

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

24542 Melbourne Road
Strathroy-Caradoc, ON N7G 3H5



First Sunday after Christmas

December 31, 2017

We Love Because He First Loved Us

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

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

Rev. James Scholz, Senior Pastor - pastorjlsflc@rogers.com

Rev. Oscar Castillo, Pastor - pastorocflc@rogers.com

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Rev. John S. Obeda, *Pastor Emeritus*

Deacon Stan Diehl, *Emeritus*

Elizabeth Biser, Secretary Linda Aitken, Organist

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PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: Open our eyes, O Lord, to see Your salvation. Open our mouths to praise You night and day. And open our hearts to receive You as our Redeemer and King.

Blessed Baby Jesus, we hold You close to us.

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

HYMNS: 367; 394 374; 387

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 61:10-62:3 (p.621)

EPISTLE LESSON: Galatians 4:4-7 (p.974)

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 2:22-40 (p.857)

SERMON: "Christmas Is For Children" - Galatians 4:4-7



FLOWER CHART: Please sign up for a Sunday to adorn our altar as we praise God for the many blessings that He has given us.

USHERS: After service, please collect the bulletins from the sanctuary and put them in the box which is located in the office. Also, please collect any paper scraps that have been left in the pews and dispose of them in the garbage cans. As well, make sure to record the names of all those attending service on the attendance sheet and give these sheets along with the offering envelopes to the pastor.

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY:

USHERS TODAY: Mayra Castillo

USHERS NEXT WEEK: Mia and Logan Mulligan

ELDER OF THE MONTH: Gene Makish

ALTAR GUILD: Rosemarie Gmehlin and Anna Makish

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:



Special Needs: Walter and Donna Procknow, Else Jacobsen, John and Maria Paal, Pat Phillips, Sandra Stewart, Imogen Strike, Frank Kleiber, Sophie Wilson, Stacy Francis and sons, John and Nancy Crowther, Ritva Kingo and family, Sarah Lawson, Keith and Alice Keller, Reiner Issendorf, Martha Fonger, David Biederman (Carole Atkinson's brother), Grace Woolner, Bill and Vicky Orlowski, Matthew Danyluk-Gascon, Earl Weiberg, Nancy Curtis, Marsha Kennedy, Shirley Kendall, Christina Hunt (Marissa Danyluk-Gascon's mother),

Janice Vandermyden, Sheila Mizon, Jenna Martinuzzi, Karen Webster (Jessalynn Webster's mother-in-law), Dennis and Sara Bradbury

Homebound: Becky Ames, Ana Greksa

Family Focus: Bob and Marian Rutledge; Andy Ryan; Rick, Brenda and Dan Ryan; Frederick and Grace Sanders

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 31('16:28)

COMMUNED: 25

ATTENDANCE CHRISTMAS EVE: 35 ('16:51)

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICE (DEC. 21): 11

ATTENDANCE CHRISTMAS DAY: 18('16:28)

COMMUNED: 11

OUR STEWARDSHIP OF GOD'S GIFTS:

Amounts will be in next week's bulletin



NON-BUDGET GIFTS:

Amounts will be in next week's bulletin

BIBLE STUDIES AT GRACE will resume on January 14th.

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.

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.

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

BIRTHDAY CAKE AT GRACE: Today after service, you are welcome to celebrate those members who have a birthday in December. If you would like to provide a cake for the last Sunday of the month, please sign up on the sheet in the hallway.

LIFE QUOTES: "Our failures won't undermine the Lord's reign. Others' successes can't overthrow it. This world will go on as long as God wills and will then give way to new creation. In Jesus we are guaranteed inclusion in it, as well as having the privilege of participating in His activity—not to assert superiority but to save our opponents from the devil's deceptions and our neighbors from final destruction. Let's exercise our majesty enthusiastically!" *Rev. Michael W. Salemin, executive director of Lutherans For Life - Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES: "Baptism of Our Lord" (Isaiah 60:1-6)

Speaker of the Lutheran Hour: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer

Epiphany calls us to believe that the Light has come into the world. A New Year's message about confidence, if you'll believe it! Hear this inspirational message on 1290AM CJBK on Sunday, January 7th at 9:00 a.m. Streaming audio and pod-casts at www.lutheranhour.ca

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2018 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.

MEMBER INFORMATION IN PUBLIC DOCUMENTS: If you do not wish to have your personal information (full name, address, phone number, etc.) appear in our weekly bulletins, prayer lists, calendars, or any other public communications, please contact the church office by phone (519-685-9700) or by email (faithlutheranchurch@rogers.com).



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

HELPING HANDS **SANCTUARY CLEANING SCHEDULE FOR 2018:** Please consider taking a turn at cleaning our church sanctuary. Duties include vacuuming, dusting and cleaning the bathroom. A sign up list has been placed in the parish hall. What a wonderful way to participate in our family of faith.

PASTOR CASTILLO will be in Nicaragua for mission work from January 3rd until January 18th. Please keep him and the team in your prayers.



THIS WEEK AT FAITH AND GRACE

- Mon.** New Year's Day - Office closed
- Tues.** 9:00 a.m. Pastors meet
- 11:00 a.m. Pastor Scholz at Grace
- 6:30 a.m. First Year confirmation (Faith)
- Fri.** 7:00 p.m. Council meeting / social
- Sun.** 9:00 a.m. Bible Study (Faith)
- 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship (Faith)
- 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship (Grace)
- 10:00 a.m. God's Kids (Faith)
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School (Grace)