

BEHOLD,
I AM SETTING
A PLUMB LINE
IN THE MIDST
OF MY PEOPLE,

Israel.



AMOS 7:8

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

*Saturday, July 10, 2021
With Readings for 7th 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: "Holy God, We Praise Your Name" **LBW 535**

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:

Amos 7:7-15

⁷This is what {the Lord God } showed me: behold, the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. ⁸And the Lord said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said, "Behold, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass by them; ⁹the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword." ¹⁰Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the midst of the house of Israel. The land is not able to bear all his words. ¹¹For thus Amos has said, 'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.'" ¹²And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, and eat bread there, and prophesy there, ¹³but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom." ¹⁴Then Amos answered and said to Amaziah, "I was no prophet, nor a prophet's son, but I was a herdsman and a dresser of sycamore figs. ¹⁵But the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'"

P The Word of our Lord

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 85 (read responsively by whole verse)

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SECOND READING:

Ephesians 1:3-14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as

a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In 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, ¹²so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³In 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, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

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

GOSPEL

Mark 6:14-29

¹⁴King Herod heard of {Jesus' works}, for Jesus' name had become known. Some said, "John the Baptist has been raised from the dead. That is why these miraculous powers are at work in him."
¹⁵But others said, "He is Elijah." And others said, "He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised." ¹⁷For it was Herod who had sent and seized John and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because he had married her. ¹⁸For John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to put him to death. But she could not, ²⁰for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he kept him safe. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed, and yet he heard him gladly. ²¹But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his nobles and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee. ²²For when Herodias's daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests. And the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it to you." ²³And he vowed to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half of my kingdom." ²⁴And she went out and said to her mother, "For what should I ask?" And she said, "The head of John the Baptist." ²⁵And she came in immediately with haste to the king and asked, saying, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." ²⁶And the king was exceedingly sorry, but because of his oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her. ²⁷And immediately the king sent

an executioner with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison ²⁸and brought his head on a platter and gave it to the girl, and the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹When his disciples heard of it, they came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

P The Gospel of our Lord

C Thanks be to God.

SERMON:

"THE PLUMB LINE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS"

SONG: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

WOV 771

STATEMENT OF FAITH – Apostles' Creed

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THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Lord God, you call us by name and make us your own in the waters of Baptism. Strengthen those who are newly baptized, those who have affirmed their baptism, and those whose baptismal anniversary is this week. Give to all those who are baptized the grace to trust in the resurrection of Christ, and through believing, to have life in his name.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Praise and thanksgiving be to you, O holy God. You take delight in providing good things for your children. We thank you for bringing us wonderful things to eat that are a delight to the senses. Make us truly grateful for every sign of your blessing and give us grace to show our gratitude.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, you are our merciful God. We remember and pray for all those who stand in harm's way on behalf of others. Keep your watchful eye on them and guide, protect, and strengthen them all. Prosper their works that make for peace, safety and justice.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Holy Spirit, guide our church to the Pastor you have in mind for us. Help us to let You be in charge and guide us with your Word and the study of Scripture. Give us patience and trust in your wisdom. We also ask you to be at work in the thoughts and heart of the pastor you have in mind to draw that pastor to serve this congregation. Make us a mission congregation who will work with a new pastor to reach out to our town and with the love of Christ. Make us instruments of your saving work.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God, our strength and wholeness, embrace with your boundless compassion all who cry out for nourishment, peace of mind, or healing [especially ...]. Use us as your instruments to bring hope, comfort, and care to all those in need, so we may bear witness to your loving kindness.

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: "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" **LBW 499**

P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God!



Thank you, Seminarian Ben Blobaum, for providing pulpit supply this weekend. Pastor Phil is spending time with family this week.

Church Office: (815) 522-3886

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

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

Pianist: Jill Vodden

Hosts: Gary & Peggy Steinhorst

Attendance Last Saturday, 7/3:16

Website: www.kirklandflc.org

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Offering Counters: Renee Krabbe & Susan Wilson

Last Sunday, 7/4:31

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!



Karen Chastain-Johns 7/14

Reagan Cook 7/14/10

Noah Rasmussen 7/14/16

Constant Brisart 7/16



ANNIVERSAY BLESSINGS

Doug & Angie Springborn 7/12/03

Richard & Susan Wilson 7/12/97

Next Week's Readings:

Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 23; Ephesians 2:11-22; Mark 6:30-44

Sunday 7/11: Join us for coffee in the fellowship hall after worship. Newsletter items are due.

Tuesday 7/13: Food Pantry Set-up, 9:30-11am; dist., 12-2pm.

Wednesday 7/14: Newsletter folding, 9am.

Saturday 7/17: Communion Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 7/18: Communion Service, 9:00am.

PARISH CONCERNS

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

- Gary Steinhorst's mother, Lorraine is struggling with dementia progression.
- Pray for pregnant women and the babies they are carrying.
- Jason Gorski, Dan Pahnke's nephew who is fighting cancer again. Pray for strength and courage.
- All those who are suffering physical or mental illness, and their families, caregivers, and medical teams. We pray especially for Trudy Loomis, Onie Luepkes 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 all NALC congregations that are waiting for new Pastors, let us all be patient for the right one that You Lord, are sending.
- Persecuted Christians throughout the world.
- The NALC, NALS, the Great Rivers Mission District, all Christian churches, and our partners in SC and PA.