

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

Today 1/3: Join us in Fellowship Hall for coffee.

**Annual Reports due today to Dianna via Email, if possible.**

Tuesday 1/5: Food Pantry Set-up, 9:30am; dist., 12-2pm.

Wednesday 1/6: The Day of Epiphany.

Thursday 1/7: Food Truck Delivery, 8am; Worship & Music Team Mtg, 9:30am; Confirmation Class, 4pm; Church Council, 7pm.

Saturday 1/9: Worship Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 1/10: Worship Service, 9am. Newsletter Items due today.



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

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

- Lisa Coyle will have a cardiac procedure done in January.
- Amanda Wrobel will be having more tests. Pray for a clear diagnosis.
- Jo Boehmer's niece, Jackie had pancreatic cancer surgery recently. She will begin chemotherapy soon.
- Patience our congregation waits for responses to our Church Call profile.
- Pray for our next Pastor as they pray about coming to FLC.
- All who are providing essential services during the pandemic, and all who are affected by it.
- All those who are not able to worship with us because they are in health care facilities or homebound: 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.

He destined us in love  
to be his sons through Jesus Christ,  
according to the purpose of his will,  
to the praise of his glorious grace  
which he freely bestowed on us  
in the Beloved.

Ephesians 1:5-6

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

*Saturday, January 2, 2021  
With readings for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Christmas*

# *First Lutheran Church- Putting Christ First*

**Saturday, January 2, 2021**

*(with scripture readings for the Second Sunday after Christmas)*

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

## **THE SERVICE BEGINS**

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

**C** O Mighty God, you once revealed yourself to your people on Mount Sinai, in fire and thunder and cloud, as you gave your Ten Commandments;

**P** AND OF THE SON:

**C** O Jesus, our Lord and God, you made your divine power manifest by changing water into wine, healing the sick, and teaching the people with power and authority;

**P** AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:

**C** O Divine Spirit, when Jesus was baptized, you came upon him in the form of a dove. Come upon us now, in the speaking of your Word. AMEN!

**OPENING SONG:** "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

**LBW 44**

## **WE CONFESS**

**P** Let us confess our sin and griefs, and hear the comfort of the Lord.

**C** If you revealed only your power and your law to us, O Lord, we would be undone. Like the Israelites who trembled with power fear at Mt. Sinai, and like the disciple Peter, who upon seeing your over nature, cried out, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!", we too would be reduced to fear and trembling, guilt and hopelessness. We confess that we have not and cannot live up to your righteous and good laws, and that we cannot stand before your almighty power.

## **WE HEAR THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION**

**P** Jesus reveals himself to us most completely, not through laws, commandments, and displays of awesome power, but through lowliness and humility. He came to John the Baptist to be baptized, though he didn't need to at all. By doing so, he showed that he is not ashamed to be associated with sinners. Indeed, he loves sinners, and wants to come into their lives and be their friend. Jesus loves us sinners. In His name, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins. The peace of the Lord be with you always!

**C** And also with you!

## **CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Our congregational profile and video should be soon in the email box of the NALC. They will put it on their website and all the NALC pastors will receive a copy. All of the Pastors will be praying for First Lutheran Church and other churches that are looking for a new pastor.

## **OUR PART - PRAYER!**

- \* Pray that our congregational profile and a video of the church and parsonage will be submitted without problems to the NALC.
- \* Pray that our profile & video will be on the NALC website shortly after they receive it.
- \* Pray that we will have interest in our church and that we will be able to begin interviewing soon.
- \* Pray that God is preparing the heart of our new pastor.
- \* Pray that we will be patient during this process. The average time is almost nine months.
- \* Pray for Pastor Phil Gronbach and for his ministry to First Lutheran.
- \* Pray to God, Thanking Him that he has provided Pastor Phil Gronbach as our interim Pastor.



**ANNUAL MEETING** will be on Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup>. Annual reports are due **Sunday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>**; report booklets will be available Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup>. You may email them to Dianna at [secretary@kirklandflc.org](mailto:secretary@kirklandflc.org).

## **Next Week's Readings:**

Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29; Romans 6:1-11; Mark 1:4-11

**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:** Mary Loomis and Donna Koehnke

Website: [www.kirklandflc.org](http://www.kirklandflc.org)

[pastor@kirklandflc.org](mailto:pastor@kirklandflc.org)

[secretary@kirklandflc.org](mailto:secretary@kirklandflc.org)

**Saturday Hosts:** Dan & Janelle Pahnke

### **BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!**

Marie Balch 1/3

Jean Bauer 1/3

Loraine Krabbe 1/5

Sara Haag 1/7

Jennifer Block 1/8

Jennifer Sunderlage 1/9

### **ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS!!!**

Keith & Renee Krabbe 1/1/2017

John & jo Boehmer 1/5/1992



### **CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLYWEDS**

Ben & Amy Blobaum were married here on Tuesday, December 29th.

David & Laura Block were married here on Thursday, December 31st.  
God's riches blessings upon your marriages.



We need bell ringers. Please consider learning to be a bell ringer by staying after worship service TOMORROW for a short lesson.

### **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.



## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

#### **FIRST READING**

1 Kings 3:4-15

<sup>4</sup>The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. <sup>5</sup>At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I shall give you." <sup>6</sup>And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. <sup>7</sup>And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. <sup>8</sup>And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. <sup>9</sup>Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?" <sup>10</sup>It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. <sup>11</sup>And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, <sup>12</sup>behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. <sup>13</sup>I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. <sup>14</sup>And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days." <sup>15</sup>And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

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

**PSALM 119:97-104** (read responsively by whole verse)

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## SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:3-14

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love <sup>5</sup>he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, <sup>8</sup>which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup>In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, <sup>12</sup>so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup>who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

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

## GOSPEL

Luke 2:40-52

<sup>40</sup>The child {Jesus} grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him. <sup>41</sup>Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. <sup>42</sup>And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. <sup>43</sup>And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, <sup>44</sup>but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, <sup>45</sup>and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." <sup>49</sup>And he said to

them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" <sup>50</sup>And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. <sup>51</sup>And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup>And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

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

## SERMON: PASTOR PHIL GRONBACH

**SONG:** "Your Little Ones, Dear Lord" vv.1 & 2

**STATEMENT OF FAITH:** 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**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

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

**C** Amen.

**P** Isaiah said of old, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to bring good news."

**C** People of God, today this prophecy has been fulfilled in your hearing.

**C** Amen!

**THE BENEDICTION**

**CLOSING SONG:** "Your Little Ones, Dear Lord" vv. 3 & 4

**P** Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

**C** Thanks be to God!

**LBW 52**

LBW p.84

LBW p.91

**LBW 52**