



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

*Saturday, February 18, 2023
The Eve of the Transfiguration of Our Lord*

First Lutheran Church- Putting Christ First

Saturday, February 18, 2023

The Eve of the Transfiguration of Our Lord

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: "Beautiful Savior"

LBW 518

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

O God, at the glorious transfiguration of your only Son, you confirmed the mystery of our faith by the witness of the disciples and by your own voice from the cloud. Mercifully complete our adoption as your children, and give us, with our King, an inheritance of his glory. 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

Exodus 24:8-18

⁸Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words." ⁹Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, ¹⁰and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. ¹¹And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank. ¹²The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." ¹³So Moses rose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. ¹⁴And he said to the elders, "Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you. Whoever has a dispute, let him go to them." ¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The glory of the LORD dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. ¹⁷Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. ¹⁸Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

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

SECOND READING

2 Peter 1:16-21

¹⁶We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," ¹⁸we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, ²⁰knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. ²¹For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

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

GOSPEL

Matthew 17:1-9

¹After six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. ²And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. ³And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." ⁵He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." ⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." ⁸And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. ⁹And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead."

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

SERMON: "TRUTH OF FAITH"

SONG: "Shine, Jesus, Shine"

STATEMENT OF FAITH: Nicene Creed

WOV 651

LBW p.84

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Heavenly Father, you have called us to abide in your Word and remain steadfast in faith. Thank you for sowing your Word in our hearts, and giving growth by your Holy Spirit. Deepen the roots you have given us, so that by your power we would stand strong and never be moved from the faith of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus Christ, on the Mount of Transfiguration you revealed your glory to your disciples. By your Word and Holy Spirit reveal your glory to us as well, that we may see and know you as the only begotten Son of the Father, and may truly listen to your Word.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

Almighty God, you lead us in paths of righteousness for your name's sake. We ask for guidance, and pray for all those who are faced with difficult decisions. We pray that in all we do, whether in word or deed, our choices and decisions will serve your will and bring glory to your name.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

Have mercy, gracious Lord, upon all those who are ill or suffering in body, mind, or spirit. Bring them wholeness and healing through the miracles of modern medicine and the men and women who have chosen it as their life's vocation. [We pray especially for] May we serve as your comforting presence with them through our visits, phone calls, and written greetings.

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

THE BENEDICTION

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!

CLOSING SONG: "Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing" **LBW 259**

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, 2/11:19

Website: www.kirklandflc.org

pastor@kirklandflc.org

secretary@kirklandflc.org

Host: Dan & Janelle Pahnke

Last Sunday, 2/12:46

Dianna Wittwer will be on vacation, and will return back to the office on Thursday, March 2. Please contact Pastor Tom (716)990-6244(c) or Jo Boehmer (815)751-2908 at this time.



BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!

Val Norris 2/20

Theodore Boehmer 2/20/22

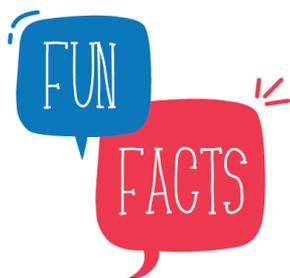
ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS!!!

Randal & Angela Nelson (Their 30th)

2/20/93

Stephen & June May

2/27/74



CHURCH FUN FACTS

Because of lack of money our current kitchen was just going to be another room until Lavina Ault saw it, declared it the ideal place for a kitchen and paid for its completion, hence the plaque in her honor above the sinks.

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. There is a list of items on the narthex bulletin board.



ASH WEDNESDAY COMMUNION SERVICE WITH IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Ash Wednesday Communion service will be on February 22 at 6:30pm.

LENTEN SCHEDULE

This Lenten schedule runs each Wednesday, March 1 - 29.

5:45pm – Lenten Supper (Watch your bulletins for more details.)

6:30pm –Lenten Vespers Service

“PLACES OF THE PASSION”

The Lenten theme this year will be “Places of the Passion”. In this worship series for Lent, we follow in the footsteps of Jesus, contemplating what happened at each place our Savior stood along the path of his Passion for our sake.

Lessons for Next Week

Genesis 3:1-21; Psalm 32:1-7; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday 2/19: Join us after the service in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and Adult Forum.

Monday 2/20: Food Pantry Truck delivery, 8am.

Tuesday 2/21: Food Pantry Set-up, 9:30-11am; dist., 12-2pm.

Wednesday 2/22: **Ash Wednesday Communion Service with Imposition of Ashes, 6:30pm.**

Thursday 2/23: Confirmation Class, 5:30pm.

Saturday 2/25: Worship Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 2/26: Worship Service, 9am. Adult Forum after service.

PARISH CONCERNS

- Chris Droes, Gary Steinhorst's cousin died on Sunday, 2/12. May the promise of God's resurrection bring peace to his family and friends.

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!
- Louie Mielke had wrist surgery on Feb. 13th.
- Debi Hetland, Joanie Sanderson's daughter, will have brain surgery.
- Elda Bruning is home after a hospital stay from a nosebleed.
- 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, Jason Gorski, and Loraine Steinhorst (Gary Steinhorst's mother).
- All pregnant women and the babies they are carrying.
- 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.