



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

*Sunday, January 1, 2023*  
*First Sunday after Christmas*

# *First Lutheran Church - Putting Christ First*

## **Sunday, January 1, 2023**

**A WARM WELCOME TO ALL** who are worshipping with us today! We hope that the service will be a joy and blessing to you. Please complete the black friendship register and pass it down the pew.



Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper. All who believe that Christ is present in this Sacrament are invited to share in His supper. The inner glasses on the tray are grape juice and water, the rest of the glasses are wine. Children who have not received Communion instruction should kneel at the altar with their arms crossed upon their chest to receive a Baptismal blessing.

**LBW** – green hymnal    \*Please stand as able.

Prelude

Welcome and the Announcements

### Order of Service

- \*Brief Order for Public Confession P. 77
- \*Opening Hymn: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" **LBW 60**
- \*Apostolic Greeting and Kyrie P. 78
- \*This Is the Feast P. 81
- \*Prayer of the Day

God of Majesty, may your Holy Spirit provoke us to follow your Son in all obedience and humility, growing in spiritual wisdom and maturity, so that through us, all creation will come to know the praise of your glory. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Sermon

First Reading

Isaiah 63:7-14

<sup>7</sup>I will recount the steadfast love of the LORD, the praises of the LORD, according to all that the LORD has granted us, and the great goodness to the house of Israel that he has granted them according to his compassion, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. <sup>8</sup>For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely." And he became their Savior. <sup>9</sup>In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them

up and carried them all the days of old. <sup>10</sup>But they rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit; therefore he turned to be their enemy, and himself fought against them. <sup>11</sup>Then he remembered the days of old, of Moses and his people. Where is he who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds of his flock? Where is he who put in the midst of them his Holy Spirit, <sup>12</sup>who caused his glorious arm to go at the right hand of Moses who divided the waters before them to make for himself an everlasting name, <sup>13</sup>who led them through the depths? Like a horse in the desert, they did not stumble. <sup>14</sup>Like livestock that go down into the valley, the Spirit of the LORD gave them rest. So you led your people, to make for yourself a glorious name.

Psalms 111 (Read responsively by whole verse)

P. 270

Second Reading

Galatians 4:4-7

<sup>4</sup>When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. <sup>6</sup>And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

\*Alleluia

P. 83

\*Gospel

Matthew 2:13-23

<sup>13</sup>When {the wise men} had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." <sup>14</sup>And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt <sup>15</sup>and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt I called my son." <sup>16</sup>Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. <sup>17</sup>Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: <sup>18</sup>"A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more." <sup>19</sup>But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a

dream to Joseph in Egypt, <sup>20</sup>saying, "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." <sup>21</sup>And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup>But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. <sup>23</sup>And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.

## Sermon: "TWO KINGS AND A LITTLE BOY"

\*Hymn of the Day: "The First Noel"

**LBW 56**

\*Nicene Creed

P. 84

Prayers of the Church

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Holy Father, you have provided the means by which the message of your Son has come to us. 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, so that we would be kept in the one, true faith, together with all those who believe in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

*Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.*

Eternal God, you live beyond the realm of time, untouched by its passage. From everlasting to everlasting you are God. For that great grace we thank you, Lord, that you have come to dwell among us. We pray that Christ's own presence may accompany us into the year ahead, that each day may be lived for you.

*Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.*

Ever-present God, you sent your prophets and apostles out into a faithless world that rejects your Word. Be with all who suffer persecution, especially those seeking to bear faithful witness to Christ in places where they face persecution because of their loyalty to Jesus as Lord.

*Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.*

Holy Comforter, be the strength and assurance of those who grieve the death of loved ones. Surround them with your love and give them that peace which passes all human understanding. Grant that

they, and all of us who believe in Christ Jesus, might look forward to that day when we join all the saints who have gone before us around your throne of glory and worship you forever.

*Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.*

\*Sharing of Peace

Offering

\*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

P. 86

\*Offertory Prayer

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\*Great Thanksgiving

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\*Holy, Holy

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\*Words of Institution

P. 90

\*Lord's Prayer

P. 91

Lamb of God

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Communion Distribution

\*Thank the Lord

P. 92

\*Post Communion Prayer

P. 94

\*Benediction

\*Threefold Amen

\*Closing Hymn: "Angels We Have Heard on High"

**LBW 71**

\*Pastor: Go in Peace, Serve the Lord!

**\*Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

\*Postlude

## **THANK YOU PASTOR PHIL!**

Thank you, Pastor Phil, for providing pulpit supply for this weekend while Pastor Tom is on vacation.

Church Office: (815) 522-3886

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

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

Pianist: Jill Vodden

Lay Reader: Louie Mielke

Ushers: James Haag (Head usher), Bob & Lisa Coyle and Matt Johnson

Offering Counters: Mary Loomis and Donna Koehnke

Attendance Last Saturday, Christmas Eve12/24:85

Last Sunday, Christmas Day12/25 30

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

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

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

Coffee Server: Louie Mielke

Acolyte: tbd

## **Lessons for Next Week**

Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29; Romans 6:1-11; Matthew 3:13-17

## **BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!**

Chloe Schindler 1/1

Jean Bauer 1/3

Loraine Krabbe 1/5

Sara Haag 1/7

Jennifer Block 1/8

## **ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS!!!**

David & Laura Bock 12/31/2020

Keith & Renee Krabbe 1/1/2017

John & Jo Boehmer 1/5/1992

## **CHURCH FUN FACTS**

When pastors complained the altar area was too cold, Marvin Bernhardt ran a heat duct to the left of the altar to warm them up.

(In celebrating our 150th Anniversary, Connie Worden has found some fun facts that will be included in the bulletins each week and the newsletters each month. Hope you find them interesting. Dianna)



### **IT'S A GIRL!**

Hailey Mae Faivre born December 6, 2022

Born to Sarah (Sester) and Karl Faivre

7 lbs 7 oz and 20 inches long

Joins big sister Emma, 2 years old

Grandparents are Vince & Jerilyn Faivre

and Mike & Sue Sester

## IT'S ALL ABOUT THE RELATIONSHIP

Rev. Brad Hales

Rev. Brad Hales will present “It’s all about relationships” via Zoom. This is presented as a non-credit class through the NALC. Please see the bulletin board for more information. The class will start on January 5, 2023.

## OFFERING ENVELOPES

The offering envelope company that normally supplies our envelopes was contacted on Monday, December 26. They informed me that there have been a lot of setbacks for them – staffing shortage, supply shortage and even the equipment was giving them trouble. Our envelopes would not arrive until mid to late January.

A decision was made to “make our own” for this year and we will revisit the opportunity of ordering envelopes next year. They are not fancy envelopes but will do the job. Each family will be given a number as usual.

You will find our envelopes in the narthex as usual. If you have not received envelopes, please let Dianna know as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to ask Dianna, or call me at the office (815)522-3886 or my cell (815)378-6654.



## OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANNUAL MEETING: SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2023 at 10:15 a.m.

Reports due to Dianna on Thursday, Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>.  
Booklets will be ready Jan. 14, 2023.

“Undecorate” – Please help today after service to take down the Christmas decorations.

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Sunday 1/1: Join us after the service in the Fellowship Hall for coffee.

Tuesday 1/3: Food Pantry Set-up, 9:30-11am; dist., 12-2pm.

Thursday 1/5: Food Truck Delivery, 8am; Lydia Circle, 1pm.

Church Council. 7pm (One week early).

Saturday 1/7: Worship Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 1/8: Worship Service, 9am with Sunday School to follow; Adult Forum will resume. Newsletter Items are due.

## **PARISH CONCERNS**

- Wanda Smith, sister of Elda Bruning passed away on Christmas Day. Elda will be traveling to Missouri for the services.
- Patricia Knudsen, friend of Trudy Loomis, passed away recently. May the promise of God's resurrection bring peace to the families and friends of Wanda Smith and Pat Knudsen.

Please pray for the following people that are near and dear to our hearts:

- Debi Hetland had a bad fall recently, spent days in ICU, and is now home. Sending a card? Address is on the narthex bulletin board.
- Brad and Rick, friends of Vernon & Jane Johnson's, who are dealing with cancer of the esophagus and parkinsons, respectfully.
- Bill Byers, Jane Johnson's brother has been exposed to Covid. Bill lives at Wesley Willows in Rockford.
- Debbie Swan, June & Steve May's daughter is now at Maple Crest Nursing Home, Belvidere.
- Brad Arnold had knee surgery on December 28<sup>th</sup>. Kelly had her knee surgery on Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>. She is doing well.
- All those who are not able to worship with us because they are in health care facilities or homebound: 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, especially Carolyn Suhr, Jerry Sheehan, Ryleigh Joos, Jason Gorski, Loraine Steinhorst (Gary Steinhorst's mother) and Chris Dries, (Gary Steinhorst's cousin)
- St. John's Lutheran Church, Creston, IL & St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Oregon, IL as they begin the call process for a Pastor.
- Persecuted Christians throughout the world.
- The NALC, NALS, the Great Rivers Mission District, all Christian churches, and our partners in SC and PA.