



*This is the day
that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice
and be glad in it.*

PSALM 118:24

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

Sunday, April 2, 2023
Palm Sunday

First Lutheran Church - Putting Christ First

Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023



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.

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

*THE INVOCATION

Pastor: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen

CHILDREN'S PARADE OF PALMS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

LBW 108

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor" (vv. 1, 3, & 5)

Pastor: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Congregation: Hosanna in the highest!

CHERUB CHOIR (Lucas Boyer – guitar)

CHILDREN HIDE THE ALLELUIA BANNER

* HYMN: "My Love Is Love Unknown" (vv 1-4)

LBW 94

*Apostolic Greeting and Kyrie

P. 99

*Glory to God in the Highest

P. 100

*Prayer of the Day (Spoken in unison)

Almighty God, you have sent your Son, Jesus Christ, to take upon our flesh and to suffer death on the cross, that all humanity should follow the example of his humility. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of his patience and be partakers of his resurrection; through the same 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 50:4-9a

⁴The LORD God has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught. ⁵The LORD God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. ⁷But the LORD God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. ⁸He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me. ^{9a} Behold, the LORD God helps me; who will declare me guilty?

PSALM 118:19-29 (*responsively by half verse*)

p. 273

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:5-11

⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

LENTEN SENTENCE

p.104

THE GOSPEL

John 12:12-19

¹²The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" ¹⁴And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, ¹⁵"Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" ¹⁶His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about

him and had been done to him. ¹⁷The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. ¹⁸The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. ¹⁹So the Pharisees said to one another, “You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him.”

SERMON: “BETHPHAGE”

*HYMN OF THE DAY: “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us”

How deep the Father’s love for us, how vast beyond all measure
that He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss. The Father turns His face
away as wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons
glory.

Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers. It
was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life. I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything: No gifts, no pow’r, no wisdom. But I
will boast in Jesus Christ: His death and resurrection. Why should
I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer. But this I know
with all my heart: his wounds have paid the ransom.

*NICENE CREED P. 105

*PRAYERS OF CHURCH P. 106

Holy Spirit, you are the Lord and giver of life. We thank you for
filling us with your strength. Empower our witness so that we
boldly share the truth with others in Christian love and service, at
every time and in every place we are given the opportunity.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

Holy God, inspire your church to lives of faithfulness, boldness,
and compassion; so that, through its witness, many may join it in
singing, “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!”

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

God of goodness, all creation proclaims your glory; open our eyes to see your power and majesty in the detailed beauty of our world, and open our hearts to be gentle caretakers of the earth. Let the glory of creation be a testimony to your power and greatness, that we may live in praise and awe each day.

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

We give thanks, everlasting Father, for your servants who have departed this life in faith and now share the joys of your heavenly kingdom. We humbly ask that, with them, we may live in Christ and die in him, and at the last awaken in his likeness in the resurrection to life everlasting.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

OFFERING

***CREATE IN ME** (BACK HYMNAL COVER)

***OFFERTORY PRAYER** P. 108

***GREAT THANKSGIVING** P. 109

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION** P. 110

***THE LORD'S PRAYER** P. 113

LAMB OF GOD P. 114

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

***LORD, NOW YOU LET YOUR SERVANT** P. 116

***BENEDICTION** P. 117

***THREEFOLD AMEN**

***CLOSING HYMN: "Prepare the Royal Highway"** **LBW 26**

***P: May God be merciful to us and bless us, as we enter this holy week.**

***Congregation: May God be merciful to us and bless us.**

***POSTLUDE**

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: Roger Bauer (Head usher), Jean Bauer, Lenny Peterson, and Elaine Mitchell

Offering Counters: Mary Loomis & Jean Bauer

Attendance Last Saturday, 3/25:12

Lenten Service, 3/29: 23

Website: www.kirklandflc.org

pastor@kirklandflc.org

secretary@kirklandflc.org

Coffee Servers: Louie Mielke

Acolyte: Brynn Springborn

Attendance Sunday, 3/26: 44

BIRTHDAYS!

Christine Suhr 4/4 Dianna Wittwer 4/4
Austin Sunderlage 4/4 Debi Hetland 4/10
James Hetland 4/11 Connie Worden 4/13

ANNIVERSARIES!

Marvin & Wanda Bernhardt 4/8/1956
James & Mary Loomis 4/8/1983
Lenny & sue Peterson 4/10/1976

EASTER MEMORIAL GARDEN

Order your Easter Memorial Garden Lily today. Only 10 plants are available for purchase. Lilies are \$11 each. Order forms are in the narthex. Place the order form and payment into an envelope, then place it into the offering plate or on Dianna's desk.

HOLY WEEK PRAYER VIGIL BEGINS AFTER GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Many half-hour time slots are still left offering you private time in the sanctuary for prayer and reflection. Devotional materials will be provided. Sign up in the narthex at the Prayer Vigil cross to reserve your time slot. Note: There is no Saturday service on April 8 to accommodate the Prayer Vigil – we encourage you to participate.



EASTER BREAKFAST – PLEASE RSVP!

Easter Breakfast will be at 8am, between the two Easter services - 7am Sunrise and 9:30am Festival. To help us prepare for the breakfast, please RSVP on the sign-up sheet in the narthex.



I spoke with Debi Hetland! She asked that I share a “Thank you” to all who prayed, thought of and sent cards to her during her recent health issue. Debi had a miracle happen. Her brain surgeon took one more CAT scan before surgery, returned with a big smile and shared that she wouldn’t be needing surgery. She is the 4th in the country to have the body heal itself. Although we know who was in control. Thank you Lord, for sharing this miracle with Debi!



We are looking for a member or two to lead the Vacation Bible School. We are hoping to have VBS scheduled for June 12-15. Please let Pastor Tom know that you are interested.



BLACK FRIENDSHIP PEW BOOKLET

Please complete the black friendship register and pass it down your pew or share with those sitting around you. Place this form in the offering plate when it is passed.

Lessons for Next Week:

Easter Sunrise: Exodus 14:10-15:1; Psalm 118:15-29;
1 Corinthians 15:1-11; John 20:1-18

Easter Day: Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 16; Colossians 3:1-4;
Matthew 28:1-10

Sunday 4/2: Join us in Fellowship Hall for coffee after the service!
Adult Forum, 10:30am.

Tuesday 4/4: Food Pantry set-up, 9:30-11am; dist. 12-2pm.

Thursday 4/6: Food Truck Delivery, 7:30am.

Lydia Bible Study, 1pm.

Maundy Thursday Communion Service, 7pm.

Friday 4/7: Good Friday Service, 7pm. Prayer Vigil will begin after the service and will conclude on Saturday at 3pm.

Saturday 4/8: NO Worship Service.

Sunday 4/9: Easter Sunrise Service, 7am; Breakfast, 8am;
Easter Festival Communion Service, 9:30am.

PARISH CONCERNS

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

- Ben Blobaum & family as he prays for his 1st call to a church and to become ordained.
- Don Peterson, Louise Hoffman's brother has been ill.
- Eddie Young, Charmaine Massey's sons heart procedure went well, however, Dr's have found something else.
- Pastor Ian Griffith, LCMC pastor serving Zion Lutheran Church in La Moille, Illinois. He has had two surgeries to remove a cancerous lump from his jaw. He will hopefully be in rehab soon.
- Jason Gorski's cancer isn't responding to the new chemo medication. Jason is 42 years old, married with two children.
- Pray for pregnant women and the babies they are carrying.
- 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.
- The unrest of the shooting in TN.
- Our church and its activities, and all Christian churches.
- All elected leaders, police officers, first responders, and military personnel, that they hear and receive God's guidance and protection.
- Persecuted Christians throughout the world.
- The NALC, NALS, the Great Rivers Mission District, all Christian churches, and our partners in SC and PA.