



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

*Saturday, February 13, 2021  
(With readings for the Transfiguration of Our Lord)*

# *First Lutheran Church - Putting Christ First*

Saturday, February 13, 2021

(with scripture readings for the Transfiguration of Our Lord)

**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:** "How Good, Lord, to Be Here! vv.1-2 **LBW 89**

## **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!

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

#### FIRST READING: Exodus 34:29-35

<sup>29</sup>When Moses came down from Mount Sinai, with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand as he came down from the mountain, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. <sup>30</sup>Aaron and all the people of Israel saw Moses, and behold, the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to come near him. <sup>31</sup>But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses talked with them. <sup>32</sup>Afterward all the people of Israel came near, and he commanded them all that the Lord had spoken with him in Mount Sinai. <sup>33</sup>And when Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face. <sup>34</sup>Whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would remove the veil, until he came out. And when he came out and told the people of Israel what he was commanded, <sup>35</sup>the people of Israel would see the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face was shining. And Moses would put the veil over his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

P The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

**PSALM 50:1-6** (Responsively by whole verse)

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#### SECOND READING:

**2 Corinthians 3:12-13, 4:1-6**

<sup>12</sup>Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, <sup>13</sup>not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end.

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. <sup>2</sup>But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. <sup>3</sup>And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup>In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. <sup>5</sup>For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup>For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our

hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

**P** The Word of the Lord

**C** Thanks be to God

**GOSPEL:**

**Mark 9:2-9**

<sup>2</sup>After six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, <sup>3</sup>and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. <sup>4</sup>And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup>And Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." <sup>6</sup>For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. <sup>7</sup>And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him." <sup>8</sup>And suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only. <sup>9</sup>And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

**P** The Gospel of the Lord

**C** Thanks be to God

**SERMON: PASTOR PHIL GRONBACH**

**SONG:** "How Good, Lord, to Be Here! vv.4-5

**LBW 89**

**STATEMENT OF FAITH:** Apostles' Creed

LBW p.85

**THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

LBW p.85

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

LBW p.91

**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.

**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:** “Beautiful Savior”

**LBW 518**

- P** Go in peace! Serve the Lord!  
**C** Thanks be to God!

**Church Office:** (815)522-3886

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

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

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

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

**Pianist:** Jill Vodden

**Offering Counters:** Ashley Boyer & Doug Springborn

**Saturday Hosts:** Gary & Peggy Steinhorst

Attendance Last Sunday, 2/7: 25

Attendance Saturday, 2/6: 17

**BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!**

Delaney Cook 2/13/14

Janice Sheehan 2/14

Steve May 2/15

Sandy Gustafson 2/15

Lori Ford- Schaben 2/18

Val Norris 2/20

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!!**

Denny & Debbie Rehn 2/17/73

Randal & Angela Nelson 2/20/93

## CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

Nothing new, we are waiting patiently for Pastors to send or email their pastoral profile.

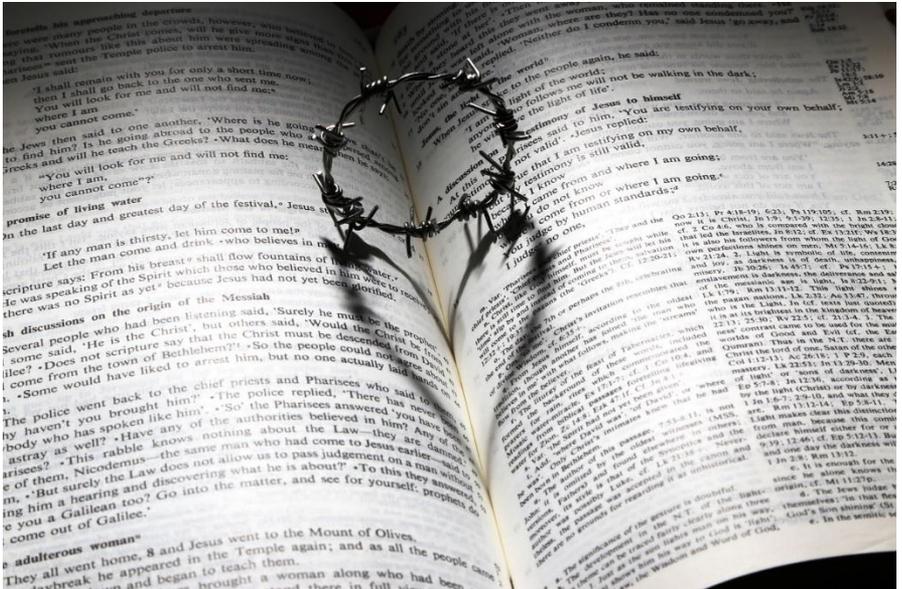
Pray for the new Pastor's heart to be stirred to look at First Lutheran Church now.

The NALC has shared that the average time of the call process is 9 months. This time may be a little longer since the Co-vid 19 virus has changed our lives.

Please be praying fervently.

### Next Week's Readings:

Genesis 22:1-18; Psalm 25:1-10; James 1:12-18; Mark 1:9-15



## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

Sunday 2/14: Join us for coffee in the fellowship hall.

Newsletter items due today! Happy Valentine's Day!

Monday 2/15: Food truck delivery, 9:30am.

Tuesday 2/16: Food Pantry Set-up, 9:30am; dist., 12-2pm.

Wednesday 2/17: Newsletter folding, 9am;

Ash Wednesday Communion Service with imposition of ashes, 6:30pm.

Thursday 2/18: Confirmation Class, 4pm.

Saturday 2/20: Communion Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 2/21: Communion Service, 9am.

## **"THE MISSION OF CHRIST'S CHURCH"**

This year we will focus on the themes of the Workshop in Preparation for Calling a Pastor which our congregation participated in during December: "The Mission of Christ's Church".

February 24 – The Church: Status Quo or Mission

March 4 – The Church: Division or Unity

March 11 – The Ministry of Church and Pastor

March 17 – Church Guidance: Listen to God or Listen to Self

March 24 – Church Decisions: Thy Will be Done or  
My Will be Done



## **PASTOR PHIL'S ON-LINE BIBLE STUDY**

You are invited to join Pastor Phil Gronbach for a Zoom meeting Bible study. There are two studies offered: Mondays at 7pm and Tuesdays at 9am. Please share with Dianna the email address that you would like to use for the zoom meetings.



Pray for the following families who have lost loved ones this week.

- Virginia Rasmussen, Gordon Rasmussen's wife died this past week. Gordon was our organist for many years.
- Mike Sheehan, Jim Sheehan's brother died February 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Sanderson family – Joanne Sanderson's two brothers-in-laws died this past week: Gerald Sanderson, died on Tuesday, Feb. 9 and Charles Lawrence died last Thursday, Feb 4.

May God's promise of the resurrection comfort all who mourn the loss of Virginia Rasmussen, Mike Sheehan, Gerald Sanderson, and Charles Lawrence.

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

- Brayden Boyer had an endoscopy and his biopsies came back clear. Pray for a clear diagnosis and future plan of action.
- Jackie Conner, Jo Boehmer's niece, who is going through chemo for pancreatic cancer.
- Elaine Sheets, Peggy Veach's sister is having adverse effects from the CoVid vaccine and not doing so good.
- Pray for our next Pastor as they listen to God's leading and our patience to wait.
- 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 pregnant women and the babies they are carrying.
- All those who are suffering physical or mental illness, and their families, caregivers, and medical teams.
- Animals that are out in the cold.
- 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.
- All who are providing essential services during the pandemic, and all who are affected by it.
- 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.