



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 as we once again celebrate Your Son's incarnation and birth, lead us to find our comfort

and joy in knowing that Jesus came to be our Savior. Help us remember always that it was His sacrifice upon the cross that purchased our peace. As we receive His body and blood in the Sacrament, we ask that Your Spirit bless us and increase our faith, that we may grow in grace and in the assurance of everlasting life that is ours in Christ Jesus, the Babe of Bethlehem. Amen.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE: p. 15

HYMNS: 62; 69; 90; 96:1,3

THE RESPONSIVE INTROIT: (Ps.85:1,2, 6,7, 8 NKJV)

¹ Lord, You have been favorable to Your land;

You have brought back the captivity of Jacob.

² You have forgiven the iniquity of Your people;

You have covered all their sin.

⁶ Will You not revive us again,

That Your people may rejoice in You?

⁷ Show us Your mercy, Lord,

And grant us Your salvation.

⁸ I will hear what God the Lord will speak,

For He will speak peace To His people and to His saints;

Glory be to the Father...

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Zephaniah 3:14-18

Joy and rejoicing fills the hearts of the people of God, for He has revealed His salvation. Zephaniah speaks of the advent of the Lord when he writes "The Lord your God in your midst, The Mighty One, will save. He has rejoiced over us with gladness and He has quieted us with His love. And so this salvation has come to us. He finds joy in our salvation, and we also rejoice in the salvation of our God.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 1:39-55

First Elizabeth expresses her joy in knowing that the mother of her Lord has come to her home. Then Mary magnifies the Lord and proclaims that her spirit also has rejoiced in God, Mary's Savior. Yes, Mary rejoiced to know that the Savior, her Savior would be her Child as she offered herself as maidservant of the Lord. So we also rejoice in the advent of our Savior.

THE SERMON: Philippians 4:4-7

Theme: Advent Blessings

I. Joy

II. Peace

THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

We observe the Scriptural practice of close communion. Since participation in communion is a confession of unity of teaching and faith, you will not want to commune with us until you have had a chance to compare your beliefs with ours. Please speak with the pastor to set up an appointment - we want to share this blessing with you!

CALENDAR

TODAY: December church council meeting and Sunday school Christmas program practice will follow the service.

WEDNESDAY: Catechism class at 4:15 p.m. - 6:00. p.m. Our final midweek Advent meditation! Soup and sandwich supper serving begins at 6:00 p.m. Meditation begins at 7:00 p.m. Text: John 1:14-18.

NEXT SUNDAY: Worship at 9:30. **Sunday school Christmas Program!** A "cookie" fellowship will follow for a few minutes following the program.

FUTURE DATES TO REMEMBER

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: Dec. 9 Worship - 34, Sunday school - 10 Dec. 12 midweek Advent worship 13

Weekly Offerings Needed	\$ 1,221.00	Other offerings
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Offerings Received	\$ 1912.00	Missions \$25.00
Needed for Year:	\$57,386.0 0	Memorials: Lincoln Cole Prop. Imprv. Fund
Received for Year:	\$50,238.0 0	\$50.00

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: Bethel Lutheran, Morris MN, has called Pastor Richard Kanzenbach, pastor of Morning Star Lutheran, Fairchild WI, Peace with God Lutheran, Onalaska WI, and Trinity Lutheran, Millston, WI.

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 and will be limited to the first 120 applicants. Register at www.ladiesretreat.clclutheran.net. Choose the "Midwest Spring Retreat." Hotel reservations (separate from retreat registration) can be made by calling (507) 452-0606, with the special block rate for our group available now. Be sure to mention "retreat" to get the block rate. Deadline for both retreat registration and hotel reservations is Friday, February 22, 2019.

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).