



Character of a Disciple: Holiness

A Sunday
Lenten Series
2022

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

Saturday, March 19, 2022
With Readings for the Third Sunday in Lent

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(with scripture readings for the 3rd Sunday in Lent)

WELCOME! We hope that this service will be a blessing to you.

THE SERVICE BEGINS

P We begin this service IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER:

C O Loving God, you gave your only Son to die for us, that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life;

P AND OF THE SON:

C O Jesus, our Lord, you humbled yourself, and became obedient unto death - even the death of the cross;

P AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:

C O Holy Spirit, guide us into all truth, and remind us of everything Jesus has taught us. Amen.

OPENING SONG: “Holy, Holy, Holy”

LBW 165

WE CONFESS

P Let us confess our sin and griefs, and hear the comfort of the Lord.

C O Lord, we have often given in to temptation. We have often been weak under pressure, and because of fear or flattery, we have disobeyed you. We ask you of your great mercy, to forgive us, to make us whole, to draw us near to you, and to strengthen us for the next time we are tempted.

WE HEAR THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

P Our savior is able to sympathize with our weakness, for He too was tempted by the devil. In the wilderness, Satan encouraged Jesus to use his power for himself, instead of for others. And when He was dying, some tempted Him to come down off the cross. Had He given in, we would have been lost! But He prayed, “Father, not my will, but Thine be done.”

And thus strengthened, He gave himself into death for our sins. In His name, I declare to you that Jesus Christ has made full satisfaction for all your sins. Your guilt is removed. You are clean and pure, and standing in the presence of God. The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C And also with you.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY (Spoken in unison)

Everlasting God, draw us into this season of repentance and create within us fertile soil in which your Word bursts forth in lives marked by the abundant fruit of your grace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING:

Ezekiel 33:7-20

⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul. ¹⁰And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: ‘Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?’ ¹¹Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel? ¹²And you, son of man, say to your people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him when he transgresses, and as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall by it when he turns from his wickedness, and the righteous shall not be able to live by his righteousness when he sins. ¹³Though I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, yet if he trusts in his righteousness and does injustice, none of his righteous deeds shall be remembered, but in his injustice that he has done he shall die. ¹⁴Again, though I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die,’ yet if he turns from his sin and does what is just and right, ¹⁵if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has taken by robbery, and walks in the statutes of life, not doing injustice, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ¹⁶None of the sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him. He has done what is just and right; he shall surely live. ¹⁷Yet your people say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just,’ when it is their own way that is not just. ¹⁸When the righteous

turns from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it. ¹⁹And when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he shall live by this. ²⁰Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, I will judge each of you according to his ways."

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

PSALM 85 (Read responsively by half verse)

LBW 254

SECOND READING:

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

¹For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness. ⁶Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play." ⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, ¹⁰nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. ¹¹Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. ¹²Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. ¹³No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

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

GOSPEL:

Luke 13:1-9

¹There were some present at that very time who told {Jesus} about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²And he answered them, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. ⁴Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and

killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.” ⁶And he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. ⁷And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ ⁸And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. ⁹Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

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

SERMON:

“CHARACTER OF A DISCIPLE: HOLINESS”

SONG: “In Christ Alone”

Insert

NICENE CREED

LBW p. 105

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

LBW p. 106

Mighty Lord, may your Spirit stir us in order that we might learn to be wise and faithful followers of your Son, Jesus. By the Spirit’s sanctifying work help us to lead lives that bring glory to you, drawing others into your kingdom.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

Merciful God, help us to answer your call to repentance, knowing that what you desire is not vengeance and punishment, but our loving response to your invitation to turn again to you and your ways. *Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.*

God of mercy, reach out your hand to comfort and uphold those whose lives are in the midst of trial and turmoil. We pray for the victims of war and terrorism, disease and disaster, illness and accident, flood and drought, famine and starvation. Let your powerful presence be their help and refuge, inspire us to accompany them in trials and recovery, and through our efforts in your name bring them quick relief.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

Lord God, Ancient of Days, you have revealed the mysteries of life in your own good time. Keep us strong and steadfast in our faith, so that neither trial nor temptation may dim for us the glory of our hope, or take from us the promised glory that you have prepared for all your saints.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

BLESSING OF PERSONAL CARE KITS

OFFERING

WE PREPARE FOR HOLY COMMUNION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts!

C We lift them up to the Lord!

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LBW p. 113

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

THE BENEDICTION

P When Jesus instituted Holy Communion at the Last Supper, He promised His disciples that one day they would again feast together in the kingdom of heaven.

C Dear Lord, keep us steadfast in faith until that day!

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

CLOSING SONG: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

LBW 771

P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God!

Church Office: (815) 522-3886

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

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

Pianist: Jill Vodden

Hosts: Gary and Peggy Steinhorst

Attendance Last Saturday, 3/12:17

Lenten Service, 3/16: 30

Website: www.kirklandflc.org

pastor@kirklandflc.org

secretary@kirklandflc.org

Offering Counters: Roger Bauer and Susan Wilson

Attendance Sunday, 3/13: 37

LENTEN SCHEDULE

See the insert in the black friendship (attendance) book.

EASTER MEMORIAL GARDEN

Order your Easter Memorial Garden Lily today. Only 20 plants have been ordered at this time. Lilies are \$10 each. Order forms are in the narthex.

PRAYER VIGIL

Our Prayer Vigil will begin at 8:30 pm after the Good Friday service. Sign-up now to spend time with God. There is a prayer vigil cross in the narthex. Please select a time, write your name on the label and place the label on the cross.



EASTER BREAKFAST – PLEASE RSVP!

Easter Breakfast will be at 8am, between the two Easter services - 7am Sunrise and 9:30am Festival. An RSVP isn't necessary, however, to help us prepare for the breakfast, please RSVP to Louie Mielke or Dianna Wittwer.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!

Brooke Mickey 3/20/02

George Vodden 3/20

Mike Sester 3/21

Oliver 3/22/15

Colleen (Boehmer) Cerutti 3/23

Aiden Atkinson 3/24/10

Drew Peterson 3/25

ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS!!!

Gary & Peggy Steinhorst 3/24/90

Lessons for Next Week

Isaiah 12:1-6; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Today 3/20: Join us in Fellowship Hall for coffee after the service!

Monday 3/21: Food Truck Delivery, 9:30am.

Tuesday 3/22: Food Pantry set-up, 9:30-11am; distribution 12-2pm.

Wednesday 3/23: Lenten Dinner, 5:45pm. Sloppy Joe's by Sunday School families. Lenten Vespers Service, 6:30pm: "Mercy in Betrayal"

Thursday 3/24: Wittenberg Door – Pastor's Fellowship – here, 10am.

NO Confirmation Class, (Spring Break)

Saturday 3/26: Worship Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 3/27: Worship Service with Sunday School to follow, 9am.

PARISH CONCERNS

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

- Ron Peabody, Judy Lacey's brother-in-law, will have bladder cancer surgery on March 23rd.
- James, 2-year-old was in a car accident in Jackson, Mo. and is now at St. Louis Children's hosp. He has a brain injury, however is saying "mommy". This is a friend of Peggy Wince's.
- Lisa Coyle will be having an atrial ablation on March 21.
- Jason Gorski, Dan & Janelle Pahnke's nephew is fighting cancer.
- Pray for pregnant women and the babies they are carrying, especially Abby (Pahnke) Bohn, Jamie Wittwer and Laura Block.
- 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, George Vodden and many others.
- 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.
- Situations in Ukraine and Myanmar and all effected by this.
- All elected leaders, police officers, first responders, and military personnel, that they hear and receive God's guidance and protection.
- Persecuted Christians throughout the world.
- All NALC churches that are searching for a Pastor.
- The NALC, NALS, the Great Rivers Mission District, all Christian churches, and our partners in SC and PA.