



God is
faithful.

1
Corinthians
1:9

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

Saturday, January 14, 2023
With Readings for the 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

First Lutheran Church- Putting Christ First

Saturday, January 14, 2023

(with scripture readings for the 2nd Sunday after Epiphany)

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.

THE SERVICE BEGINS

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

C O Mighty God, you once revealed yourself to your people on Mount Sinai, in fire and thunder and cloud, as you gave your Ten Commandments;

P **AND OF THE SON:**

C O Jesus, our Lord and God, you made your divine power manifest by changing water into wine, healing the sick, and teaching the people with power and authority;

P **AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:**

C O Divine Spirit, when Jesus was baptized, you came upon him in the form of a dove. Come upon us now, in the speaking of your Word.
AMEN!

OPENING SONG: "We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight"

WOV 675

WE CONFESS

P Let us confess our sin and griefs, and hear the comfort of the Lord.

C If you revealed only your power and your law to us, O Lord, we would be undone. Like the Israelites who trembled with fear at Mt. Sinai, and like the disciple Peter, who upon seeing your power over nature, cried out, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!", we too would be reduced to fear and trembling, guilt and hopelessness. We confess that we have not and cannot live up to your righteous and good laws, and that we cannot stand before your almighty power.

WE HEAR THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

P Jesus reveals himself to us most completely, not through laws, commandments, and displays of awesome power, but through lowliness and humility. He came to John the Baptist to be baptized, though he didn't need to at all. By doing so, he showed that he is not ashamed to be associated with sinners. Indeed, he loves sinners, and wants to come into their lives and be their friend. Jesus loves us

sinners. In His name, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins. The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C And also with you!

SHARING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and eternal God, you restrain the powers of heaven and earth. Mercifully hear your people's prayers for peace in our time. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 49:1-7

¹Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The LORD called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name. ²He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. ³And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." ⁴But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my right is with the LORD, and my recompense with my God." ⁵And now the LORD says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him; and that Israel might be gathered to him — for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD, and my God has become my strength — ⁶he says: "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." ⁷Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation, the servant of rulers: "Kings shall see and arise; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves; because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

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

PSALM 40:1-11 (Read responsively by half verse)

P. 232-233

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

¹Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes, ²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge — ⁶even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you — ⁷so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

GOSPEL

John 1:29-42a

²⁹The next day {John} saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" ³⁰This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' ³¹I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³²And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God." ³⁵The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, "What are you seeking?" And they said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹He said to them, "Come and you will see." So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first found his own

brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ). ^{42a}He brought him to Jesus.

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

SERMON: “THE PROMISE OF FAITHFULNESS”

SONG: “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

LBW 479

STATEMENT OF FAITH: Nicene Creed

LBW p.84

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Mighty Lord, you have promised to always be with us. Give to your people the faith to trust in your daily presence among us, that we may serve you as your witnesses to those around us. By remaining faithful to your Word, may our lives proclaim the promise of our Lord and Savior to all the world.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

Lord God, in this season of winter, just as you have covered the ground in snowy white in many parts of your world, we ask that you would cover our sins with your forgiveness though they be as scarlet. Even as your Holy Spirit is transforming us into the image of your Son, may we reflect the purity of Christ’s own righteousness.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

Lord of all, you ate with sinners, restored the dignity of outcasts and lepers, and showered your grace without restraint. Teach us to afford all people the dignity and respect that they deserve as your beloved children. As we serve and care for the least of these, your brothers and sisters, may we do it in faith and service to you.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

Loving Father, your love is a healing balm that brings peace. Your Spirit’s presence is a comfort and consolation beyond compare. Bring healing and wholeness to all who suffer in body, mind or spirit [especially ...]. We also lift before you all whom we now name before you, either silently or aloud ... Grant them healing; grant them wholeness in your name.

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.91

COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

P Isaiah said of old, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to bring good news."

C People of God, today this prophecy has been fulfilled in your hearing.

C Amen!

THE BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG: "God Be with You Till We Meet Again"

Below

1. God be with you till we meet again,

By his counsels guide, uphold you,

With his sheep securely fold you, God be with you till we meet again,

Refrain:

Til we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus' feet;

Til we meet, till we meet, God be with you til we meet again

2. God be with you till we meet again,

Neath his wings protecting hide you,

Daily manna still provide you, God be with you till we meet again,

Refrain

3. God be with you till we meet again,

When life's perils thick confound you,

Put his arms unfailing round you, God be with you till we meet again,

Refrain

4. God be with you till we meet again,

Keep love's banner floating o'er you,

Smite death's threat'ning waves before you, God be with you till we meet again,

Refrain

P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God!

Church Office: (815) 522-3886

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

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

Pianist: Nancy Plote

Attendance Last Saturday, 1/7/20

Website: www.kirklandflc.org

pastor@kirklandflc.org

secretary@kirklandflc.org

Host: Dan & Janelle Pahnke

Last Sunday, 1/8 44

Lessons for Next Week

| Isaiah 9:1-4; Psalm 27:1-9 [10-14]; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-25

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!

Chris Mothkovich 1/16

James Haag 1/16

Lisa Coyle 1/17

John Roser 1/19

Charlotte Haag 1/19/2018

Lucas Sunderlage 1/20/2006

Keegan Marshall 1/21/2010

ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS!!!

(I have no listing for anniversaries for January. If I am missing your birthday or anniversary, please let me know. Dianna)

CHURCH FUN FACT:

The early 1890s must have been hard times because there are many entries of contributions of a cord or half-cord of wood, a gallon of oil or other staples.



OFFERING ENVELOPES

The offering envelopes look very different this year. They are in the narthex. Please pick up yours today.

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.

The annual booklets are ready now. Please read through them, make notes, and bring it back with you when you attend the annual meeting.

THANK YOU from Debi Hetland for all the cards and prayers!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday 1/15: Join us after the service in the Fellowship Hall for coffee.

Adult Forum, 10:15am.

Monday 1/16: Food truck Delivery, 9:30am.

Tuesday 1/17: Food Pantry Set-up, 9:30-11am; dist., 12-2pm.

Wednesday 1/18: On-line Bible Study, 7pm.

Thursday 1/19: Confirmation resumes, 5:30pm.

Saturday 1/21: Worship Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 1/22: Worship Service, 9am with Sunday School to follow;

Cherub Choir to sing!

PARISH CONCERNS

Mary Elmore, Patricia Shemberger and Noah Kucinski died recently.

Their visitations were Saturday, January 14th.

May the promise of God's resurrection bring peace to the families and friends of Mary Elmore, Patricia Shemberger and Noah Kucinski

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

- Chris Droes, Gary Steinhorst's cousin is in hospice care now.
- 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.
- 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, and Loraine Steinhorst (Gary Steinhorst's mother).
- All elected leaders, police officers, first responders, and military personnel, that they hear and receive God's guidance and protection.
- Our church and its activities, and all Christian churches.
- All NALC churches that are searching for a Pastor.
- The NALC, NALS, and the Great Rivers Mission District.