

Today 9/20: Fellowship Chairman Louie Mielke has shared that coffee hour will resume, with the council's approval. Please observe social distancing as you enjoy coffee today.

Monday 9/21: Food Truck Delivery 9:30am.

Tuesday 9/22: Food Pantry Set-up, 9:30-11am; distribution, 12-2pm.  
KDA meeting at the Methodist Church, 7pm.

Wednesday 9/23: Confirmation class with rehearsal for Sunday, 6pm.

Thursday 9/24: Wittenberg Pastor's Fellowship, here at FLC, 10am.

Saturday 9/26: Worship Service, 5:30pm.

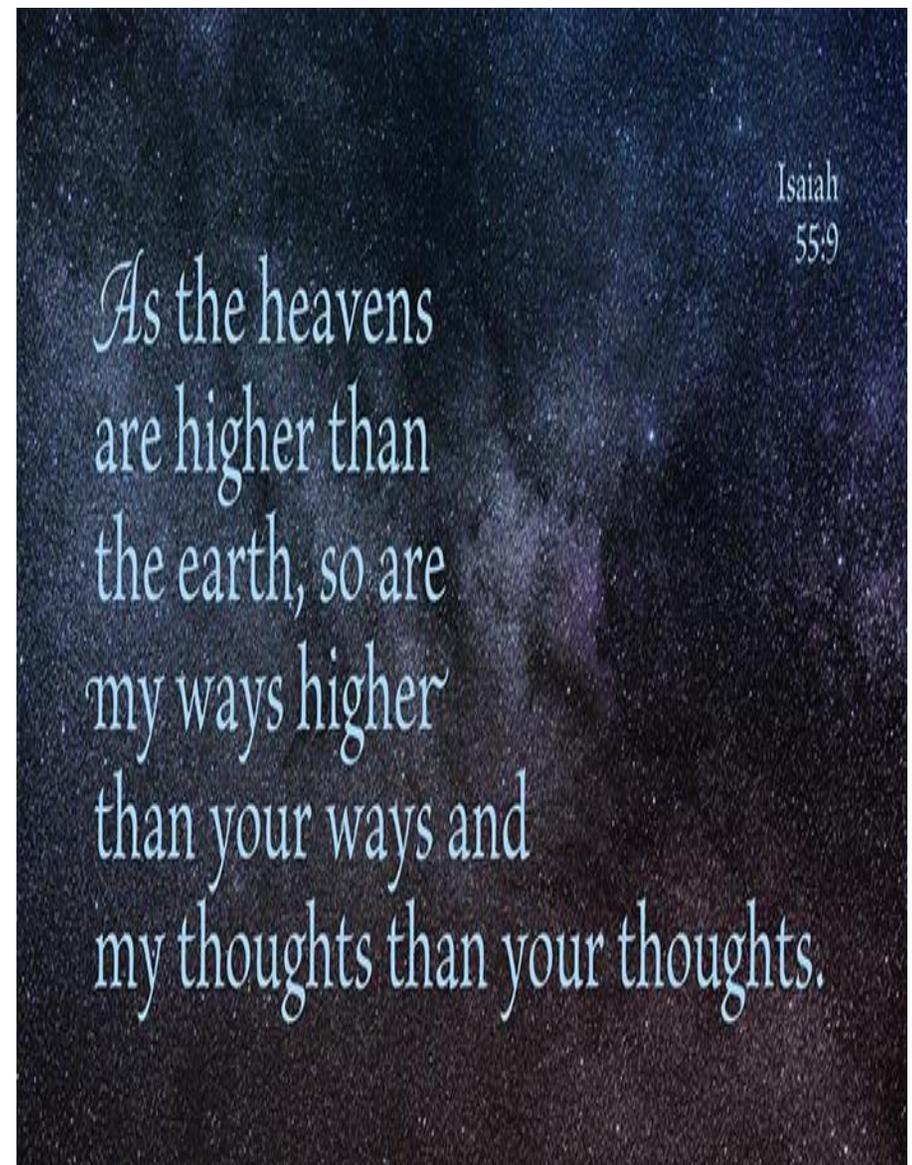
Sunday 9/27: Confirmation Day! Communion Service, 9am.

Kirkland Chamber of Commerce Celebration in Franklin Park, 2-4pm.

See information on bulletin board and inside this bulletin.

### **PARISH CONCERNS:**

- Burt Andrews II is now under the care of hospice. He has been battling cancer. Pray for all the Andrews family. This is Burt Andrews III's father.
- Elsie Sanford was experiencing physical distress and is now home from her stay at St. Anthony Hospital.
- Marilyn Roser, John Roser and Mary Loomis' mother is in hospice care.
- Doug Elmore had knee replacement surgery and is recovering.
- Leanne Valasek's hernia surgery has been postponed.
- Bishop Emeritus John Bradosky reports healing progress and is grateful for everyone's prayers.
- Connie Schauer continues radiation treatments.
- All those who are not able to worship with us because they are in health care facilities or homebound especially Ina Koehler, Nancy Bakanas, and George Vodden.
- Wildfires in the Western states.
- All those who are suffering physical or mental illness, and their families, caregivers, and medical teams.
- All pregnant women and the babies they are carrying.
- All elected leaders, police officers, first responders, and military personnel, that they hear and receive God's guidance and protection.
- All who are providing essential services during the pandemic, and all who are affected by it.
- Persecuted Christians throughout the world.
- The NALC, NALS, the Great River Mission District, all Christian churches, and our partners in SC and PA.



*First Lutheran Church - Putting Christ First  
Kirkland, IL - Est. December 26, 1873*

*Sunday September 20, 2020  
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost*



**First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9**

<sup>6</sup>“Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; <sup>7</sup>let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. <sup>8</sup>For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. <sup>9</sup>For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

**Psalm 27:1-8** (Read responsively by half verse)

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**Second Reading: Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30**

<sup>12</sup>I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, <sup>13</sup>so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. <sup>14</sup>And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

<sup>19</sup>... {F}or I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, <sup>20</sup>as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. <sup>21</sup>For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup>If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. <sup>23</sup>I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. <sup>24</sup>But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. <sup>25</sup>Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, <sup>26</sup>so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again. <sup>27</sup>Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, <sup>28</sup>and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. <sup>29</sup>For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, <sup>30</sup>engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

**Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16**

<sup>1</sup>{Jesus said,} “For the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, <sup>4</sup>and to them he said, ‘You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’ <sup>5</sup>So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. <sup>6</sup>And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ <sup>7</sup>They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’ <sup>8</sup>And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.’ <sup>9</sup>And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. <sup>10</sup>Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. <sup>11</sup>And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, <sup>12</sup>saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ <sup>13</sup>But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? <sup>14</sup>Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. <sup>15</sup>Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?’ <sup>16</sup>So the last will be first, and the first last.”

**Next Week’s Readings:**

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32; Psalm 25:1-10; Philippians 2:1-4 [5-13] 14-18;  
Matthew 21:23-27 [28-32]

**The Greater Kirkland Chamber of Commerce Celebration**

Next Sunday, September 27 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the Franklin Township Park Shelter House, **Pastor Carl and Nancy Rasmussen** will be honored for their 30 years of service to Kirkland. John and Jean Royalty will also be honored, with the Fred Manni award. Please see the poster on the narthex bulletin board.

**SYMPATHY CARDS**

If you have extra sympathy cards, please bring them to the church. There is a basket in the narthex for you to place them in. Jane Johnson graciously sends out cards for First Lutheran Church. Thank you.