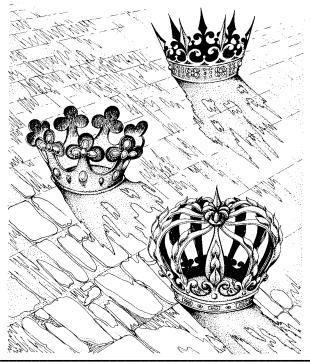
... they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him Matthew 2:11



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

<u>PRAYER</u>: Lord God, heavenly Father, who of Your great goodness and mercy caused Your only begotten Son to become incarnate, that we through Him might be redeemed from sin and everlasting death; 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 Son. Amen.

<u>THE ORDER OF SERVICE</u>: p.5 (105:1,2,8)

HYMNS: 128; 127; 129; 97

THE RESPONSIVE INTROIT: (Psalm 72:1-2,8,10-11,18-19 NKJV)

¹ Give the king Your judgments, O God,

And Your righteousness to the king's Son.

² He will judge Your people with righteousness,

And Your poor with justice.

⁸ He shall have dominion also from sea to sea,

And from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹⁰ The kings of Tarshish and of the isles Will bring presents;

The kings of Sheba and Seba Will offer gifts.

¹¹ Yes, all kings shall fall down before Him;

All nations shall serve Him.

¹⁸ Blessed be the LORD God, the God of Israel,

Who only does wondrous things!

¹⁹ And blessed *be* His glorious name forever!

And let the whole earth be filled with His glory.

Glory be to the Father...

THE EPISTLE LESSON: Ephesians 3:2-12

"A dispensation of the grace of God" was entrusted to Paul that he might deliver the gospel of Christ to the Gentiles. It was God's will from the very beginning that the people of the gentile nations should also be included in the inheritance of eternal life by the effective working of the Holy Spirit calling us to faith in Christ.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 2:1-12

Wise men came from the East seeking Jesus, the one born to be king of the Jews. They came to worship Him as their Lord and Savior. And so the prophecies are fulfilled and Jesus is revealed as the Savior of nations.

Indeed this prophecy continues to be fulfilled among us also as we join the wise men in seeking Jesus that we too might worship Him as our Redeemer and our God.

THE SERMON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Theme: Celebrate Christmas for the Gentiles

- I. A Brilliant Christmas Light Shines on a Very Dark World
- II. Hearts Swell with Christmas Joy

CALENDAR

<u>TODAY</u>: We will be packing away church Christmas decorations immediately following the service. Sunday school begins after the service. **Bible class begins as soon as decorations are put away**.

MONDAY: Pastor Study Meeting in Fridley beginning at 10:00. Pastor should be back home by about 5:30.

WEDNESDAY: Catechism at 4:15 p.m.

<u>NEXT SUNDAY:</u> Worship at 9:30. Sunday school and church council follow after the service. Sermon text: Titus 3:4-7

FUTURE DATES TO REMEMBER

January 27: ANNUAL MEETING Installation of officers in service. Voters' meeting begins at 12:30 following Bible class and a pot luck lunch.

SERVING TODAY

Organist: Denise Barthels

<u>Ushers:</u> Randy Berg Luke Berg; Melvin Eichstadt; Leon

Hellickson

Cleaning: Hellickson

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL:

Attendance: December 30 - 15;

Weekly Offerings	\$	Other Offerings:
Needed	1,221.00	
Offerings Received	\$1,748.00	ILC Student Aid

Needed for Year:	\$59828.0				
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Received for Year:	\$56627.0				
	0				

Christmas bag donations totaled \$140. This was more than was spent. Remainder is transferred to the congregation's general Budget

Hymn 105:1,2,8 Praise God the Lord, Ye Sons of Men

- Praise God the Lord, Ye sons of men Before His highest throne: Today He opens heaven again And give us His own Son.
 And give us His own Son.
- 2. He leaves His heav'nly Father's throne, Is born an Infant small, And in a manger poor and lone, Lies in a humble stall.

 Lies in a humble stall.
- 8. He opens us again the door Of Paradise today; The Angel guards the gate no more To God our thanks we pay. To God our thanks we pay.