

Character of  
a Disciple:  
Belief

A Lenten  
Series

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

*Saturday, March 5, 2022*  
*With readings for the First Sunday in Lent*

# *First Lutheran Church – Putting Christ First*

**Saturday, March 5, 2022**

*(with scripture readings for the 1st 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: “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”**

**BC 196**

## **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)**

Holy God, you journey with your people through the wilderness days of our lives. Guide us by your Spirit that we might repent and return to you; believe with our hearts and confess with our mouths that Jesus Christ is Lord. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

### **FIRST READING:**

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

<sup>1</sup>{Moses said to the Israelites,} “When you come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you for an inheritance and have taken possession of it and live in it, <sup>2</sup>you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from your land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket, and you shall go to the place that the Lord your God will choose, to make his name to dwell there. <sup>3</sup>And you shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, ‘I declare today to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our fathers to give us.’ <sup>4</sup>Then the priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the Lord your God. <sup>5</sup>And you shall make response before the Lord your God, ‘A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. <sup>6</sup>And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labor. <sup>7</sup>Then we cried to the Lord, the God of our fathers, and the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. <sup>8</sup>And the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. <sup>9</sup>And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. <sup>10</sup>And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O Lord, have given me.’ And you shall set it down before the Lord your God and worship before the Lord your God. <sup>11</sup>And you shall rejoice in all the good that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house, you, and the Levite, and the sojourner who is among you.”

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

**PSALM 91:1-13 (Read responsively by half verse)**

LBW 258-259

**SECOND READING:**

Romans 10:8b-13

<sup>8b</sup>“The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup>because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. <sup>11</sup>For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” <sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

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

**GOSPEL:**

Luke 4:1-13

<sup>1</sup>Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness <sup>2</sup>for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. <sup>3</sup>The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.” <sup>4</sup>And Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone.’” <sup>5</sup>And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, <sup>6</sup>and said to him, “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. <sup>7</sup>If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” <sup>8</sup>And Jesus answered him, “It is written, “‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.’” <sup>9</sup>And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, <sup>10</sup>for it is written, “‘He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,’ <sup>11</sup>and “‘On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.’” <sup>12</sup>And Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” <sup>13</sup>And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

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

**SERMON: “CHARACTER OF A DISCIPLE: BELIEF”**

**SONG:** “Jesus, Savior , Pilot Me”

**BC 193**

**NICENE CREED**

LBW p. 105

**THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

LBW p. 106

Gracious heavenly Father, strengthen us through the power of your Holy Spirit that we might be faithful to your Word in all times. As we daily face temptations to turn away from you and your will, redirect our lives that we might show ourselves to be faithful flowers of Jesus. *Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.*

Almighty Lord, in this season of repentance and renewal, remind us of our need for your never-failing grace. Keep your word near to us; may it ever be on our lips and in our hearts. *Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.*

Sovereign God, in you we find our fortress and our sanctuary. Guide world leaders to rule with justice and equity. In the face of all trials, danger, and oppression help us to find our sanctuary in you and your covenantal promise of life eternal. *Lord, in your mercy ... hear our prayer.*

Compassionate God, you pour out your mercy and love with unrestrained generosity. Teach us to give thanks to you in all circumstances. Bring your healing mercy to those who suffer in body, mind, and spirit. [We pray particularly for ...] *Lord, in your mercy ... hear our prayer.*

**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:** "Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer"

**LBW 343**

**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)

**Guitarist:** Lenny Cowart

**Hosts:** Chuck Huey and Peggy Steinhorst

**Offering Counters:** Roger Bauer and Susan Wilson

**Attendance Last Saturday,** 2/26; 12

**Ash Wednesday, 3/2:** 46

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

[pastor@kirklandflc.org](mailto:pastor@kirklandflc.org)

[secretary@kirklandflc.org](mailto:secretary@kirklandflc.org)

**Attendance Sunday,** 2/27; 37

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

Cindy Stoll 3/4                      Onie Luepkes 3/5  
Peggy Veach 3/11                      Russ Lacefield 3/12

### **ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS!!!**

Vernon & Jane Johnson 3/7/1964



### **PERSONAL CARE KITS**

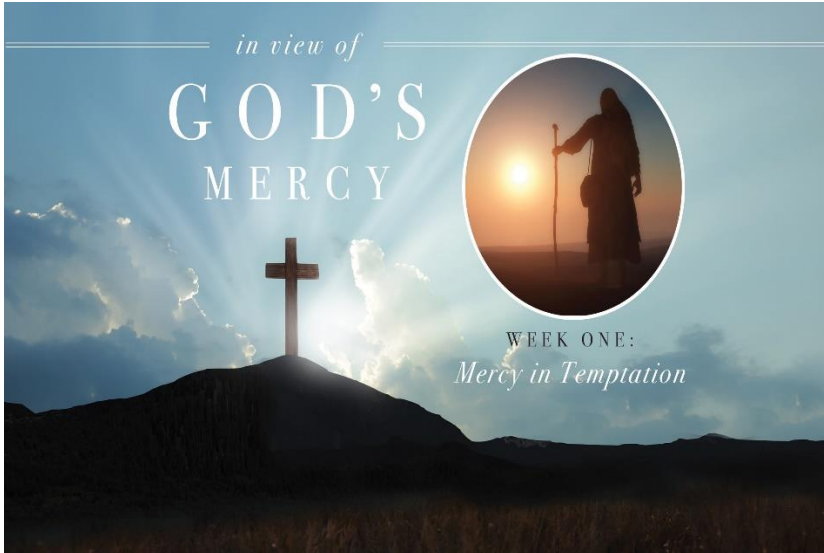
Personal Care items are being collected until **TODAY**. We are always in need of BATH TOWELS, dark colors please. In 2019, our care kits went to Tanzania.

## LENTEN SCHEDULE

This Lenten schedule runs each Wednesday, March 9 through April 6.

**5:45pm – Lenten Supper**

**6:30pm –Lenten Vespers Service**



This year's mid-week Lenten theme will be **God's Mercy**

3/9	Mercy in Temptation	3/23	Mercy in Betrayal
3/16	Mercy in Suffering	3/30	Mercy in Relationships
		4/6	Mercy in Service

## LENTEN SUPPER

Date	Hosts	(meal served)
3/9	Chef Mielke & Bauer	Soup
3/16	Church Council	Chili
3/23	Sunday School	Sloppy Joe's
3/30	Wittwer's	Italian Beef
4/6	Men	Pork Chops

Confirmation class will continue to be on Thursdays at 5:30pm.

Sunday 3/6: Join us in Fellowship Hall for coffee after the service!

Tuesday 3/8: Food Pantry set-up, 9:30-11am; distribution 12-2pm.

Wednesday 3/9: Lenten Supper, 5:45pm.

Lenten Vespers Service, 6:30pm: "Mercy in Temptation".

Thursday 3/10: Confirmation Class, 5:30pm; Church Council, 7pm.

Saturday 3/12: Worship Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 3/13: Worship Service, 9am.



## **PARISH CONCERNS**

We pray for the family of Jim Sheehan, whose funeral was held in Sycamore on Friday. May the promise of God's resurrection, bring Jim's family peace.

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

- Sally Coyle, Bob's mom is home after having a heart valve replacement surgery on March 1st.
- Lisa Coyle will be having an atrial ablation on March 16th. This will hopefully curtail, the atrial fibrillation (heart flutters), that she is having.
- 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 and George Vodden.
- All those who are suffering physical or mental illness, and their families, caregivers, and medical teams.
- Our church and its activities.
- 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.