



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

Saturday, June 12, 2021
With Readings for 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

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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 Dear Heavenly Father, we praise you for sending us the Holy Spirit, to be with us always and to remind us of your son;

P AND OF THE SON:

C Dear Lord Jesus Christ, you comforted your followers with the promise of the Holy Spirit, who makes us holy;

P AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:

C Dear Holy Spirit, you came upon the church at Pentecost. Fill the church with your presence and power, now and always!

All: AMEN!

OPENING SONG:

“We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight”

WOV 165

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)

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, who dwells in you. 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:

Ezekiel 17:22-24

²²Thus says the Lord God: "I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar and will set it out. I will break off from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one, and I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³On the mountain height of Israel will I plant it, that it may bear branches and produce fruit and become a noble cedar. And under it will dwell every kind of bird; in the shade of its branches birds of every sort will nest. ²⁴And all the trees of the field shall know that I am the Lord; I bring low the high tree, and make high the low tree, dry up the green tree, and make the dry tree flourish. I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it."

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

PSALM 1 (Read responsively by whole verse)

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SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:1-10

¹For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ²For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, ³if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. ⁴For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened — not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. ⁶So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, ⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

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

GOSPEL

Mark 4:26-34

²⁶{Jesus} said, “The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. ²⁷He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. ²⁸The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.” ³⁰And he said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? ³¹It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.” ³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. ³⁴He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.

P The Gospel of our Lord

C Thanks be to God.

SERMON: PASTOR PHIL GRONBACH

SONG: “Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast”

LBW 234

STATEMENT OF FAITH – Apostles’ Creed

p. 85

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

O Lord God, you have laid claim to us and have set us apart as your own beloved children. Help us not to think too highly of ourselves, or to seek glory by personal merit. Rather, help us to rest our faith and hope in your grace alone. In all things, let us remain strong in faith, and lead us by your Spirit at work in your Word.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Saving Lord, we pray for your mission in the world and that your message of salvation will be heard in all nations. We pray for the spread of your Word through missionaries and evangelists, pastors and teachers, administrators and workers of the Gospel. Let all Christian lives bear witness to your redeeming work in Christ.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Shepherd and defender of our souls, we pray you would protect and bless those who serve in places of conflict, and for the sake of others, must stand in harm's way. Keep those who serve in armed forces around the world safe in your keeping [especially ...]. Bring them home in safety to their loved ones. Grant healing, courage, and peace of heart to those who return from deployment with wounds both visible and invisible.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Compassionate God, bring your healing presence into the lives of all who are suffering in mind, body, or spirit. Be present with individuals and communities who are suffering the effects of natural disasters or violent weather. [We pray especially for]

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

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OFFERING

CLOSING RESPONSIVE READING

(The prophecy of Joel, recorded in Acts 2:17-21)

P In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,

C And your sons and your daughters shall prophesy!

P And your young men shall see visions!

C And your old men shall dream dreams!

P Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

C Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

WOV 771

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

Hosts: Vernon & Jane Johnson

Attendance Last Saturday, 6/5:18

Website: www.kirklandflc.org

pastor@kirklandflc.org

secretary@kirklandflc.org

Offering Counters: Jean Bauer and Elda Bruning

Last Sunday, 6/6:47



BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!

Carl Rasmussen 6/14

Calli Emerich 6/15/06

Ashley Boyer 6/15

Cameron Emerich 6/15/06

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

We will be visiting with a 4th Pastor on Monday, June 14th. Pray for God's leading and understanding of His purpose.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Would you be willing to chair, co-chair, teach or help with Vacation Bible School? We have the curriculum. We have two volunteers - Kylee Heck, a 2021 high school graduate, and our newest confirmand, Marissa Hernandez. The

dates haven't been set as that would depend on whoever would chair or co-chair. If you are willing to help in any capacity, please let Dianna Wittwer know.



PARSONAGE LANDSCAPING NEEDS WEEDING

If you would like to weed the parsonage landscaping, please help yourself and bring a friend!

Sunday 6/13: Join us in the Fellowship Hall for coffee.

Newsletter Items Due!

Tuesday 6/15: Food Pantry Set-up, 9:30-11am; dist., 12-2pm.

Wednesday 6/16: Newsletter Folding, 9am.

Saturday 6/19: Communion Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 6/20: Communion Service, 9:00am. Happy Father's Day!

SEMI-ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Mark your calendar for Sunday 6/27. This will be our Semi-annual meeting. We will be voting for our Council board members.

PARISH CONCERNS

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

- Peggy Veach has made it to Iowa. Praise God.
- Louie Mielke will be having surgery on his arm on June 25.
- All those who are suffering physical or mental illness, and their families, caregivers, and medical teams. We pray especially for Trudy Loomis, Bob & Lisa Coyle, Onie Luepkas and Jackie Conner.
- 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.
- Ben Blobaum, our Seminarian, for discernment about a vicarage (internship) position.
- Pray for God to lead a new Pastor to us.
- Pray for all NALC congregations that are looking for a new Pastor.
- Our church and its activities, and all Christian churches.
- Persecuted Christians throughout the world.
- The NALC, NALS, the Great Rivers Mission District, all Christian churches, and our partners in SC and PA.