

Choose
LIFE.

Deuteronomy 30:19

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

*Sunday, February 12, 2023
Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany*

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A WARM WELCOME TO ALL who are worshiping 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.

LBW – green hymnal WOV – blue hymnal *Please stand as able.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Order of Service

- *Brief Order for Public Confession LBW P. 77
- *Sharing of Peace
- *Opening Hymn: "Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God" **WOV 783**
- *Apostolic Greeting and Kyrie P. 78
- *Glory to God in the Highest P. 80
- *Prayer of the Day

O Lord, graciously hear the requests of your people. May we who are afflicted for our sins be mercifully relieved, for the sake of your glory, to find new life through the love of Jesus Christ, your Son who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Sermon

First Reading

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

¹⁵{Moses said,} "See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live,

²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

Psalm 119:1-8 (Read responsively by whole verse)

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Second Reading

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

¹But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? ⁴For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not being merely human? ⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. ⁹For we are God’s fellow workers. You are God’s field, God’s building.

*Alleluia

P. 83

*Gospel

Matthew 5:21-37

²¹{Jesus said,} “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’ ²²But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. ²⁶Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny. ²⁷You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ ²⁸But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent

has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell. ³¹It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' ³²But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. ³³Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.' ³⁴But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything more than this comes from evil."

Sermon: **"THE PROMISE OF FREEDOM"**

*Hymn of the Day: "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"	<u>LBW 487</u>
*Apostles' Creed	P. 85
*Offering	
*Create in Me A Clean Heart	P. 96
* Prayers of the Church	P. 97

Heavenly Father, we praise you for the fulfillment of your divine Word spoken through the patriarchs and prophets. We glorify your holy and divine name for the gift of salvation that comes through the precious body and blood of your Son, our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith daily, that we may proclaim the deeds of him who has called us out of darkness into the marvelous wonder of your holy light.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

God of night and day, sun and moon, in the midst of winter days that seem grey and dreary stir in us contentment and joy as we contemplate your mercies which are new every day, your steadfast loving-kindness, and your unfailing presence with us.

Remind us that it is only in you that true joy and contentment can be found. *Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.*

Holy Spirit, open our hearts and our eyes. Teach us to see those in need and move to serve them in their need. Keep us ever mindful that it is in the face of others that we shall see our Lord, Jesus and through our care for them that we shall serve him.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

Healer of our every ill, your people suffer pain and sadness, illness and despair, desolation and hopelessness. Shine the light of your presence into the dark shadows of our lives that threaten to overwhelm us. Brings us your light and life. We pray especially for

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

*Lord's Prayer

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*Benediction

*Threefold Amen

*Closing Hymn: "God Be with You til We Meet Again"

REC 55

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

*Pastor: Go in Peace, Serve the Lord!

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

*Postlude

Church Office: (815)522-3886

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

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

Organist: Pauline Cultra

Ushers: Doug Springborn, Angie, Abby & Brynn Springborn and Matt Johnson

Offering Counters: Angie Springborn & Ashley Boyer

Attendance Last Saturday: 2/4: 19

Website: www.kirklandflc.org

pastor@kirklandflc.org

secretary@kirklandflc.org

Lay Reader: Louie Mielke

Attendance Sunday, 2/5: 58

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!

Jim Suhr 2/10

Pastor Tom Thorstad 2/12

Delaney Cook 2/13/2014

Janice Sheehan 2/15

Steve May 2/15

Sandy Gustafson 2/15

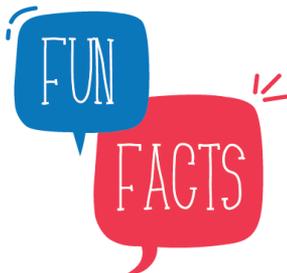
ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

Denny & Debbie Rehn 2/17/73

If I have missed your birthday or anniversary, please share with me as I would like our records to be as complete as possible. Dianna

WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT:

Mark Boehmer & Annelise Daab were married on Saturday, February 11th in Milwaukee. May God bless their marriage.



CHURCH FUN FACTS

Our present church sits two feet higher than it did when it was built. Look for an upcoming newsletter article explaining how and why that happened.



SHOP NOW FOR PERSONAL CARE KITS

We will be collecting all items until the end of February. You may bring any of the above items, you do not have to put a kit together. If you choose to make a kit, you may. All of the supplies will be taken to our local NALC disaster relief location.

Health Care Kit

(Pack in 2-gallon Ziplock or tote bag)

- o 1 bath towel
- o 1 wash cloth (optional)
- o 1 shampoo (2 if travel size)
- o 1 bar of soap (2 if travel size)
- o 1 toothbrush
- o 1 pack of floss (optional)
- o 1 toothpaste (2 if travel size)
- o 1 comb
- o 1 deodorant
- o 1 nail clippers (optional)

Sunday, 2/12: Join us after the service in the fellowship hall to celebrate Pastor Tom's birthday. Newsletter items are due today.

Tuesday 2/14: Worship & Music Team mtg, 9:30am.

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

Newsletter Folding, 2pm.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Wednesday 2/15: On-line Bible Study this week.

Thursday 2/16: Confirmation Class, 5:30pm.

Saturday 2/18: Communion Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 2/19: Communion Service, 9am, Sunday School Children (Cherub Choir) to sing.



PRAYER REQUESTS

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

- Ryleigh Joos, great-niece of Dan & Janelle Pahnke, is in remission, Praise God!
- Elda Bruning is now home after a hospital stay from a nosebleed.
- Tony Rutigliano, Phillip Bruning's father-in-law, had brain surgery.
- Louie Mielke will be having a pre-operative test for wrist surgery scheduled for Feb. 13th.
- Chris Droes, Gary Steinhorst's cousin is in hospice care now.
- 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 Debi Hetland, Carolyn Suhr, Jerry Sheehan, 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.
- All affected by the earthquake in Turkey and Syria.
- 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.

Lessons for Next Week

Exodus 24:8-18; Psalm 2:6-12; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9