



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

*Saturday, August 21, 2021  
With Readings for 13<sup>th</sup> 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:** “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

**LBW 551**

### **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**

Care for your Church, O Lord, with perpetual mercy. Since we totter and are sure to fall without your grace, remove what will harm us and arrange what will make us whole. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## **FIRST READING:**

Isaiah 29:11-19

<sup>11</sup>The vision of all this has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed. When men give it to one who can read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot, for it is sealed." <sup>12</sup>And when they give the book to one who cannot read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot read." <sup>13</sup>And the Lord said: "Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men, <sup>14</sup>therefore, behold, I will again do wonderful things with this people, with wonder upon wonder; and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden." <sup>15</sup>Ah, you who hide deep from the Lord your counsel, whose deeds are in the dark, and who say, "Who sees us? Who knows us?" <sup>16</sup>You turn things upside down! Shall the potter be regarded as the clay, that the thing made should say of its maker, "He did not make me"; or the thing formed say of him who formed it, "He has no understanding"? <sup>17</sup>Is it not yet a very little while until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest? <sup>18</sup>In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book, and out of their gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind shall see. <sup>19</sup>The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the Lord, and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.

**P** The Word of our Lord

**C** Thanks be to God.

**PSALM 53**(read by whole verse)

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## **SECOND READING:**

Ephesians 5:22-33

<sup>22</sup>Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. <sup>23</sup>For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. <sup>24</sup>Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. <sup>25</sup>Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church

and gave himself up for her, <sup>26</sup>that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, <sup>27</sup>so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. <sup>28</sup>In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. <sup>29</sup>For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, <sup>30</sup>because we are members of his body. <sup>31</sup>“Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” <sup>32</sup>This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. <sup>33</sup>However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

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

## **GOSPEL**

Mark 7:1-13

<sup>1</sup>When the Pharisees gathered to {Jesus}, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. <sup>3</sup>(For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly, holding to the tradition of the elders, <sup>4</sup>and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.) <sup>5</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” <sup>6</sup>And he said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, ‘This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; <sup>7</sup>in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’ <sup>8</sup>You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.” <sup>9</sup>And he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition! <sup>10</sup>For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’ <sup>11</sup>But you say, ‘If a man tells his father or his mother, “Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban”’ (that is, given to God) — <sup>12</sup>then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, <sup>13</sup>thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down.

And many such things you do.”

P The Gospel of our Lord

C Thanks be to God.

## SERMON: “SIGN OF THE CROSS”

**SONG:** “Be Thou My Vision”

**WOV 776**

**STATEMENT OF FAITH** – Apostles’ Creed

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### **THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Holy Spirit, by our own reason and strength we cannot believe in Jesus Christ, our Lord, or come to him. But you have called us by the Gospel and enlightened us with your gifts. Sanctify and keep us in true faith, so that we may daily listen for your promise, and at the last day we may be raised up and given eternal life with all who believe in Christ. *Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Heavenly Father, as the summer begins to wind down, we will move again into the cycle of harvest and the return to school. Remind us of your presence in all our transitions and help us to treasure each and every moment.

*Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Lord of Creation, look with kindness on your creation. Restore wholeness to rivers and seas, deserts and forests, farmland and wilderness. Help us to see your good work so the hearts of all living things may sing their thanks and praise for generations to come.

*Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Healing Lord, you are the ever-present help in time of trouble. We give you thanks for your servants who have recently returned home from the hospital or are now in rehab units and are recovering. [We pray especially for ...] Let your good gifts of health and strength, now present in them, continue and increase, so they may be fully restored by your saving grace.

*Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

**LORD'S PRAYER**  
**OFFERING**

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## **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:** "Savior, Again to Your Dear Name"

**LBW 262**

**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: tbd

Attendance Last Saturday, 8/14:15

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

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Offering Counters: Angie Springborn and Chris Boyer

Last Sunday, 8/15: 29



Would you like a copy of Pastor's sermon? Please let Dianna know and she will email the sermon to you or will make a copy for you to pick-up the following week.



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

Mason Krabbe 8/23/2006  
Peggy Steinhorst 8/30

Izabelle Rasmussen 8/24



### **ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS**

Oscar & Lois Swan (their 65<sup>th</sup>) 8/24/1956  
Russ & Judy Lacefield (40<sup>th</sup>) 8/29/81

Today 8/22: Join us for coffee in the fellowship hall after worship.  
Tues. 8/24: Food Pantry Set-up, 9:30-11am; distribution, 12-2pm.  
Sat. 8/28: Worship Service with blessing of school kits, 5:30pm.  
Sunday 8/29: Worship Service with blessing of school kits, 9:00am.

Upcoming dates to remember:

Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup>:

Confirmation students and Parents Meeting, 6pm in the Sanctuary.

Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>:

Rally Day for Sunday school.

New Confirmation students will be receiving their Bibles at the Sunday service.



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

- Karen Willis, June May's niece passed away on August 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Marvin Bernhardt who had neck surgery on Wednesday, 8/18. He is at St. Anthony hospital until he will transfer to a rehabilitation center.
- Mark Bernhardt, Marvin & Wanda's son, Lisa Coyle's brother is hospitalized with foot trouble.
- Pray for pregnant women and the babies they are carrying, especially Amy Blobaum.
- All those who are suffering physical or mental illness, and their families, caregivers, and medical teams including Trudy Loomis, Lorraine Steinhorst and Jason Gorski.
- 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 for discernment about a vicarage.
- 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 and other Afghans suffering violence of the Taliban.
- All elected leaders, police officers, first responders, and military personnel, that they hear and receive God's guidance and protection.
- All those who are affected by the natural disasters.
- The NALC, NALS, the Great Rivers Mission District, all Christian churches, and our partners in SC and PA.