



For if many died
through one man's
trespass, much more
have the grace of
God and the free gift
by the grace of that
one man Jesus
Christ abounded for
many.

Romans 5:15

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

*Saturday, February 25, 2023
With Readings for the First Sunday in Lent*

First Lutheran Church – Putting Christ First

Saturday, February 25, 2023

(with scripture readings for the 1st Sunday of Lent)

WELCOME! We hope that this service will be a blessing to you. Please complete the black friendship register and pass it down your pew. Place this form in the offering plate when it is passed.

THE SERVICE BEGINS

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

C O Loving God, you gave your only Son to die for us, that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life;

P AND OF THE SON:

C O Jesus, our Lord, you humbled yourself, and became obedient unto death - even the death of the cross;

P AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:

C O Holy Spirit, guide us into all truth, and remind us of everything Jesus has taught us. AMEN!

OPENING SONG: “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

LBW 482

WE CONFESS

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

C O Lord, we have often given in to temptation. We have often been weak under pressure, and because of fear or flattery, we have disobeyed you. We ask you of your great mercy, to forgive us, to make us whole, to draw us near to you, and to strengthen us for the next time we are tempted.

WE HEAR THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

P Our savior is able to sympathize with our weakness, for He too was tempted by the devil. In the wilderness, Satan encouraged Jesus to use his power for himself, instead of for others. And when He was dying, some tempted Him to come down off the cross. Had He given in, we would have been lost! But He prayed, “Father, not my will, but Thine be done.” And thus strengthened, He gave himself into death for our sins. In His name, I declare to you that Jesus Christ has made full satisfaction for all your sins. Your guilt is removed. You are clean and pure, and standing in the presence of God. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, you would have us put no trust in anything we do. Mercifully grant that, by your power, we may be defended against all adversity; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING:

Genesis 3:1-21

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" ²And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. ⁵For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. ⁸And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." ¹¹He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹²The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." ¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you

shall bruise his heel.” ¹⁶To the woman he said, “I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be contrary to your husband, but he shall rule over you.” ¹⁷And to Adam he said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; ¹⁸thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” ²⁰The man called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. ²¹And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

P The Word of our Lord

C Thanks be to God

PSALM 32:1-7 (Read responsively by half verse)

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SECOND READING

Romans 5:12-19

¹²Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned — ¹³for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come. ¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man’s trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the result of that one man’s sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. ¹⁷For if, because of one man’s trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ. ¹⁸Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. ¹⁹For as by the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous.

P The Word of our Lord

C Thanks be to God

GOSPEL

Matthew 4:1-11

¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" ⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'" ⁷Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.'" ¹¹Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

P The Gospel of our Lord

C Thanks be to God

SERMON: "THE FREE GIFT OF GRACE"

SONG: "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

LBW 439

APOSTLES' CREED

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THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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Heavenly Father, we know that you discipline those you love and guide sinners in doing what is right. Take away our selfish will so that we might live according to your divine will. Open our ears to hear you speaking to us, so that we would repent from seeking our own ways, and turn to you for forgiveness and mercy.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

Almighty God, as we travel this Lenten journey to the cross, we are mindful of our desperate need for your mercy and grace. Through your Spirit inspire us to hunger for your word of life and teach us to show forth in our lives what we confess with our lips.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

Holy Spirit, open our hearts and enter in, that we may see those in need, and care about them in that need; that we may gather ourselves to reach out in friendship and in prayer, to give as we have received.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

God of compassion, we wait upon your mercy, trusting that you never forget us. Give hope to all who wait in patience and faith in the midst of troubled times [especially ...]. Be with them in their time of need, and remind them of your promise, that neither height or depth, death or life, nor anything else in all of creation, will be able to separate us from your love in Christ Jesus.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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OFFERING

CLOSING RESPONSIVE READING

(Based on Psalm 51, prayed by King David, when Nathan confronted him with his sin)

L Have mercy on me, O God, according to your lovingkindness;

C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

L Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

C Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

L O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

C Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. AMEN.

CLOSING SONG: "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word" **LBW 230**

P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God!

Church Office: (815) 522-3886

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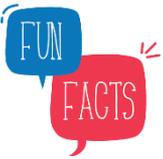
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CHURCH FUN FACTS

Ladies' aides served fifty cent chicken suppers from the basement kitchen that had a cook stove, no running water and no sink.

LENTEN SCHEDULE

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

5:45pm – Lenten Supper

3/1 Council - chili

3/8 Lydia - Spaghetti

3/15 Potluck Soup (Watch for sign-up)

3/22 Sunday School - sloppy joes

3/29 Men - pork chops

6:30pm –Lenten Vespers Service

The theme for all the Lenten Vespers services will be:

“PLACES OF THE PASSION”

2/22 The City of Jerusalem

3/15 Gethsemane

3/1 Bethany

3/22 The Courtyard

3/8 The Mount of Olives

3/29 Pilate's Judgement Hall

Confirmation class will continue to be on Thursdays at 5:30pm.

PERSONAL CARE KITS:

Thank you to all who helped provide supplies for the Personal Care kits. They will be blessed on March 11 & 12th.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!

Wyatt Mielke 2/26/14

Kailey Haberkamp 2/28/11

Peggy Wince 2/29

Onie Luepkes 3/5

ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS!!!

Steve & June May 2/27/74

If I have missed a birthday or anniversary, please let me know –
Dianna.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

We are looking for a member or two to lead the Vacation Bible School. We are hoping to have VBS scheduled for the second or third week in June. Please let Pastor Tom or Jo know that you are interested.

Sunday 2/26: Join us in Fellowship Hall for coffee after the service.

Adult Forum, 10:30am.

Monday 2/27: Clothes Closet open, 12-1:30pm.

Tuesday 2/28: Food Pantry set-up, 9:30-11am; dist. 12-2pm.

Wednesday 3/1: Lenten Dinner, 5:45pm.

Lenten Vespers Service, 6:30pm.

Thursday 3/2: Food Truck Delivery, 7:30am.

Lydia Circle Bible Study, 1pm. Confirmation Class, 5:30pm.

Saturday 3/4: Communion Service, 5:30pm. Meat raffle, 6pm.

Sunday 3/5: Communion Service with Sunday School to follow, 9am.

PARISH CONCERNS

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

- Carolyn Leist, friend of Laura Block's died. Carolyn was 39. Pray for comfort and peace for her family & loved ones, especially her 18-year-old daughter.
- Debi Hetland, Joanie Sanderson's daughter, received an answer to prayer and didn't need brain surgery.
- Andy Ritzert, Jo Boehmer's son has a severe case of shingles that is affecting his left eye.
- Reenie, Jo Boehmer's diabetic sister was diagnosed with Covid.
- 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.