



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

*Saturday, April 29, 2023
With readings for the Fourth Sunday of Easter*

First Lutheran Church – Putting Christ First

Saturday, April 29, 2023

(with scripture readings for the 4th Sunday of Easter)

WELCOME! We hope that this service will be a blessing to you. Please complete the black friendship register and pass it down your pew. As it's passed back to you, remove the completed sheet and place it in the offering plate after noting those sharing your pew. Then after worship, you're encouraged to introduce yourself to anyone you haven't met.

THE SERVICE BEGINS

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

C O Mighty God, you raised your Son from the grave on the third day, defeating the power of death forever!

P AND OF THE SON:

C O Jesus Christ, our Risen Savior, we praise you for your glorious resurrection victory, and, like the disciple Thomas, we confess you as our Lord and God!

P AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:

C O Spirit of power and might, guide us by your Word, that we may know the Lord, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings.

All: AMEN!

OPENING SONG: "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

LBW 456

WE CONFESS

P Let us confess our sins, and hear the forgiveness of God.

C Like the apostle Peter, O Lord, our faith has sometimes wavered. There are days when we confess by our words and our lives that "You are the Christ, the son of the living God!" There are days when we are ready to walk on water with you. But then have come also those days when we have denied you by our words and our lives. Forgive us, Lord! Restore us to fellowship with you and one another!

WE HEAR THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

P When Jesus Christ arose triumphant from the grave, he did not come back to take revenge on those who had persecuted him, nor on those who had disappointed him. He came to restore them. To the disciples, huddled together in a locked room, He came and said, "Peace be with you." To the people of Jerusalem, he sent his

apostles with a message of mercy and forgiveness. To Peter, who had denied Him three times, He gave the chance to confess Him three times. And He restored Peter to his call as a servant and apostle in His kingdom, saying to him, "Feed my lambs." These same words of restoration are for you! All your sins are forgiven. Come, be an apostle in Christ's kingdom! His peace be with you!

C And also with you.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you show those in error the light of your truth, that they may return into the way of righteousness. Grant to all who are admitted into fellowship with Christ the power to avoid all things that are contrary to the faith and to follow you according to the will of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 2:42-47

⁴²{The believers} devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

P The Word of our Lord

C Thanks be to God

PSALM 23 (Read responsively together)

p.225

SECOND READING

1 Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²²He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to

him who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

P The Word of our Lord

C Thanks be to God

GOSPEL

John 10:1-10

¹{Jesus said to the Jews,} “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. ²But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

P The Gospel of our Lord

C Thanks be to God

SERMON: “SOMEONE TO WATCH OVER YOU”

SONG: “I Am Trusting You, Lord Jesus”

LBW 460

STATEMENT OF FAITH - Apostles' Creed

p.65

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

p.65

Holy God, your Holy Spirit calls your church together. Bless our corporate worship, that it may continue to faithfully proclaim the riches of your grace and honor you. Strengthened and nourished by your Son's body and blood through the bread we share in communion, may we also share abundantly with people in every place. *Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.*

Lord of all things living, we celebrate your gift of spring. In the blooming flowers and budding leaves, the gentle rain and warming sun, remind us of the promise of our lives renewed. Give us new life in faith and in growing obedience to your Word.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

Almighty God, we pray for justice and peace among the nations. Curb the desire for vengeance; turn us from dishonest speech and deceitful living; by the power of your Spirit lead us in your truth.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

Merciful God, be present and bring comfort among those in need: the poor, the homeless, the suffering, the afflicted, the ill and hospitalized. We pray particularly for those on the prayer list of this congregation and those we name now either silently or aloud.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

p.71

OFFERING

CLOSING RESPONSIVE READING

L I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and its rider he has thrown into the sea.

C The Lord is my strength and my song; he has been my Savior.

L This is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.

C Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power, your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy.

L Who among the gods is like you, O Lord? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in splendor, doing wonders?

C In your mercy you led forth the people you set free; you guided them in your strength to your holy habitation.

L You will bring them in and plant them on the mount that is your possession.

C The place, O Lord, you have made for your dwelling, the sanctuary, O Lord, which your hands have prepared. The Lord shall reign forever and ever.

L Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

C 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
Pastor: Thomas Thorstad (716) 990-6244(c)
Secretary: Dianna Wittwer (815)378-6654(c)
Pianist: Nancy Plote
Hosts: Richard & Peggy Wince

Website: www.kirklandflc.org
pastor@kirklandflc.org
secretary@kirklandflc.org

Offering Counters: Mary Loomis and Elda Bruning

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!

Ashley Mielke 4/28
Donna Peterson 5/4
Gary Steinhorst 5/4
James Hall 5/6

Mark Brykowski 4/29
Madison Marshall 5/4
Lynne Peterson 5/5
Leah Anderberg 5/8

ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS!!

George & Jill Vodden 5/9/99



Spring Fling will be this week! Please come and check out the array of items that are for sale. There are crafts, kitchen, garden, toys, plants, and home décor for sale. The hours will be:

Thursday, May 4th 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Friday, May 5th 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Saturday May 6th 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Val Norris and her granddaughter, Clover, will be coordinating VBS this year. VBS dates will be June 5-8. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex to help in many areas of VBS.

FUTURE DATES TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR:

Sunday, **May 21**, will be Confirmation Day for our 3 confirmands, Reagan Cook, Keegan Marshall and Brynn Springborn.

Saturday, **June 3**, the Anniversary Committee will host an ice cream social at 1pm.

Sunday, **June 4** Semi- Annual Congregational Meeting. We will be voting on our Church Council Board. This will take place after service.

CHUCH FUN FACTS

Methodist George Gibson (David Paulson's grandfather) earned \$1 a day as a builder on the First Lutheran Church in the early 1900s.

Lessons for Next Week:

Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60; Psalm 146; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

Sunday 4/30: Join us after the service for fellowship and coffee.

Adult Forum, 10:30am.

Tuesday 5/2: Worship & Music Team mtg, 9:30am.

Food Pantry set up, 9:30am; food distribution, 12-2pm.

Wednesday 5/3: On-line Bible Study, 7pm.

Thursday 5/4: Food Truck Delivery, 8am. Spring Fling 9am-4pm.

Friday 5/5: Spring Fling, 9am – 4pm.

Saturday 5/6: Spring Fling, 9am – 1pm. Communion Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 5/7: Communion Service, 9am.

PARISH CONCERNS

Condolences to the family of Jeri Schormann, Richard Wince's sister who passed away recently. May the promise of God's resurrection, bring peace to Jeri's family and friends.

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

- VBS, pray for many children and many volunteers.
- First Lutheran's many volunteers who give countless hours to take care of all our church activities and the property.
- Ben Blobaum, pray for God's leading to his 1st church.
- Don Peterson, Louise Hoffman's brother has been ill.
- Pastor Ian Griffith, full recovery from jaw surgery.
- Jason Gorski, as he is now in hospice care.
- Pray for pregnant women and the babies they are carrying, especially Alexis Haag.
- 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.
- 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.