



Character of a Disciple: Faith

A Sunday
Lenten Series
2022

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

Saturday, April 2, 2022
With Readings for the Fifth Sunday in Lent

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(with scripture readings for the 5th Sunday in Lent)

WELCOME! We hope that this service will be a blessing to you. Please complete the black friendship register and pass it down your pew. Place this form in the offering plate when it is passed.

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: "Christ, the Life of All the Living"

LBW 97

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)

God of new life, you have drawn us through the waters of baptism and into your everlasting reign. Through Christ's life within us, guide us daily through death to sin and brokenness and into new life in grace and love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING:

Isaiah 43:16-21

¹⁶Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, ¹⁷who brings forth chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: ¹⁸“Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. ¹⁹Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. ²⁰The wild beasts will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, ²¹the people whom I formed for myself that they might declare my praise.”

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

PSALM 126 (Read responsively by half verse)

P. 280

SECOND READING:

Philippians 3:4b-14

^{4b}Though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith — ¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it

my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

GOSPEL:

Luke 20:9-20

⁹{Jesus} began to tell the people this parable: "A man planted a vineyard and let it out to tenants and went into another country for a long while. ¹⁰When the time came, he sent a servant to the tenants, so that they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. ¹¹And he sent another servant. But they also beat and treated him shamefully, and sent him away empty-handed. ¹²And he sent yet a third. This one also they wounded and cast out. ¹³Then the owner of the vineyard said, 'What shall I do? I will send my beloved son; perhaps they will respect him.' ¹⁴But when the tenants saw him, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Let us kill him, so that the inheritance may be ours.' ¹⁵And they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? ¹⁶He will come and destroy those tenants and give the vineyard to others." When they heard this, they said, "Surely not!" ¹⁷But he looked directly at them and said, "What then is this that is written: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone'?" ¹⁸Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him." ¹⁹The scribes and the chief priests sought to lay hands on him at that very hour, for they perceived that he had told this parable against them, but they feared the people. ²⁰So they watched him and sent spies, who pretended to be sincere, that they might catch him in something he said, so as to deliver him up to the authority and jurisdiction of the governor.

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

SERMON:

"CHARACTER OF A DISCIPLE: FAITH"

SONG: "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

NICENE CREED

LBW 479

LBW p. 105

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

LBW p. 106

Holy Father, in this the end of the ages you have spoken to us through your Son, Jesus. We thank you for the Gospel, and we pray that you would keep our ears open to hear it anew each day. Give us your Holy Spirit, that we may never reject or despise this grace-filled gift. *Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.*

Loving God, renew our trust in you during this Lenten season. Remind us of the immeasurable worth of knowing Jesus so that we, like Paul, might press on and remain faithful in following Jesus and witnessing to your grace. *Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.*

Prince of Peace, we pray for peace where there is conflict in the world and where there is dissension between people and groups. Bring just leadership to nations plagued by oppressive dictatorships. We give thanks for your abiding faithfulness. Strengthened by that promise, may we work for peace and the good of all your creation. *Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.*

Ever-present God, we give thanks to you for coming among us. Help us to see you and trust your faithfulness in all of life's situations. We pray for those who are imprisoned, outcast, persecuted, or in any situation of suffering or distress. [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: “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

LBW 107

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: Vernon & Jane Johnson

Attendance Last Saturday, 3/6;11

Lenten Service, 3/30: 24

Website: www.kirklandflc.org

pastor@kirklandflc.org

secretary@kirklandflc.org

Offering Counters: Mary Loomis & Donna Koehnke

Attendance Sunday, 3/27; 52

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar are given in memory of **Deb Nolf**, by Bob & Lisa Coyle.

BIRTHDAYS!

Austin Sunderlage 4/4 Christine Suhr 4/4
Dianna Wittwer 4/4 Michelle Chastain 4/6

ANNIVERSARIES!

Marvin & Wanda Bernhardt 4/8/1956
James & Mary Loomis 4/9/1983
Lenny & Sue Peterson 4/10/1976

LENTEN SCHEDULE

This is the last week to join us for fellowship and hear the Lenten series on “God’s Mercy”. Dinner of pork chops served by the men, will be at 5:45pm; Lenten Vespers Service, “Mercy in Service” at 6:30pm. Please invite a friend or two.



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.



BLACK FRIENDSHIP PEW BOOKLET

Please complete the black friendship register and pass it down your pew. Place this form in the offering plate when it is passed.

There is a lot of information of the upcoming events inside this booklet.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH HAS A FACEBOOK PAGE

You will need to have a Facebook account to be able to access our page. Go to "First Lutheran Church Kirkland IL".

We encourage you to "like" and "follow" this page to get notifications and announcement. There is also a link on our website (www.kirklandflc.org). Thank you, Pastor Tom and Jo Boehmer who will be the administrators of the Facebook page.

Thank You!

To all; A big thank you for your thoughts and prayers through the recent heart surgery of my wife Lisa Coyle, and my mother Sally Coyle. Both are home and doing well so far. Thanks be to God.

Personal Care Kits: Thank you to all who helped provide supplies and assemble the Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits. We will be sending 96 kits to those in need.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

We have the materials! We are looking for a member or two to lead the Vacation Bible School. We are hoping to have VBS scheduled for the first week in June. Please let Pastor Tom or Dianna know that you are interested.

Lessons for Next Week

John 12:12-19; Deuteronomy 32:36-39; Psalm 118:19-29; Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 22:1- 23:56

Sunday 4/3: Join us in Fellowship Hall for coffee after the service!

Tuesday 4/5: Worship & Music Team Mtg, 9:30am.

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

Wednesday 4/6: Lenten Dinner; 5:45pm. Vespers Service, 6:30pm.

Thursday 4/7: Food Delivery, 8am; Lydia Bible Study, 1pm.

Confirmation Class, 5:30pm. Church Council, 7pm (One week early.)

Saturday 4/9: Worship Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 4/10: Palm Sunday Communion Service, 9am.

PARISH CONCERNS

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

- Lenny Peterson is experiencing back pain and will consult with doctors regarding the next step to relieve the pain.
- Kayla, friend of Sara Haag's, is pregnant, and the Dr's have found the baby has two holes in its heart. Pray for healing prior to birth.
- Chris, Gary Steinhorst's cousin was recently diagnosed with brain cancer.
- Justin Mielke to have clear answers to all the tests he is having recently.
- Ron Peabody, Judy Lacefield's brother-in-law, had bladder cancer surgery on March 23rd. He is awaiting results.
- 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.