

**Jesus spoke:  
“I must preach the  
good news of the  
kingdom of God to the  
other towns as well;  
for I was sent for this  
purpose.”**

**Luke 4:43 ESV**



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

*Saturday, January 29, 2022  
With Readings for Fourth Sunday of Epiphany*

# *First Lutheran Church - Putting Christ First*

**Saturday, January 29, 2022**

(with scripture readings for the Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany)

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

**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:** "Rise, Shine, You People!"

**LBW 393**

## **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** (*read in unison with Pastor Tom*)

O God, you know the perilous choices we are prone to make that fall short of your desire for human faithfulness and obedience. Without you, our fragile nature cannot survive. Support us with your Word of truth, that we may grow in faith in the midst of our trials. 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**

Jeremiah 1:4-10

<sup>4</sup>Now the word of the Lord came to me, saying, <sup>5</sup>“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.” <sup>6</sup>Then I said, “Ah, Lord God! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth.” <sup>7</sup>But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am only a youth’; for to all to whom I send you, you shall go, and whatever I command you, you shall speak. <sup>8</sup>Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, declares the Lord.” <sup>9</sup>Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth. And the Lord said to me, “Behold, I have put my words in your mouth. <sup>10</sup>See, I have set you this day over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

**P** The Word of the Lord    **C** Thanks be to God

**PSALM 71:1-6** (*Read responsively by half verse*)

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## **SECOND READING**

1 Corinthians 12:31b - 13:13

<sup>31b</sup>I will show you a still more excellent way.

<sup>1</sup>If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup>And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup>If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. <sup>4</sup>Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant <sup>5</sup>or rude. It

does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup>it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup>Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. <sup>8</sup>Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. <sup>9</sup>For we know in part and we prophesy in part, <sup>10</sup>but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. <sup>11</sup>When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. <sup>12</sup>For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. <sup>13</sup>So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

**P** The Word of the Lord    **C** Thanks be to God

## **GOSPEL**

Luke 4:31-44

<sup>31</sup>{Jesus} went down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee. And he was teaching them on the Sabbath, <sup>32</sup>and they were astonished at his teaching, for his word possessed authority. <sup>33</sup>And in the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice, <sup>34</sup>“Ha! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are — the Holy One of God.” <sup>35</sup>But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent and come out of him!” And when the demon had thrown him down in their midst, he came out of him, having done him no harm. <sup>36</sup>And they were all amazed and said to one another, “What is this word? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and they come out!” <sup>37</sup>And reports about him went out into every place in the surrounding region. <sup>38</sup>And he arose and left the synagogue and entered Simon’s house. Now Simon’s mother-in-law was ill with a high fever, and they appealed to him on her behalf. <sup>39</sup>And he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her, and immediately she rose and began to serve them. <sup>40</sup>Now when the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various diseases brought them to him, and he laid his hands on every one of them and healed them. <sup>41</sup>And demons also came out of many, crying, “You are the Son of God!” But he rebuked

them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Christ. <sup>42</sup>And when it was day, he departed and went into a desolate place. And the people sought him and came to him, and would have kept him from leaving them, <sup>43</sup>but he said to them, "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose." <sup>44</sup>And he was preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

**P** The Gospel of the Lord **C** Thanks be to God

## **SERMON: "LIGHT BEYOND YOUR HOMETOWN"**

**SONG:** "Give Me Jesus"

**WOV 777**

**STATEMENT OF FAITH:** Apostles' Creed

LBW p.85

**THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

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Lord of the Church, you have called us to be your own and to share the good news of Jesus with the world. Grant us grace and boldness to proclaim his holy name wherever we go. Let ears and hearts be open to the truth of life this is found in your one and only Son.

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

God of peace, may your gentle reign of justice and peace prevail around the world. Bring peace in those places that are torn apart by war and violence. Make the walls of hatred that divide homes, communities, and nations crumble under your powerful love and righteousness. Help us to be peace-makers in your name.

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

Lord God, free us from all the powers in the world that are against you; those that seek to hold us captive and lure us away from your holy presence. Help us to call on the name of Jesus in times we feel most vulnerable, and assure us of your constant care and protection. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Loving God, grant that all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit may be renewed by your healing presence [especially ...]. Remind the suffering that you are a faithful God who remembers your children in every situation. Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

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

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(The offering shared before the service will be brought forward during the service. If you would like to place an offering in the offering plate, you have two opportunities to do so, before or after service. All offerings will be deposited on Sunday.)

**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:** "Take My Life, that I May Be"

**LBW 406**

**P** Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

**C** Thanks be to God!

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

**Pastor:** Tom Thorstad (716)990-6244, (c)

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

**Pianist:** Jill Vodden

**Hosts:** Richard & Peggy Wince

**Attendance Last Saturday 1/22:** 18

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

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**Offering Counters:** Mary Loomis & Donna Koehnke

**Attendance Sunday, 1/23:** 20

## **BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!**

Bob Coyle 1/31

Keith Krabbe 1/31

Carolyn Suhr 2/2

Josie Brykowski 2/3

Jim Sheehan 2/4

Isabella Haag 2/4/19

## **ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS!!**

Harold & Alice Hintzsche 2/1/1959

## **FLC ANNUAL MEETING**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, 2022**

**10:15 A.M.**

Annual Report Booklets are in the Narthex.  
Please pick up your copy today, read it over  
and bring it with you tomorrow.



## **PASTOR TOM'S INSTALLATION**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2022, AT 4:00 P.M.**

Please mark your calendar for a very important celebration for Pastor Tom Thorstad and our church! We will install Pastor Tom as our 26<sup>th</sup> Pastor since we have been an established church in 1873!

The celebration will begin at 4:00pm so we can invite our Great Rivers Mission District Pastor's to the event. Great River's Mission District Dean Pastor Jim Lehmann will lead us in this installation.

We will have a potluck meal, please let Louie Mielke know what you will be bringing. Table service will be provided.

Sunday, 1/30: Join us after the ANNUAL MEETING for coffee in Fellowship Hall!

Monday 1/31: Clothing Closet open, 12-1:30pm

Tuesday 2/1: Worship & Music Team Mtg, 9:30am

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

Thursday: 2/3: Food Truck Delivery, 8am;

Confirmation Class, 5:30pm.

Saturday 2/5: Worship Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 2/6: Worship Service; Sunday School, 9am.

**PASTOR'S INSTALLATION AT 4:00P.M.**



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

- Pray for pregnant women and the babies they are carrying, especially Amy Blobaum, Abby (Pahnke) Bohn and Annelise Daab, (Mark Boehmer's girlfriend) and Jamie Wittwer (Tim & Dianna's daughter-in-law).
- All those who are not able to worship with us because they are in health care facilities or homebound: Betty Paulsen, Ina Koehler, Nancy Bakanas and George Vodden.
- All those who are suffering physical or mental illness, and their families, caregivers, and medical teams.
- Our church and its activities, and all Christian churches.
- Persecuted Christians throughout the world.
- All NALC churches that are searching for a Pastor.
- All elected leaders, police officers, first responders, and military personnel, that they hear and receive God's guidance and protection.
- The NALC, NALS, the Great Rivers Mission District, all Christian churches, and our partners in SC and PA.