



*Therefore keep
watch, because you
do not know the day
or the hour.*

Matthew 25:13

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 (73:1-3)

HYMNS: 55; 64; 608; 413:5-6

THE RESPONSIVE INTROIT: (Ps.89:6, 14-16, Zech. 9:9 NKJV)

⁶Who in the heavens can be compared to the Lord?

Who among the sons of the mighty can be likened to the Lord?

¹⁴Righteousness and justice *are* the foundation of Your throne;

Mercy and truth go before Your face.

¹⁵Blessed *are* the people who know the joyful sound!

They walk, O Lord, in the light of Your countenance.

¹⁶In Your name they rejoice all day long,

And in Your righteousness they are exalted.

Zech. 9:9 Behold, your King is coming to you;

He is just and having salvation."

Glory be to the Father...

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Jeremiah 33:14-16

This prophecy of the Savior's coming reinforces the connection to the promise made by the Lord to David that his descendent would reign over a kingdom that has no end. This Branch of Righteousness brings salvation. It is so important to note that the righteousness He brings shall be credited to us: He is the Lord OUR Righteousness!

THE EPISTLE LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

We exercise our faith by giving thanks to God for the gospel, by expressing and sharing the joy that fills our hearts with our fellow believers. This leads to an increase in Christian love we possess for one another. By coming together around the gospel we are blessed as the Holy Spirit establishes our hearts blameless before the Lord both now and at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

THE SERMON: Luke 21:25-36

Theme: Christian, Jesus Is Coming Therefore:

- I. Be Fearless
- II. Be Confident
- III. Be Attentive

CALENDAR

TODAY: Sunday school and Bible class are scheduled to follow the service this morning.

TUESDAY: Pastor Study Club meeting at 10:00 a.m. in Mankato.

WEDNESDAY: Catechism class at 4:15 p.m. – 6:00. p.m.

First of our midweek Advent meditations! Soup and sandwich supper serving begins at 6:00 p.m. Meditation begins at 7:00 p.m. Text: John 1:1-5.

NEXT SUNDAY: **Worship at 9:30.** Text: Malachi 3:1-4.

Sunday School Christmas program practice will follow the service.

Congregation Christmas fellowship and tree and church decorating follow the service with pot luck and carol singing. Please plan to join in the fellowship and praise!

FUTURE DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesdays, December 5, 12, 19 Midweek advent meditations. Theme of this years meditations is “The Word Became Flesh.”

Sunday, December 23rd. The children’s Christmas program will be presented at our 9:30 service time.

December 24th: Christmas Eve service will be at 6:00 p.m.

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

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL:

Attendance: November 22 -Thanksgiving Worship – 17,
November 25 worship 21 Sunday school – 2 Bible Class – 9

(The following report reflects offerings from Thanksgiving and Dec. 25)

Weekly Offerings Needed	\$ 1,221.00	Other offerings
Offerings Received	\$ 1,627.00	Property Imprv. Fund \$50.00
Needed for Year:	\$54,944.00	
Received for Year:	\$47,576.00	

SERVING TODAY

Organist: Denise Barthels,

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

December cleaning: Barthels

CHRISTMAS BAGS DONATIONS: You can help defer this expense by placing your gift in the designated basket next to the mailbox table in the narthex.

CLC NEWS: Pastor Em. Rollin Reim was called heavenly glory this past Wednesday, Nov. 28. <> Our Redeemer's Lutheran, Red Wing MN, has called the Pastor Ed Starkey of Resurrection Lutheran, Corpus Christi TX.

The Midwest Christian Women's Retreat, sponsored by Immanuel Lutheran Church, Mankato, MN, will be held March 22-24, 2019, at the Riverport Inn & Suites, Winona, MN. Registration is \$75 and opens on January 1, 2019. Register at www.ladiesretreat.clclutheran.net. Choose the "Midwest Spring Retreat." Deadline to register is February 22, 2019 (with a late fee of \$25). Hotel reservations can be made by calling (507) 452-0606, beginning on 2/2019. Be sure to say it is for the Christian Women's retreat to get the group rate!

"Islam and Christianity Compared" is the name of an outreach seminar, sponsored by CLC congregations in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan. Retired missionary David Koenig was the speaker. A video of the Eau Claire presentation can be seen online at: www.tinyurl.com/Messiah-seminar-2018. Those interested in a DVD video of this seminar, along with printed materials, may contact Messiah Lutheran at 715-834-2865, or messiah.ec.secretary@gmail.com. A donation of \$5 is suggested to cover the cost of materials and postage.

Urgent need for sponsors – The CLC KINSHIP Committee is seeking sponsors to support overseas orphans and seminary students. There are both students and orphans that will not have financial support starting in January if we do not find new sponsors. Please give this prayerful consideration. For more information, please see, email, or text Dan Roehl (danroehl@hotmail.com / 507-381-2042).