

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

Sunday 1/10: Join us in Fellowship Hall for coffee. **Newsletter Items due.**

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

Wednesday 1/13: Newsletter folding, 9am.

Thursday 1/14: Confirmation Class, 5pm.

Saturday 1/16: Communion Service, 5:30pm. Annual reports are ready.

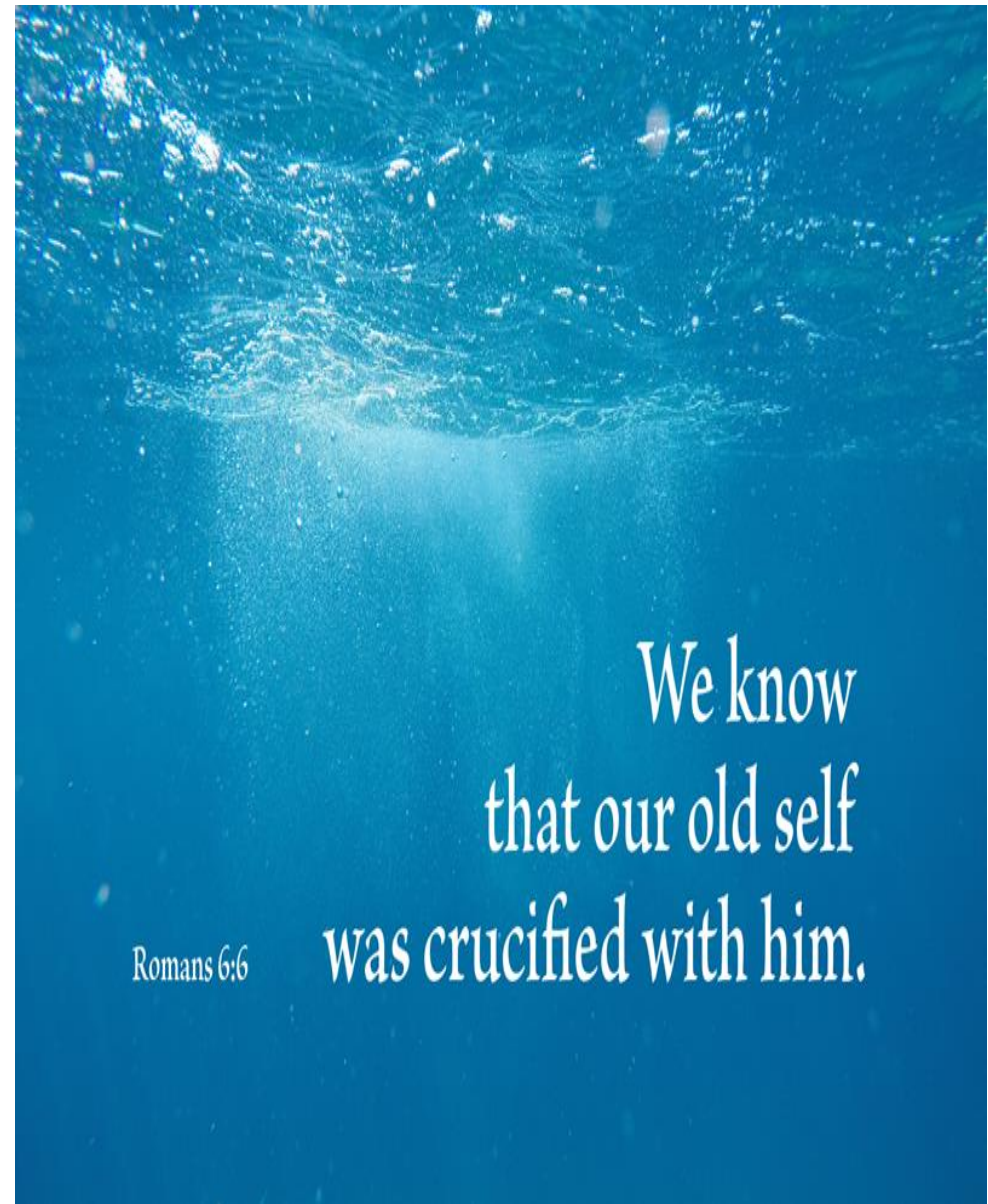
Sunday 1/17: Communion Service, 9am. Annual reports are ready.



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

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

- Lisa Coyle's was to have a cardiac procedure done in January. It has now been postponed.
- Patience as our congregation waits for responses to our Church Call profile.
- Pray for our next Pastor as they are led to our church.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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, January 9, 2021  
With readings for the Baptism of Our Lord*

# *First Lutheran Church – Putting Christ First*

**Saturday, January 9, 2021**

(with scripture readings for the Baptism of Our Lord)

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

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

**C** O Mighty God, you once revealed yourself to your people on Mt. 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:** “When Jesus Came to Jordan” vv.1 &2 WOV 647

## **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 fear at Mt. Sinai, and like the disciple Peter, who upon seeing your power 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!

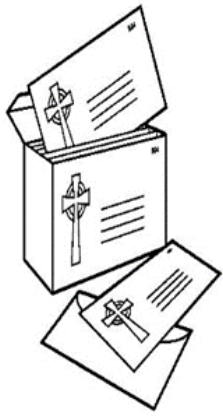
## CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

Our congregational profile and video are on the NALC website! If you would like to look, go to [www.theNALC.org](http://www.theNALC.org). Then go to the tab “Ministry Discernment” and then “Call Process”. You will see the Congregational Vacancy List, click on Illinois. We have a lot to offer the next Pastor.

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.

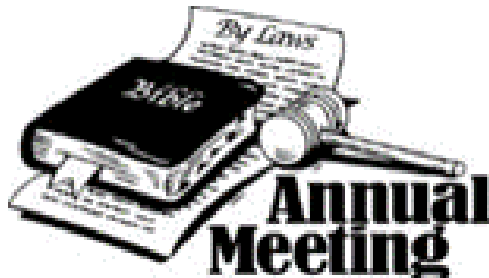
## OUR PART - PRAYER!

- \* Pray that our congregational profile and a video of the church and parsonage will be submitted to the NALC without problems. **{ANSWERED}**
- \* Pray that our profile & video will be on the NALC website shortly after they receive it. **{ANSWERED}**
- \* 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.
- \* Thank God for Pastor Phil Gronbach filling in as our interim Pastor.



**YOUR 2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES HAVE BEEN MAILED DIRECTLY TO YOUR HOME ADDRESS.**

The envelope boxes were mailed from the envelope company, which is in Ohio, to your home on December 15, 2020. There is not an estimated day of delivery. I'm sorry for the inconvenience. See Dianna Wittwer with any questions or call me: 815-522-3886 or 815-378-6654.



**ANNUAL MEETING** will be on Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup> immediately after Sunday worship. Please plan on staying for the meeting or coming to church for the meeting.

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**FIRST READING**

**Genesis 1:1-5**

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup>The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup>And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

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

**PSALM 29** (Read responsively by half verse)

p. 228

**SECOND READING**

**Romans 6:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup>By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? <sup>3</sup>Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. <sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup>We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup>For one who has died has been set free from sin. <sup>8</sup>Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. <sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup>We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup>For one who has died has been set free from sin. <sup>8</sup>Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has

dominion over him. <sup>10</sup>For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. <sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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

## **GOSPEL**

**Mark 1:4-11**

<sup>4</sup>John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." <sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

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

## **SERMON: PASTOR PHIL GRONBACH**

**SONG:** "When Jesus Came to Jordan" v. 3

**STATEMENT OF FAITH:** Apostles' Creed

**THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**OFFERING**

**CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE**

**CLOSING RESPONSIVE READING**

Based on the Song of Simeon, also known as the "Nunc Dimittis"  
(Luke 2:29-32)

**P** Lord, now you dismiss your servants in peace.

**C** Now, Lord, knowing your promises, we can depart in peace; and one day, we can depart this world in peace.

**WOV 647**

LBW p.85

LBW p.85

LBW p.91

**P** Our eyes have seen God's salvation!

**C** "Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord!" We have seen Christ, with the eyes of faith.

**P** He has prepared His salvation in the sight of every people.

**C** By a star, God led Gentiles from the east to His infant son. His salvation is for all people – not just for some.

**P** God's Son is the light of the world, revealing Him to all nations.

**C** May we too be the light of the world, as Christ has called us.

**P** He is the glory of God's people Israel.

**C** We thank God for His chosen people, and for His Messiah, Jesus Christ.  
And we thank Him for making us, and all who believe in Jesus, His chosen people!

**P** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

**C** As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. AMEN.

## **THE BENEDICTION**

**CLOSING SONG:** "Baptized in Water"

**WOV 693**

**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:** Mary Loomis and Donna Koehnke

**Attendance Last Sunday, 1/3:** 27

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

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

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

**Saturday Hosts:** Gary & Peggy Steinhorst

**Attendance Saturday, 1/2:** 19

## **BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!**

Kay Newberry 1/13

Gary Seegers 1/15

James Haag 1/16

Mike Percudani 1/14

Chris Mothkovich 1/16

Lisa Coyle 1/17