

First Lutheran Church
Kirkland, IL

Heaven

LIVING IN THE END

A Preaching Series

www.kirklandflc.org

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

*Saturday, May 21, 2022
With readings for the Sixth Sunday of Easter*

First Lutheran Church – Putting Christ First

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(with scripture readings for the 6th 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.

LBW – Green Hymnal **WOV** – Blue Hymnal

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: “Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks”

WOV 671

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

O God, all good things can come from you alone; generously consider then our humble prayers. Inspire us to consider what is true and direct us to accomplish what is right; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

FIRST READING

Acts 16:9-15

⁹A vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” ¹⁰And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them. ¹¹So, setting sail from Troas, we made a direct voyage to Samothrace, and the following day to Neapolis, ¹²and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city some days. ¹³And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together. ¹⁴One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us.

P The Word of our Lord

C Thanks be to God

PSALM 67 (Read responsively by half verse)

p.243-244

SECOND READING

Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27

⁹Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, “Come, I will show

you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb.” ¹⁰And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, ¹¹having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. ¹²It had a great, high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel were inscribed — ¹³on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. ¹⁴And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. ²¹And the twelve gates were twelve pearls, each of the gates made of a single pearl, and the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass. ²²And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, ²⁵and its gates will never be shut by day — and there will be no night there. ²⁶They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb’s book of life.

P The Word of our Lord

C Thanks be to God

GOSPEL

John 16:23-33

²³{Jesus said to his disciples,} “In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. ²⁴Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full. ²⁵I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech but will tell you plainly about the Father. ²⁶In that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; ²⁷for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. ²⁸I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father.” ²⁹His disciples said, “Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! ³⁰Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God.” ³¹Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? ³²Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when

you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. ³³I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

P The Gospel of our Lord

C Thanks be to God

SERMON: “HEAVEN”

SONG: “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

LBW 439

STATEMENT OF FAITH - Apostles' Creed

p.65

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

p.65

Heavenly Father, you call us to walk with Jesus in this life of faith. Help us to trust in your abiding mercy and constant care as we seek to do your will in the world. Guide us to walk to the places you would have us go, that your name would be praised, and all people would come to know you. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of all good gifts, we praise your name and thank you for the good gifts you give us each day. In this Easter season, we especially thank you for the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ. May we live each and every day focused on your love and will for your people. In times of trial, help us to see your lovingkindness, trusting that you who began a good work in us will be faithful to complete it. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of all wisdom, be with all students and teachers who are finishing up classes for the year. Be with all those who are graduating and moving on to whatever is next in their lives. Instill in each of them a deep understanding of your call on their lives, that they may serve you in all they do. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Loving Lord, you are the source of all peace for our lives. Grant us your healing power when we are sick and your peace in all circumstances. [We pray especially for ...] Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

p.71

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: "Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God"

WOV 783

P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God!

Church Office: (815) 522-3886

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

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

Pianist: Nancy Plote

Hosts: Chuck Huey & Darla McManus

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pastor@kirklandflc.org

secretary@kirklandflc.org

Offering Counters: Jo Boehmer & Keith Krabbe

PRAISE GOD! St. John's Lutheran Church, Danforth, IL will be installing their new **Pastor Philip Sandi** on Sunday, May 23rd at 3pm. See the bulletin for more information.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Nathan Ross**, who graduated from the University of Iowa on May 14th. He plans to enlist in the army. His parents are Shawn & Shannon (Johnson) Ross, grandparents are Vernon & Jane Johnson.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!

Alexander Stoll 5/24/15 Lucas Boyer 5/24/12

ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS!!

Roger & Sandy Gustafson

5/26/01

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

If you are available to help with anything listed, let Jo Boehmer or Dianna Wittwer know. Volunteers are needed and GREATLY APPRECIATED!

Volunteer Opportunities

- Worship + Music
 - Team Leader
 - Team Member
 - Special Music (vocal or instrumental)
- Property
 - Team Leader
 - Team Member
 - Tradesmen
- Clothes Closet + Food Pantry
- Stewardship
- Fellowship
- Bible Study Leaders
- VBS + Sunday School Teachers/Helpers

- Lay Reader
- Usher/Sat. Host


Plan Activi...

Youth Sponsor

Help as needed
Providing Food

150th Anniversary Committee

July 4th Float TEAM

Help Wanted: 

Substitute Piano player
for occasional Sat. and/or Sun. worship.

Volunteer Coordinator

FLOWER CHART UPDATE

The flower chart dates, and information has been updated. The altar flowers are to honor or remember a special person. You may use any florist of your choosing, however we, at First Lutheran are blessed to have Pastor Vongdeuane Sengone (Deuane) who loves to arrange live flowers. Please contact her for cost and arrangement options, her number is (716) 804-3988.

Sunday 5/22: Join us after the service for coffee and fellowship.

Last day of Sunday School.

Monday 5/23: Clothes Closet Open 12-1:30pm. One week early due to Memorial Day next Monday. Honor those who died for us.

Tuesday 5/24: Food Pantry set up, 9:30am; food distribution, 12-2pm.

Thursday 5/26: Wittenberg Door Pastor's Fellowship – here, 10am.

Saturday 5/27: Worship Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 5/28: Worship Service, 9am.

PARISH CONCERNS

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

- Chuck Schindler has had surgery, he is well and is home.
- Wanda Smith, Elda Bruning's sister, has a spot on her lung and just recently had a stroke.
- Jason Gorski, nephew of Dan & Janelle Pahnke and Chris, Gary Steinhorst's cousin are fighting cancer.
- Charmaine Massey for physical therapy to help strengthen her lungs.
- Madeline Bramm 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.
- 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.