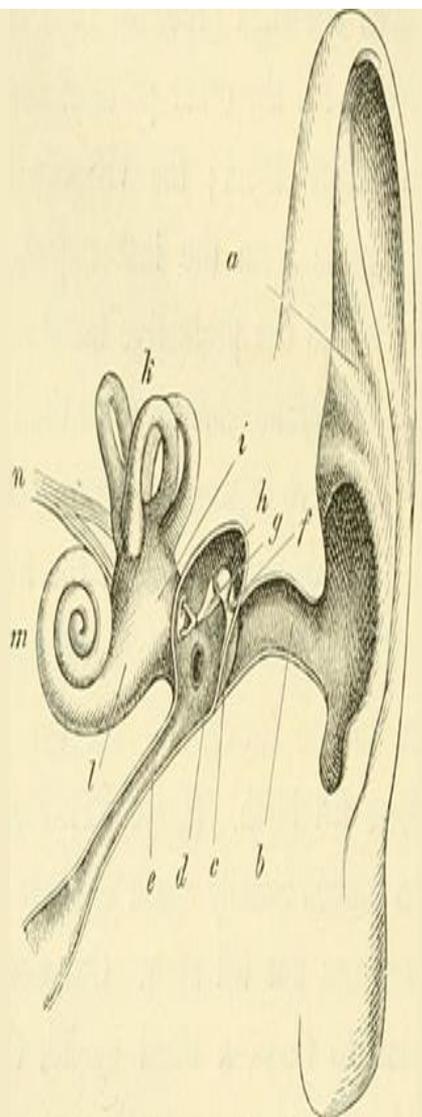


And his ears  
were opened,  
his tongue was  
released, and  
he spoke plainly.

Mark 7:35



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

*Sunday, September 5, 2021  
15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

*First Lutheran Church – Putting Christ First*  
15th Sunday after Pentecost – September 5, 2021

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



Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper. All who believe that Christ is present in this Sacrament are invited to share in His supper. Grape juice is available upon request. Children who have not received Communion instruction should stand at

the altar with their arms crossed upon their chest to receive a Baptismal blessing. Continuous Communion Distribution: Proceed to the communion rail when the usher indicates, moving away from the center aisle and towards the side. As soon as you have received communion, you may return to your pew, using the side aisle.

**LBW** – green hymnal **BC** - Borning Cry Hymnal \*Please stand as able.

Prelude

Welcome and the Announcements

Order of Service

- \*Brief Order for Public Confession P. 77
- \*Opening Hymn: "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say" **LBW 497**
- \*Apostolic Greeting and Kyrie P. 78
- \*This Is the Feast P. 81
- \*Prayer of the Day

Merciful God, from generation to generation your healing and life-giving power has been made manifest. Empower us to let the glory of your mercy and forgiveness shine through the light of our lives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

Children's Sermon

First Reading

Isaiah 35:4-7a

<sup>4</sup>Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." <sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; <sup>6</sup>then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;  
<sup>7a</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground  
springs of water.

Psalm 146 (Read responsively by half verse)

P.287

Second Reading

James 2:1-10, 14-18

<sup>1</sup>My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. <sup>2</sup>For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, <sup>3</sup>and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, "You sit here in a good place," while you say to the poor man, "You stand over there," or, "Sit down at my feet," <sup>4</sup>have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup>Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? <sup>6</sup>But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? <sup>7</sup>Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called? <sup>8</sup>If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. <sup>9</sup>But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. <sup>10</sup>For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it.

<sup>14</sup>What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? <sup>15</sup>If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, <sup>16</sup>and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? <sup>17</sup>So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. <sup>18</sup>But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

\*Alleluia

P. 83

\*Gospel

Mark 7:31-37

<sup>31</sup>Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup>And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment,

and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup>And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup>And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” <sup>35</sup>And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup>And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup>And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, “He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”

Sermon:

## **“BE OPENED”**

\*Pulpit Hymn: “Open Our Eyes, Lord”

**BC 176**

\*Nicene Creed

P. 84

\*Prayers of the Church

P. 85

Almighty and everlasting God, by your great mercy in Jesus Christ, your Son, you have given us forgiveness of sin, eternal life, and salvation. Grant that your Holy Spirit may so rule in our hearts, that we may put to death all fleshly and worldly desires, serve you in holiness and purity, and give you continual thanks for all your goodness.

*Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Holy God, you are the source of all strength for us. Help us to depend on you and your strength rather than on our own. In our weakness and vulnerability, you show us your continual presence and protection. May we turn over all things to you, knowing and trusting that you hear us and will respond.

*Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Almighty God, grant courage and wisdom to our national leader to all who serve in local government, and to the members of our armed forces. Guide them all in the way of justice and truth in accordance to your will and guidance.

*Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Mighty Healer, you are the source of all mercy and healing. Help us to call on you in times of suffering and to believe wholeheartedly

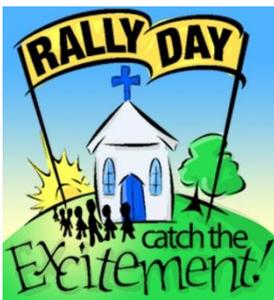
you will bring us restoration and newness of life. We ask this for our friends and family [especially ...]. Clothe your children in the glory of your loving presence, today and always, and make us truly grateful for your healing power in our lives.

*Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

- \*Sharing of Peace
- \*Offering
- \*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful P. 86
- \*Offertory Prayer P. 87
- \*Great Thanksgiving P. 88
- \*Words of Institution P. 90
- \*Lord's Prayer P. 91
- Lamb of God P. 92
- Communion Distribution
- \*Thank the Lord P. 92
- \*Benediction and Threefold Amen
- \*Closing Hymn:  
    *"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"* **LBW 439**
- \*Pastor: Go in Peace, Serve the Lord!
- \***Congregation: 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  
Lay Reader: Ashley Boyer  
Ushers: Chris Boyer (Head usher), Ashley Boyer, Elaine Mitchell, and James Haag  
Attendance Last Saturday, 8/28: 17  
Offering Counters: Susan Wilson and Elda Bruning

Website: [www.kirklandflc.org](http://www.kirklandflc.org)  
[pastor@kirklandflc.org](mailto:pastor@kirklandflc.org)  
[secretary@kirklandflc.org](mailto:secretary@kirklandflc.org)  
Coffee Server: Louie Mielke  
Acolyte: Edwin Heck  
Last Sunday, 8/29: 41



### **SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY DAY**

Please join us next week for Rally Day Sunday. This will be the start of Sunday School! Invite your neighborhood children and families to attend church and Sunday School. We are requiring that children wear a mask while inside the building for Sunday School. Masks will be provided if need be.

Let us all be like the little children, excited to hear, read and learn of God's word. We look forward to seeing you.



## SCHOOL KITS

There are 112 school kits going to those children in need. Last year's school kits went to Honduras and Lebanon.

Thank you to all who brought supplies or filled a school bag or two for the children.



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!!!

Susan Wilson 9/4	Renee Krabbe 9/4
Judy Goltermann 9/5	Harold Hintzsche 9/6
Matt Johnson 9/6	Wanda Bernhardy 9/7
Tracy Jones 9/8	Anna Wince 9/9
Lois Swan 9/11	Louie Mielke 9/12



## ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

William & Jamie Wittwer 9/5/2020  
Roger & Jean Bauer 9/6/1969



### **FISHERS OF MEN**

Please be cautious of those who are ***Phishing*** for your money. This is pronounced "fishing".

Even the church has been receiving emails that ask us to meet with a new prospective member that will be moving into the area. Sounds wonderful however we received FIVE letters with the exact same request, just the names had changed.

See the narthex bulletin board for more information. If you have received emails or suspicious phone calls asking for your money or asking personal questions, do not respond to them. If you have any questions if the emails or phone calls are legitimate, please call the Kirkland police department at (815)522-3315.

### **Next Week's Readings:**

Isaiah 50:4-10; Psalm 116:1-9; James 3:1-12; Mark 9:14-29

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Sunday 9/5: Join us after the service for coffee in the Fellowship Hall.

Monday 9/6: Happy Labor Day!

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

Thursday 9/9: Worship & Music Team meeting, 9:30am;  
Confirmation & Parents Meeting in the Sanctuary, 6pm;  
Church Council, 7pm.

Saturday 9/11: Worship Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 9/12: Worship Service with Sunday School Rally Day, 9am.  
Newsletter Items due.

### **PARISH CONCERNS**

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

- For the 13 brave soldiers killed in Afghanistan. May their families know God.
- Persecuted Christians and other Afghans suffering violence of the Taliban.
- Marvin Bernhardt had neck surgery and is at Alden Debes Rehabilitation Center. He is doing well.
- 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 Steinhurst 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, 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.
- 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 natural disasters.
- The NALC, NALS, the Great Rivers Mission District, all Christian churches, and our partners in SC and PA.