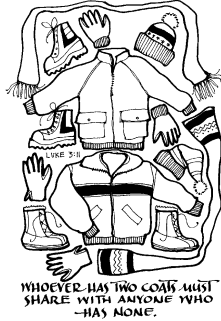


GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

24542 Melbourne Road
Strathroy-Caradoc, ON N7G 3H5



Third Sunday in Advent

December 16, 2018

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; the new has come.

BIBLE CLASS..... 9:00 a.m.
WORSHIP SERVICE..... 10:00 a.m.

Rev. James Scholz, Senior Pastor - pastorjflc@rogers.com
Rev. Oscar Castillo, Pastor - pastorocflc@rogers.com
Office: Ph: 519-245-3078; 226-378-6924(alternate)
fax: 519-685-1480

Deacon Stan Diehl, Emeritus

Elizabeth Biser, Secretary
Website: www.gracelutheranstrathroy.com
Email: admin@gracelutheranstrathroy.com
www.facebook.com/faithlutheranlondon
fb: Grace Lutheran Church of Strathroy

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: The day is coming, O Lord, when you will clear away our sins and gather your people together. Make us ready to receive you and make us glad to call you the Christ, the Son of the living God.

O Jesus Christ, the Bringer of Good News, may your Good News come alive in 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
Holy Baptism. p. 268

LIGHTING OF ADVENT WREATH. white insert

HYMNS: 803; 590; 338; 818

FIRST LESSON: Zephaniah 3:14-20 (p.790)

EPISTLE LESSON: Philippians 4:4-7 (p.982)

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 7:18-28 (p.863)

SERMON: "Rejoice in the Lord Always" - Zephaniah 3:14-20

LIFE QUOTES: "We love children as they can remind us of the simple fact of love's openness and embrace of new life and communion of one person with another. Children can open up our hearts to this. That our society now treats children the way it does is a dark shame, another sign of its separation from God. Regardless, we confess that Jesus Christ, Son of God, has come in the flesh and preach these glad tidings to all." *James M. Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James* - A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org

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: Lorne and Susan Campbell

USHERS NEXT WEEK: Mike Flikkema & James Mulligan

ELDER OF THE MONTH: Mike Flikkema

ALTAR GUILD: Rosemarie Gmehlin, Lynn Kearns, Anna Makish

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

Special Needs: Walter and Donna Procknow, John and Maria Paal, Patricia 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 Orłowski, Matthew Danyluk-Gascon, Earl Weiberg, Nancy Curtis, Marsha Kennedy, Shirley Kendall, Christina Hunt (Marissa Danyluk-Gascon’s mother), Jenna Martinuzzi, Dennis and Sara Bradbury, Stan Diehl, Shirley Monk



Homebound: Becky Ames, Ana Greksa

Family Focus: Colin, Jessica, Avery and Scarlett Peers; David, Cindy, Melissa and Michael Petrie; Ellen Phillips; Patricia Phillips

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 22 (‘17:25)

COMMUNED: 17

BIBLE STUDY: 6

MIDWEEK SERVICE: 11

OUR STEWARDSHIP OF GOD’S GIFTS:

(from Dec. 5th -midweek): Current 40.00



NON-BUDGET GIFTS:

(from Dec. 5th -midweek): Love Fund 10.00

OUR SPECIAL OFFERINGS: Our special gift envelopes have been designated as follows this Christmas season:

- * Midweek Advent offerings support Love Fund
- * Christmas Eve offerings support our Missions
- * Christmas Day offerings will support our Building Fund
- * New Year’s Eve offerings support Love Fund

Of course, you can always designate your offering anyway you choose by writing on the envelope. We do remind you, though, that the special envelopes should not be used as substitutes for our regular gifts to the work of the church. Our faithful stewardship provides the needs of our congregation; may we always be faithful in God’s gifts to us!

MISSION OF THE MONTH: Lutheran Church - Canada

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



LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES: “The King’s Strength” (Luke 1:26-56)

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

A true king’s strength is seen, not in vaults and arsenals, but in the loyalty of his people. We celebrate the birth of the King who won the victory, not by taxing his subjects and killing his enemies, but by serving, loving and dying for them. By His resurrection, He destroyed the power of sin and lends us strength to become His loyal subjects. Hear this inspirational message on 1290AM CJBK on Sunday, December 23rd at 9:00 a.m. Streaming audio and pod-casts at www.lutheranhour.ca

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR: Instead of opening a little cubby and enjoying a treat each day of Advent, how about putting a little “treat” (aka non-perishable item) in a cubby/box each day of Advent for families to enjoy for the days to come. Your Reverse Advent boxes filled with 23 items are due December 24th and the week following. Donations will be delivered the first week of January. If you do not have a box, there are some for the taking in the fellowship hall.

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERIES "GOD WITH US": Come and join us each Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. as we focus on a different word picture of the coming Christ found in the poetic and prophetic words of Isaiah. This final week of Advent, we will remember that God is with us as our **Guide**, who leads us according to his Word.



THE FLOWERS which adorn the altar today are given to the glory of God by Pastor and Mayra Castillo in celebration of Mayra's birthday.

ONE-DAY COURSE FIRST AID TRAINING: Our next session will be taking place either Saturday, January 26 or Saturday, February 2, 2019. If you are interested, please inform the church office (519-685-9700). We require a minimum of 8 people in order to offer the course.

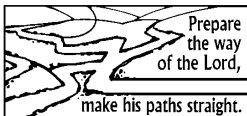
CHRISTMAS MESSAGES TO BE BROADCAST: You can listen to these messages on myFM105.7 beginning on December 10th until Sunday, December 23rd. You can also find the transcripts for these messages in both the Gazette and the London Free Press. These have been written by Pastor Castillo.



SANCTUARY CLEANING SCHEDULE: 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.

BIRTHDAY CAKE AT GRACE: On Sunday, December 30th 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.

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS from Lutheran Hour Ministries are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary. As we prepare to greet the King, who came, who comes, and who is coming again, may these booklets help you find hope and joy in His appearing. The theme is "*The Coming King*".



HOLY BAPTISM: Today, we welcome into Holy Baptism Addison Elisabeth Mueller. We rejoice with her parents, Michael Mueller and Chelsea O'Brien. Addison's sponsor is Megan Bolint. To God be the glory!

I GUESS I'M SURPRISED THAT JOHN ADDRESSES STUFF AT THEIR WORK. YOU'D THINK HE'D COME UP WITH SOMETHING MORE SPIRITUAL.



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

ARE YOU SAYING THAT REFLECTING ON YOUR WORK DAY DOESN'T INSTILL IN YOU A NEED FOR REPENTANCE?



NOT THAT SPIRITUAL!



LUKE 3:7-18

© WETZSTEIN 18-12-12

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

THIS WEEK AT FAITH AND GRACE

- Mon.** 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Year 1 (Faith)
- Tues.** 11:00 a.m. Pastor Scholz at Grace
- Wed.** 6:20 p.m. Soup Supper (Faith)
- 7:00 p.m. Midweek Advent Service (Grace)
- 7:15 p.m. Midweek Advent Service (Faith)
- Thurs.** 11:00 a.m. Pastor Castillo at Grace
- 7:30 p.m. Choir
- Sun.** 9:00 a.m. Bible Study (Faith & Grace)
- 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship with Holy Communion (Faith)
- 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship with Holy Communion (Grace)
- ***** Food donation deadline (Grace)