification I must see how to retain Christ, so that He does not become useless to me by my desiring to be justified by the Law. For Christ alone justifies me despite my bad works and without my good works. But if I judge that He requires the Law and works from me for the attainment of righteousness, He has become useless to me, and His power to save has left me.” (What Luther Says; Vol I #1464, Concordia Publishing House)

DAILY DEVOTIONS BY CLC PASTORS: Now available on the home page of CLClutheran.org are daily devotions written and assembled by pastors of the CLC. You will find them under "Recommended Pages/Sites" on the right side of the site. Perhaps you would share the site on your personal social media outlets, or print a copy for a family member, friend, or neighbor who would benefit from these faith building encouragements based on God's Word.

NEW KEYBOARD: The new keyboard in the church was donated in memory of Elli Rhodes, who loved to sing praises to the Lord and played many hymns on this keyboard in her home. We thank the Rhodes family for their kind donation.