

Grace Lutheran Church

24542 Melbourne Road
Strathroy-Caradoc, ON N7G 3H5

L U K E 1 1 4



BLESSED ARE YOU
AMONG WOMEN
AND BLESSED IS
THE FRUIT OF YOUR WOMB

Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 20, 2015

Living Our Faith Under His Grace

BIBLE CLASS..... 9:00 a.m.

WORSHIP SERVICE..... 10:00 a.m.

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Rev. John S. Obeda, *Pastor Emeritus*

Elizabeth Biser, Secretary Mrs. Linda Aitken, Organist

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www.facebook.com/faithlutheranlondon

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: Fill us with the Holy Spirit, O God, as we prepare to greet your Son. May our hearts leap for joy in his presence, and may our mouths be ready to sing praises to this child who has come to save the whole world.

O Great and Giving God, may we spring to life because of your Son.

WELCOME TO ALL OF YOU in the name of our Saviour, especially the visitors who have joined us this morning. If you do not have a church that you call home, we invite you to make Grace your spiritual home. Amid the trials and tribulations of life it's good that we can come to our Lord for strength through His Word. Please introduce yourself to the Pastor, and fill in the "Worship attendance registration" as it is being circulated.

OUR WORSHIP TODAY

ORDER OF SERVICE: Confession / Absolution..... p. 151
Prayer and Preaching..... p. 260

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
357 v.1, 5

HYMNS: 361; 933; 332v.1-4,8; 814

FIRST LESSON: Micah 5:2-5a (p.779)

EPISTLE LESSON: Hebrews 10:5-10 (p.1006)

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 1:39-45 (46-56) (p.856)

SERMON: "Christmas! Something to Sing About!" - Luke 1:39-45



THE FLOWERS that adorn the altar today are given to the glory of God by Ken and Sharon Beecroft in thanksgiving for the many blessings received from God.

MISSION OF THE MONTH: Lutheran Church - Canada

The work and programmes of Synod are dependent upon the financial support given through individual congregations of each District.

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY:**USHERS TODAY:** Greg Jahns**USHERS CHRISTMAS EVE:** Mia and Logan Mulligan**USHERS CHRISTMAS DAY:** Mike and Anne Flikkema**USHERS NEXT WEEK:** Lorne and Susan Campbell**ELDER OF THE MONTH:** Gene Makish**ALTAR GUILD:** Betty Catanzariti, Lynn Kearns**IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:**

Special Needs: Else Jacobsen, John and Maria Paal, Pat Phillips, Sandra Stewart, David and Imogen Strike, Sandra Stockman, Ellen Phillips, Frank Kleiber, Sophie Wilson, Marianne Muller, John and Nancy Crowther, Ritva Kingo and family, Sarah Lawson, Keith Keller, Joanna Bode, Reiner Issendorf

Homebound: Becky Ames, Ana Greksa

Family Focus: Alejandro Montroy; Sean, Shari, Kiera and Brayden Moore; Rob Morrison; Ron and Connie Morrison; Russ Mountenay

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 29 (*14:24)**COMMUNION ATTENDANCE:** 21**BIBLE CLASS:** 6**OUR STEWARDSHIP OF GOD'S GIFTS:****(FROM Dec. 6th):** Current 680.00; Missions 65.00; Building 30.00**NON-BUDGET GIFTS: (FROM Dec. 6th):** Loose 55.00 PTL!

PLEASE REMEMBER to bring God our regular offerings and tithes as well for the ongoing work of His Church. God calls us here to be in His glorious presence, that He may bless us. Let us commit ourselves to Him who is our forgiveness, life and salvation.

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES: "No Regrets" (1 Timothy 1:16)

Speaker Emeritus of the Lutheran Hour: Rev. Ken Klaus

Jesus invites you to leave your burden of regret at the foot of His cross. Hear this inspirational message on 1290AM CJBK on Sunday, December 27th at 9:00 a.m. Streaming audio and pod-casts at www.lutheranhour.ca

LIFE QUOTES: "I encourage you to look upon the little hands [of baby Jesus] and remember they will be pierced to save you. See His beautiful brow and recall how it will be crowned with thorns. Listen to His first cry and hear that cry echo, 33 years later, upon Calvary's cross as He proclaims our salvation is finished." Rev. Ken Klaus, speaker emeritus on "The Lutheran Hour" - A "Life Quote" from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org

NICARAGUA MISSION TRIP: Redeemer Lutheran Church in Waterloo is organizing a trip to Nicaragua from January 8, 2016 - January 21, 2016. Pastor Castillo has joined the team. They will hold VBS classes, Adult Bible Studies and be involved in construction work. If you would like to help financially in this mission, please make out a cheque to "Redeemer Lutheran Church" and on the memo line, please write "Leon VBS". Please give your cheque to Pastor Castillo.

GRACE BIBLE STUDY will be held on Thursday, January 21st, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Scholz will lead this Bible Study. We will study session 7 of "Heaven and Hell". Come and learn what the Bible says about this subject.

A DONATION BOX has been set in front of the altar. Please bring non-perishable food items for Christmas for the local Food Bank. Let us all bring food in order to help all those in need during the Christmas season.

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE regarding our Worship services can be heard on MyFM radio station 105.7. You can also read a Christmas message in the *Transcript Gazette*.



The Season of Christmas

THE JOYOUS SEASON OF CHRISTMAS will soon be upon us. What a wonderful time to invite others to join us as we worship the Newborn King! Our services are as follows:

December 24th - 7:00 p.m. Grace Christmas Eve Candle and Carol Service
 December 24th - 7:00 p.m. Faith Christmas Eve Candle and Carol Service
 December 25th -10:00 a.m. Grace Christmas Day Service with Holy Communion
 December 25th -10:00 a.m. Faith Christmas Day Service with Holy Communion
 December 31st-7:15 p.m. New Year's Eve Service with Communion at Our Saviour



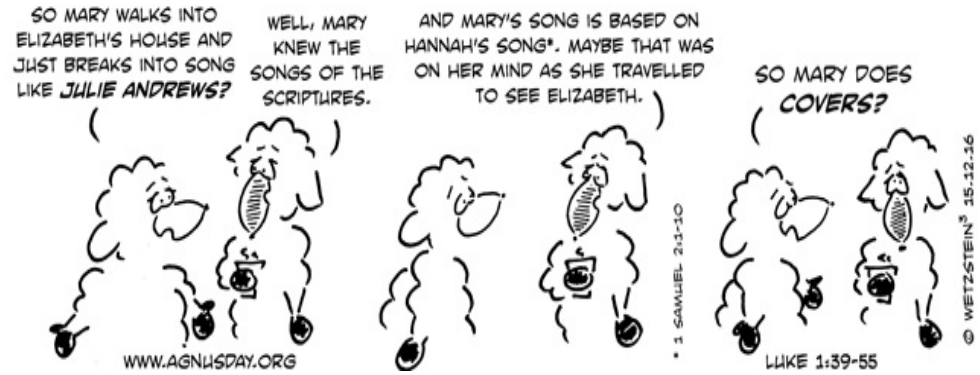
MEMBERS' TELEPHONE DIRECTORY: Please check your information in the congregation's telephone directory. If the information is correct, could you please put a check mark and initials beside your name to indicate that you have seen it? If there are changes/updates, please write them directly on the paper. Also, if you are aware of any information changes of other members, please add them. If you have an email address and you would like it included in the new directory, add it or let the office know, either by phone (519-685-9700) or email at faithlutheranchurch@rogers.com

TO ALL COMMITTEES AND ORGANIZATIONS: This is a reminder that we will soon be preparing our Annual Report. Your help in having reports to us as quickly as possible is greatly appreciated.

PLEASE SAVE YOUR POP TABS and bring them in to Grace. You can place them in the designated container.

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2016 are available in your mailbox. Please wait until the new year to begin using them, as occasionally numbers may have changed. If you did not receive a box of envelopes, but would like some, please advise the office.

35TH ANNIVERSARY FUND: Note that if you make a gift to our Anniversary Fund, please write "35th anniversary" on the "other" line of the envelope. The funds are pooled and then allocated to each project as was presented in the congregational letter last week. Our first project/target is to replace our external church sign.



Agnus Day appears with the permission of www.agnusday.org

THIS WEEK AT FAITH AND GRACE

- Mon.** 9:30 a.m. Office Prayers / Staff Meeting
- Tues.** 10:00 a.m. Pastor Castillo at Grace
- Wed.** 6:30 p.m. Chimers
- Thurs.** 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Carol Service at Faith
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- Fri.** 10:00 a.m. Faith Christmas Day Worship / Holy Communion
10:00 a.m. Grace Christmas Day Worship / Holy Communion
- Sun.** 10:00 a.m. Grace Morning Worship with Holy Communion
10:00 a.m. Faith Morning Worship with Holy Communion