



First Lutheran Church
Kirkland IL

The Church in View of Revelations

LIVING IN THE END

A Preaching Series

www.kirklandflc.org

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

*Saturday, May 7, 2022
With readings for the Fourth Sunday of Easter*

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(with scripture readings for the 4th Sunday of Easter)

WELCOME! We hope that this service will be a blessing to you. Please complete the black friendship register and pass it down your pew. As it's passed back to you, remove the completed form and place it in the offering plate after noting those sharing your pew. Then after worship, you're encouraged to introduce yourself to anyone you haven't met.

THE SERVICE BEGINS

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

C O Mighty God, you raised your Son from the grave on the third day, defeating the power of death forever!

P AND OF THE SON:

C O Jesus Christ, our Risen Savior, we praise you for your glorious resurrection victory, and, like the disciple Thomas, we confess you as our Lord and God!

P AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:

C O Spirit of power and might, guide us by your Word, that we may know the Lord, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings.

All: AMEN!

OPENING SONG: "The Church's One Foundation"

LBW 369

WE CONFESS

P Let us confess our sins, and hear the forgiveness of God.

C Like the apostle Peter, O Lord, our faith has sometimes wavered. There are days when we confess by our words and our lives that "You are the Christ, the son of the living God!" There are days when we are ready to walk on water with you. But then have come also those days when we have denied you by our words and our lives. Forgive us, Lord! Restore us to fellowship with you and one another!

WE HEAR THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

P When Jesus Christ arose triumphant from the grave, he did not come back to take revenge on those who had persecuted him, nor on those who had disappointed him. He came to restore them. To the disciples, huddled together in a locked room, He came and said, "Peace be with you." To the people of Jerusalem, he sent his apostles with a message of mercy and forgiveness. To Peter, who

had denied Him three times, He gave the chance to confess Him three times. And He restored Peter to his call as a servant and apostle in His kingdom, saying to him, "Feed my lambs." These same words of restoration are for you! All your sins are forgiven. Come, be an apostle in Christ's kingdom! His peace be with you!

C And also with you.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you show those in error the light of your truth, that they may return into the way of righteousness. Grant to all who are admitted into fellowship with Christ the power to avoid all things that are contrary to the faith and to follow you according to the will of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 20:17-35

¹⁷Now from Miletus {Paul} sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. ¹⁸And when they came to him, he said to them: "You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, ¹⁹servicing the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; ²⁰how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, ²¹testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. ²²And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, ²³except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. ²⁴But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. ²⁵And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. ²⁶Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all, ²⁷for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. ²⁸Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. ²⁹I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰and from among your own selves will arise men

speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. ³²And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. ³³I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. ³⁵In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

P The Word of our Lord

C Thanks be to God

PSALM 23 (Read responsively in unison)

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SECOND READING

Revelation 7:9-17

⁹After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." ¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. ¹⁶They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

P The Word of our Lord

C Thanks be to God

GOSPEL

John 10:22-30

²²At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." ²⁵Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, ²⁶but you do not believe because you are not among my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. ³⁰I and the Father are one."

P The Gospel of our Lord

C Thanks be to God

SERMON: "THE CHURCH IN VIEW OF REVELATIONS"

SONG: "This Is My Father's World"

LBW 554

STATEMENT OF FAITH - Apostles' Creed

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THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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Holy God, we give you thanks for all the women in our lives who have nurtured us, raised us, and instilled in us a deep, abiding faith in you. Give all mothers the patience and grace to care for their families, trusting in you for guidance with this important mission. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Shepherding God, you are the one who watches out for your sheep and guides us into green pastures. Keep us safe from all harm. When we get lost, find us and restore us to your fold. Forgive us for our wandering ways and lead us into all goodness. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Almighty God, grant an end to war and violence around the world. Soften the hearts of rulers so that they would govern with fairness and equity, looking out for those who are truly on the fringes of society. Bring a lasting peace to the earth that all humanity would

work together for your kingdom values. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Loving Father, we ask your tender care to be with all those who are struggling with grief, pain, confusion, or disease. Remind them of your never-failing love for them, grant them hope in the midst of darkness, and bring wholeness to their bodies and spirits. [We pray especially for ...] Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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OFFERING

CLOSING RESPONSIVE READING

L I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and its rider he has thrown into the sea.

C The Lord is my strength and my song; he has been my Savior.

L This is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.

C Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power, your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy.

L Who among the gods is like you, O Lord? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in splendor, doing wonders?

C In your mercy you led forth the people you set free; you guided them in your strength to your holy habitation.

L You will bring them in and plant them on the mount that is your possession.

C The place, O Lord, you have made for your dwelling, the sanctuary, O Lord, which your hands have prepared. The Lord shall reign forever and ever.

L 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

CLOSING SONG: "Make Songs of Joy"

LBW 150

P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God!

Church Office: (815) 522-3886

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

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Offering Counters: Jo Boehmer & Keith Krabbe

PIANIST:

Praise God, Nancy Plote, Herb & Dolores Plote's daughter-in-law will be playing the piano at Saturday services. If you were considering helping and could be our substitute, please let Pastor Tom or Judy Lacefield know.



BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!

Leah Anderberg 5/8

Lenny Peterson 5/16

ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS!!

George & Jill Vodden 5/9/1999



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 second week in June. Please let us know if you are interested in leading or helping so the date and times can be shared in the upcoming newsletter, which will be printed on Monday, May 17th. Please let Pastor Tom or Dianna know that you are interested.

Sunday 5/8: Join us after the service for coffee and fellowship.

Happy Mother's Day! Pastor Deuane will be sharing some Lao food in the fellowship hall on Sunday.

Tuesday 5/10: Food Pantry set up, 9:30am; food distribution, 12-2pm.

Thursday 5/12: Confirmation, 5:30pm; Church Council, 7pm.

Saturday 5/14: Communion Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 5/15: Communion Service, 9am. Sunday School to follow.

Newsletter Items due!

PARISH CONCERNS

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

- Jason Gorski, nephew of Dan & Janelle Pahnke is in the hospital. He is fighting cancer.
- Chris, Gary Steinhorst's cousin is fighting brain cancer.
- Charmaine Massey for physical therapy to help strengthen her lungs.
- Ashley Boyer and Lenny Peterson are on the mend.
- Madeline Brahm who had a brain bleed in December.
- Justin Mielke to have clear answers about his health.
- Pray for pregnant women and the babies they are carrying, especially Abby (Pahnke) Bohn, Jamie Wittwer, Laura Block and Rachel Ash.
- 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.
- The NALC, NALS, the Great Rivers Mission District, all Christian churches, and our partners in SC and PA.

Lessons for Next Week

Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 150; Revelation 21:1-7; John 16:12-22