



Baptism...
now saves you.

1 Peter 3:21

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

Saturday, May 13, 2023
With readings for the Sixth Sunday of Easter

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(with scripture readings for the 6th 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: "Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart" **LBW 486**

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, all good things can come from you alone; generously consider then our humble prayers. Inspire us to consider what is true, and direct us to accomplish what is right; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 17:16-31

¹⁶Now while Paul was waiting for {Silas and Timothy} at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. ¹⁸Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, "What does this babbler wish to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities" — because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. ¹⁹And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?" ²⁰For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean." ²¹Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new. ²²So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ²⁶And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their

dwelling place, ²⁷that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, ²⁸for 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we are indeed his offspring.' ²⁹Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. ³⁰The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

P The Word of our Lord

C Thanks be to God

PSALM 66:7-18 (read responsively by whole verse)

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SECOND READING

1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good?
¹⁴But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, ²⁰because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. ²¹Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

P The Word of our Lord

C Thanks be to God

GOSPEL

John 14:15-21

¹⁵{Jesus said,} “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, ¹⁷even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. ¹⁸I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.”

P The Gospel of our Lord

C Thanks be to God

SERMON: “THE AIR WE BREATHE”

SONG: “Take My Life, that I May Be”

LBW 406

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM: John and James Anderberg p.121

SHARING OF THE PEACE

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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You abide with your church, O God. As you nourish and sustain all living things, by your Word and Sacrament nourish and sustain the whole body of Christ. Empower us with your Spirit, so that your people speak and live the love revealed in Jesus.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

You abide throughout all creation, O God. 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.

You abide with the nations, O God. Reveal your truth, so that nations and peoples govern in peace and advocate for justice. Guide and direct leaders of nations that they may govern faithfully and with justice. We ask for peace in places where violence and oppression are a daily reality.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

You abide with the needy, O God. Cheer the sorrowful, protect the orphan, support the grieving, and heal the sick. 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

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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, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing" **LBW 259**

BENEDICTION:

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C Amen

P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God!

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BAPTISMAL CONGRATULATIONS!!!

We rejoice today as God welcomes **John Malcolm Anderberg** and **James Patrick Anderberg**, into His family through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Congratulations and God's richest blessings to **John and James**, their parents, Eric and Gillian Anderberg, and baptismal sponsors, Jennifer Cronly and Jeff Anderberg. Grandparents are Malcolm & Leah Anderberg and Anne McGarry.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!

Lenny Peterson 5/16 Lucas Boyer 5/24/12

THANK YOU! Pauline Cultra sent a thank you for all the cards for her 90th birthday. See the card on the bulletin board.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Val Norris and her grand- daughter, 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. There is also a list of snack items needed.

FUTURE DATES TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR:

Next 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

In the 1968 remodeling Dale Balch, Keith Marshall, George Tindall, Stanley Peterson, and Marvin Bernhardt tore out communion rails, steps and the choir area in front of the church.

Lessons for Next Week:

Acts 1:12-26; Psalm 68:1-10; 1 Peter 4:12-19, 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

Sunday 5/14: Happy Mother's Da! Join us after the service for fellowship and coffee. Adult Forum, 10:30am.

Monday 5/15: Food Truck Delivery, 8:30am.

Tuesday 5/16: Food Pantry set up, 9:30am; food dist., 12-2pm.
Newsletter folding, 2pm.

Wednesday 5/17: On-line Bible Study, 7pm.

Thursday 5/18: Ascension Day.

Saturday 5/20: Communion Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 5/21: Confirmation Day with Communion Service, 9am.
No Sunday School today.

PARISH CONCERNS

Sincere sympathies to Jason Gorski's family. Keep Jason's wife, Amanda, and two children in prayers. May the promise of God's resurrection, bring Jason's family and friends peace.

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

- Elaine Mitchell is awaiting shoulder surgery.
- David Sanderson, Joanie's son, is at Loyola hospital.
- 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.
- 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.
- The NALC, NALS, the Great Rivers Mission District, all Christian churches, and our partners in SC and PA.