

Sunday 12/21: Join us after the service for coffee in the Fellowship Hall.

Monday 12/21: Food Truck Delivery, 9:30am;

Clothes Closet Open, 12-1:30pm.

Tuesday 12/22: Food Pantry set-up, 9:30-11am. Food dist., 12-2pm.

Thursday, 12/24: Christmas Eve Communion Service, 7pm.

Friday 12/25: Christmas Day Communion Service, 9:30am.

Saturday, 12/26: No Saturday Service

Sunday, 12/27: Worship Service, 9am.

PUBLICATION OF BANNS

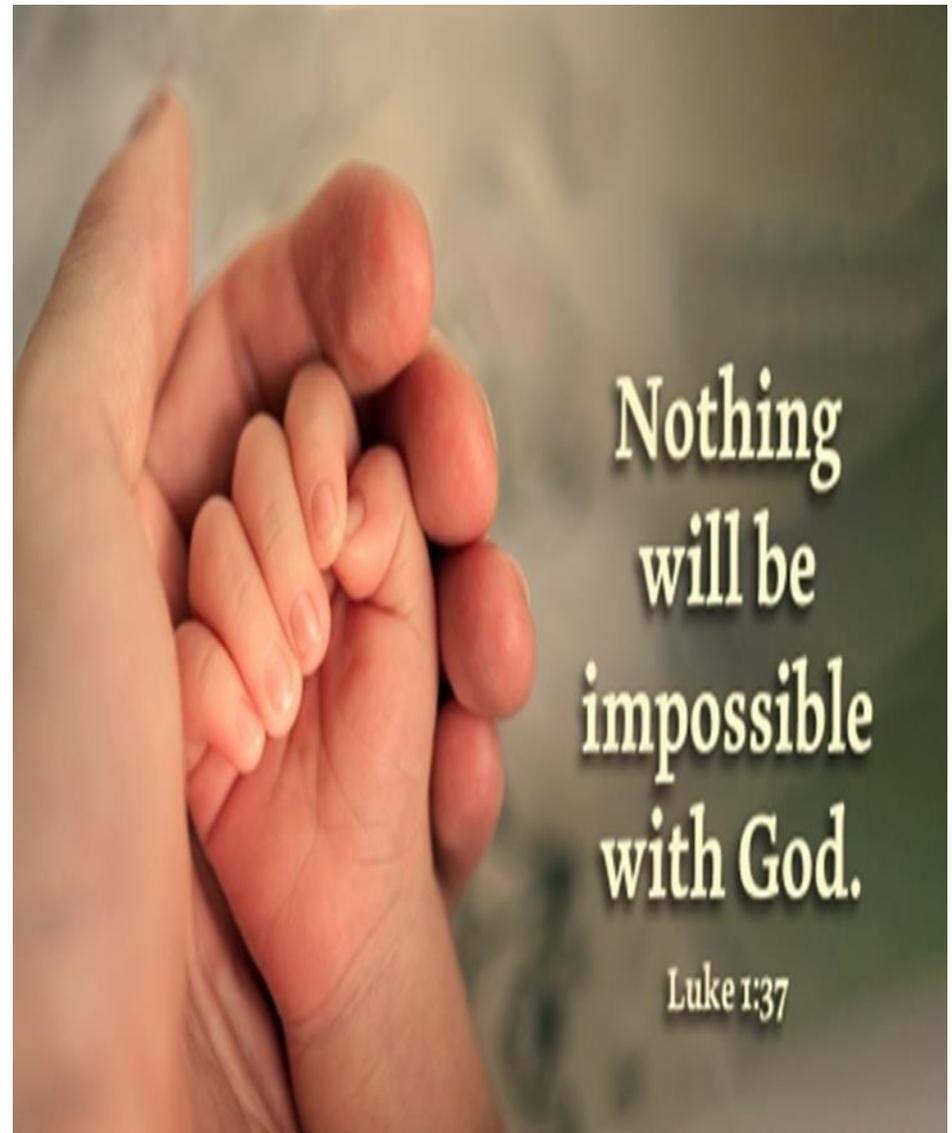
Ben Blobaum and Amy Shemberger will be married on December 29th here at FLC. Pastor Rasmussen will conduct the ceremony and Nancy will be playing the organ.

Laura (Lacefield) Cook and David Block will be married on December 31st here at First Lutheran. Pastor Gronbach will conduct the ceremony.

PARISH CONCERNS

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

- All who are providing essential services during the pandemic, and all who are affected by it.
- Ashley Wrobel will be having more tests. Pray for a clear diagnosis.
- Jo Boehmer's niece, Jackie had pancreatic cancer surgery on Wednesday. She will begin chemotherapy after Christmas.
- Our congregation's patience as we wait for God's leading for a new Pastor.
- Pray for our next Pastor that their heart will be stirred to come to FLC.
- 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.
- 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.
- Our church and its activities, and all Christian churches.
- May God bless America, our president, elected leaders, police officers, first responders, and military personnel, that they hear, and receive God's guidance and protection.
- The NALC, NALS, the Great Rivers 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, December 19, 2020
With readings for the 4th Sunday of Advent*

First Lutheran Church – Putting Christ First

Saturday, December 19, 2020 – with readings for

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

A WARM WELCOME TO ALL who are worshipping with us today! We hope that the service will be a joy and blessing to you.

LBW – green hymnal

THE SERVICE BEGINS

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

C Dear heavenly Father, you comforted your people with the promise that you would send us a savior;

P AND OF THE SON:

C Come Lord Jesus, the Son of God! Come in power and glory and victory! Come quickly, and save your people;

P AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:

C Come upon us, O Spirit of power and might. Breathe on us your life-giving breath, that we may watch and wait for Christ's return. Amen

SONG: “Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel” vv. 1-3

LBW 34

WE CONFESS

P With the words of Isaiah and the Psalms, we confess our sins and our grief, and we hear the comfort of the Lord.

C All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field: the grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass.

Isaiah 40

How shall we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land? If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand wither! Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth, if I do not remember you, if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy.

Psalm 137

WE HEAR THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

P The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever! Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God! Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry unto her that her punishment is over, that her guilt is pardoned, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. Behold, the Lord is coming to you. He will feed his flock like a shepherd, he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

Isaiah 40

SHARING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY



CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

Thank you to all who were able to attend the Congregational Call Workshops. Thank you to all those shared their input if they were unable to attend. What a wonderful two days of discussion and open sharing.

The Call committee has filled out our Congregational Profile and will be sending this and a video of our church and parsonage soon to the NALC.

What's next?

- NALC will put the profile and video on their website and email it to all NALC Pastors.
- WE (FLC) PRAY & WAIT for interested Pastors to send us their profile.
- The call committee will interview each pastoral candidate.

The call committee will continue to share weekly updates. Updates will also continue to be in the bulletins.



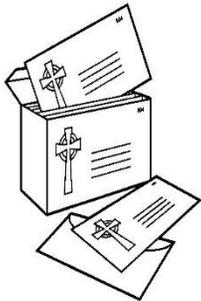
CHRISTMAS SERVICES



Our traditional Christmas Eve Communion candlelight service will be on Thursday, December 24th at 7:00 PM.



Our traditional Christmas Day Morning Communion Service will be Friday, December 25th at 9:30 AM. (We will not be singing carol requests.)



YOUR 2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES WILL BE MAILED TO YOUR HOME ADDRESS.

If you didn't have envelopes in 2020, but would like some for 2021, speak to Dianna Wittwer. Please Note: Contributions are entered by envelope numbers. Please make sure to use 2020 envelopes for the rest of the year. Envelope numbers have changed for 2021 and are RED in color. Thank you! See Dianna Wittwer with any questions or call me: 815-522-3886 or 815-378-6654.

END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS

If you would like to make a year-end contribution for 2020, please have it into the church office on December 31st by 11am. It will be deposited by noon. Thank you.



OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANNUAL MEETING **SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 2021**

The meeting will begin immediately following the Worship service.

Annual reports are due Sunday, January 3rd; report booklets will be available Saturday, January 16th.

FIRST READING

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

¹When the king lived in his house and the Lord had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, ²the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." ³And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the Lord is with you." ⁴But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, ⁵"Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the Lord: Would you build me a house to dwell in?' ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. ⁷In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" ⁸Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. ⁹And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. ¹⁶"And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.'"

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

PSALM 89:1-5 (Read responsively by half verse)

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SECOND READING

Romans 16:25-27

²⁵Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith — ²⁷to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

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

GOSPEL

Luke 1:26-38

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be.

³⁰And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” ³⁴And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?” ³⁵And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy — the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

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

SERMON: PASTOR PHIL GRONBACH

SONG: “Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel” vv. 4 & 5

NICENE CREED

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

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

LORD'S PRAYER

LBW p. 97

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

POST COMMUNION READING

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

C Amen.

P People of God, stay awake and alert, and fight the good fight of faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you have been called, to which you have today borne witness in the presence of many witnesses. The Lord is coming soon!

C Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! Come quickly!

CLOSING SONG: “Mary’s Little Boy Child”

See Insert

BENEDICTION

P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God!

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 & Jo Boehmer

Website: www.kirklandflc.org

pastor@kirklandflc.org

secretary@kirklandflc.org

Hosts: Jack & Josh Sunderlage

Next Week’s Readings:

Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 111; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40

BIRTHDAYS

Chuck Peterson 12/26

Malcolm Anderberg 12/29

Nathan Watson 12/31

Natalie Norris 12/27/2019

Amanda Wrobel 12/29

SOCKS BOX

Thank you for your generosity. There were **90** pairs of socks that were collected for our local shelters.



CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL GARDEN

Poinsettias for our Christmas Memorial Garden are ready to order. Only 3 plants are available, **please order early**. They are \$9.00 each and order forms are in the narthex.