

Sunday 11/15: Join us in Fellowship Hall for coffee after the service!

Newsletter Items are due today.

Monday 11/16: Food Truck Delivery, 9:30am.

Thanksgiving Meal pick-up, 12-2pm; Call Committee mtg., 6:30pm.

Tuesday 11/17: Food Pantry Set-up, 9:30am; distribution, 12-2pm.

Wednesday 11/18: Newsletter Folding, 9am.

Thursday 11/19: Wittenberg Door – Pastor’s Fellowship, 10am.

Confirmation Class, 4pm.

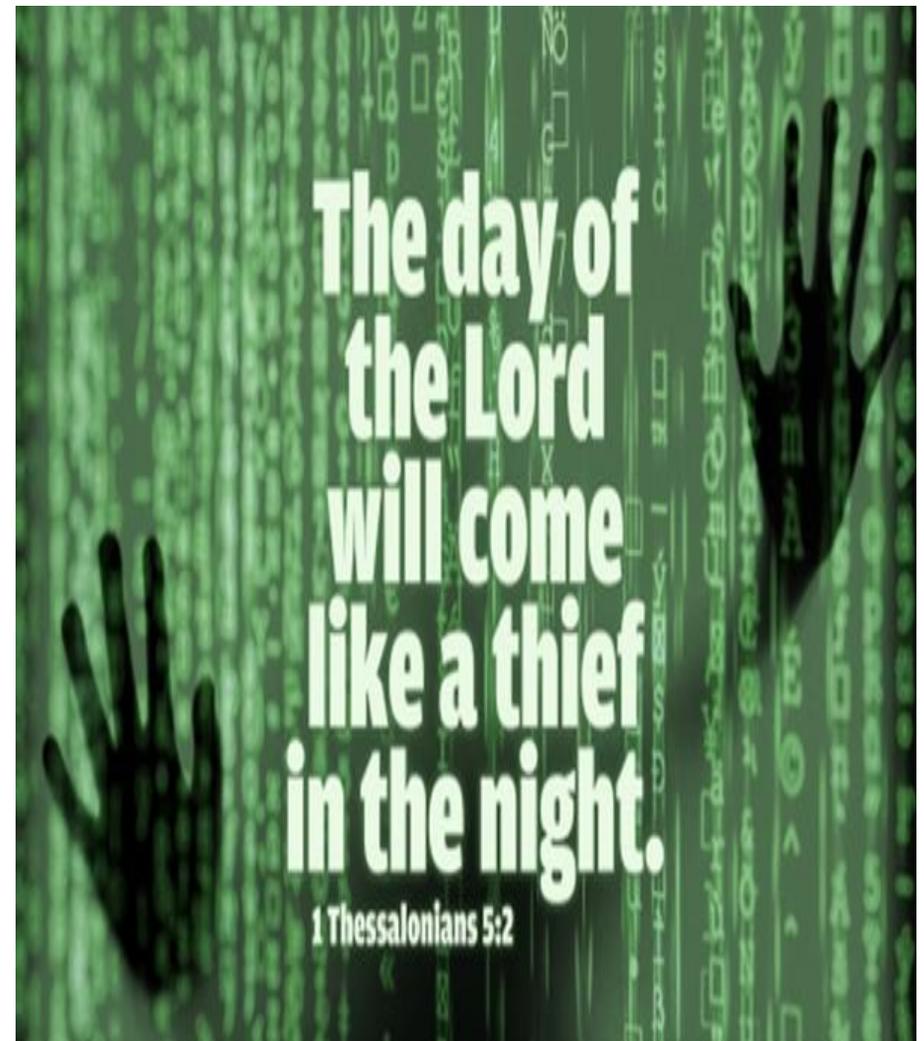
Saturday 11/21: Worship Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 11/22: Worship Service 9am.

PARISH CONCERNS:

Please keep in your daily prayers all people in need, including:

- Karl Haag, James Haag’s father died last Sunday. May God’s promise of the resurrection bring peace to all who mourn Karl’s passing.
- Our congregation for patience and God’s leading as we walk through the Pastoral call process.
- Pastor Phil Gronbach as our interim Pastor. May God bless his continued ministry to our congregation.
- Pastor Phil Gronbach and Dennis Meyer as they travel to and from FLC.
- Marvin & Wanda Bernhardt’s granddaughter Alix had a kidney removed recently.
- Dave Edmundson, Lenny Peterson’s brother-in-law was in a car accident and is now at Wesley Willows for rehabilitation therapy.
- All who are providing essential services during the pandemic, and all who are affected by it.
- All those who are confined to a room due to this pandemic, especially Ina Koehler, Nancy Bakanas and George Vodden.
- All those who are not able to worship with us because they are in health care facilities or homebound.
- 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.
- Our church and its activities, and all Christian churches.
- 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*

*Saturday, November 14, 2020
(With Readings for the 24th Sunday after Pentecost)*

First Lutheran Church – Putting Christ First

Saturday, November 14, 2020

(with scripture readings for the 24th Sunday after Pentecost)

LBW – green hymnal **WOV** – navy hymnal

THE SERVICE BEGINS

TODAY’S READINGS: November is the end of the Church Year and the theme of this week’s readings is Jesus’ return in judgment. There are two responses to Christ’s return: fear or welcome. Without faith and repentance, there is fear. The First Lesson confronts those complacent in their faith, “God’s judgment is coming, and it will not be what you expect.” The second response to Christ’s return is preparedness. God’s message to the faithful, “Be alert; don’t be complacent. Remember you are dependent on my grace every moment.” That’s the message of the second lesson. The Gospel is Jesus’ challenge to those who believe in him, to use our talents to serve him. Those who live in touch with Jesus in their daily lives will welcome his return with open arms.

P We begin this service **IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER:**

C Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you for creating all living things and causing them to grow;

P **AND OF THE SON:**

C O Jesus Christ, our Savior, in whom we have been born anew, help us to grow up in every way into You, who are our Lord;

P **AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:**

C Dear Holy Spirit, you have called us all and gathered us together as the Body of Christ, the Church. Help your church to grow – in numbers, in faith, and in love.

All: AMEN!

OPENING SONG: “For the Fruit of All Creation”

WOV 760

WE CONFESS

P Let us confess our weakness and sin, and hear the comfort of God.

C Dear Holy Spirit, we do not know how to pray as we ought. We confess that we have lived according to the flesh, with our minds set on the things of the flesh. We know this is death. We pray that each day you will set us free, setting our minds on the things of the Spirit, which is life and peace.

(Romans 8:5-6,26)

NO THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

There will be no combined Thanksgiving Eve service with the Methodist Church this year.



SOCKS BOX

The Lydia Circle will begin collecting NEW, WHITE socks for men in need on Nov. 15th. Please bring the socks by December 13th and place them in the “SOCKS BOX” in the Narthex. The socks will then be taken to local shelters.

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE & WORKSHOP DATES

The Call Committee met this past Monday, November 9th with the Assistant to the Bishop, Pastor David Wendel via a zoom meeting. He went thoroughly over the Call process we will be following.

Pastor Phil Gronbach will be our facilitator for the congregational workshops. The dates for the workshops will be **Thursday, December 3, 5:30-9:30 p.m. and Saturday, December 12, 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.** We invite and encourage everyone to attend.

Pastor David Wendel reminded us that we need to be patient and wait for God to lead us. We need lots of intentional and intensive prayer.

We will have open communication with the congregation, and we want everyone’s input.

Regular updates will be shared at both worship services either verbally or information in the bulletins. Our next Call Committee meeting will be Monday, November 16 at 6:30 pm.

Next Week’s Readings:

**Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 95:1-7a; 1 Corinthians 15:20-28;
Matthew 25:31-46**

Church Office: (815) 522-3886

Interim Pastor: Phil Gronbach (815)441-4272 (c)

Secretary: Dianna Wittwer (815)378-6654(c)

Pianist: Jill Vodden

Offering Counters: Jean Bauer, Elda Bruning, and Susan Wilson

Website: www.kirklandflc.org

pastor@kirklandflc.org

secretary@kirklandflc.org

Hosts: Chuck Huey & Darla McManus

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!

Charmaine Massey 11/19

Beth Jones 11/20

ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS!!

James & Sara Haag 11/22/2002



PASTOR HARVEY JOHNSON TURNS "95"!

Pastor Harvey Johnson will turn "95" on November 17. He was our pastor from August 1, 1955 – October 30, 1961. Please share how you are connected to First Lutheran Church – family or moved/transferred. His address is:

Harvey Johnson

19 Dolphin Point Lane

Hilton Head Island, SC 29926-1956

WE HEAR THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

P The Spirit helps us in our weakness, and prays for us with sighs too deep for words. You are no longer in the flesh, you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. He who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit. There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. His peace be with you!

(Romans 8:1,9,11,26)

C And also with you.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

FIRST READING

Zephaniah 1:7-16

⁷Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is near; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests. ⁸And on the day of the Lord's sacrifice — "I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire. ⁹On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud. ¹⁰On that day," declares the Lord, "a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills. ¹¹Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off. ¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The Lord will not do good, nor will he do ill.' ¹³Their goods shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them." ¹⁴The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there. ¹⁵A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, ¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

L The Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

PSALM 90: 1-12 (read responsively by whole verse)

p. 258

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night,

and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

L The Word of the Lord. C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

Matthew 25:14-30

¹⁴{Jesus said to the disciples,} “For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. ¹⁵To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. ¹⁷So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. ¹⁸But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.’ ²¹His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ ²²And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.’ ²³His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ ²⁴He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.’ ²⁶But his master answered him, ‘You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. ²⁹For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

P The Gospel of the Lord. C Thanks be to God.

SERMON: PASTOR PHIL GRONBACH

STATEMENT OF FAITH – Nicene Creed

LBW p.84

MISSION MOMENTS

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

BLESSING OF THE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES OFFERING

We lay our completed pledge materials before the altar.

WE PREPARE FOR HOLY COMMUNION

P The Lord be with you. C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts!

C We lift them up to the Lord!

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.



THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P When Jesus instituted Holy Communion at the Last Supper before his crucifixion, He promised His disciples that one day they would again feast together in the kingdom of heaven.

C Dear Lord, keep us steadfast in faith until that day!

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

CLOSING SONG: “Take My Life, that I May Be”

LBW 406

THE BENEDICTION

P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

‘TIS THE SEASON FOR SHOEBOX GIFTS

This week is National Collection Week for Operation Christmas Child so our 71 boxes will be on their way.

Once the shoebox gifts reach their distribution countries, more volunteers are distributing them through the network of churches. Volunteer teachers lead the Greatest Journey classes, which the Lord has used to bring more than 11 million children to saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

On behalf of the children around the world, THANK YOU for packing gifts for Operation Christmas Child.