



# **Confirmation**



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

*Saturday, May 20, 2023  
(Readings for Confirmation Day)*

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LBW – green hymnal WOV – blue hymnal

**A WARM WELCOME TO ALL** who are worshiping with us today! We hope that the service will be a joy and blessing to you. Please complete the black friendship register, pass it down the pew for others to register and then place it in the offering plate. After worship, you're encouraged to introduce yourself to anyone you haven't met.



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 or 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.

## **THE SERVICE BEGINS**

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

**C** Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you for creating all living things and causing them to grow;

**P** AND OF THE SON:

**C** O Jesus Christ, our Savior, in whom we have been born anew, help us to grow up in every way into You, who are our Lord;

**P** AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:

**C** Dear Holy Spirit, you have called us all and gathered us together as the Body of Christ, the Church. Help your church to grow – in numbers, in faith, and in love.

**All: AMEN!**

**OPENING SONG:**

**WOV 770**

"I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry"

## **WE CONFESS**

**P** Let us confess our weakness and sin, and hear the comfort of God.

**C** Dear Holy Spirit, we do not know how to pray as we ought. We confess that we have lived according to the flesh, with our minds set on the things of the flesh. We know this is death. We pray that each day you will set us free, setting our minds on the things of the Spirit, which is life and peace. (*Romans 8:5-6,26*)

## **WE HEAR THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION**

**P** The Spirit helps us in our weakness, and prays for us with sighs too deep for words. You are no longer in the flesh, you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. He who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit. There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. His peace be with you! *(Romans 8:1,9,11,26)*

**C** And also with you.

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God, send Your Holy Spirit into our hearts that He may rule and direct us according to Your will, comfort us in all temptations and afflictions, defend us from all error, and lead us into all truth that we, being steadfast in faith, may we increase in all good works and in the end obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

### **FIRST READING**

Deuteronomy 5:1–21 ESV

<sup>1</sup> And Moses summoned all Israel and said to them, “Hear, O Israel, the statutes and the rules that I speak in your hearing today, and you shall learn them and be careful to do them. <sup>2</sup> The LORD our God made a covenant with us in Horeb. <sup>3</sup> Not with our fathers did the LORD make this covenant, but with us, who are all of us here alive today. <sup>4</sup> The LORD spoke with you face to face at the mountain, out of the midst of the fire, <sup>5</sup> while I stood between the LORD and you at that time, to declare to you the word of the LORD. For you were afraid because of the fire, and you did not go up into the mountain. He said: <sup>6</sup> “ ‘I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. <sup>7</sup> “ ‘You shall have no other gods before me. <sup>8</sup> “ ‘You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>9</sup> You shall not bow down to them or serve them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, <sup>10</sup> but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. <sup>11</sup> “ ‘You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain. <sup>12</sup> “ ‘Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. <sup>13</sup> Six days you shall labor and do all your work, <sup>14</sup> but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter or your male servant or your female servant, or your ox

or your donkey or any of your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates, that your male servant and your female servant may rest as well as you. <sup>15</sup> You shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore, the LORD your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day. <sup>16</sup> “Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God commanded you, that your days may be long, and that it may go well with you in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. <sup>17</sup> “You shall not murder. <sup>18</sup> “And you shall not commit adultery. <sup>19</sup> “And you shall not steal. <sup>20</sup> “And you shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. <sup>21</sup> “And you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife. And you shall not desire your neighbor’s house, his field, or his male servant, or his female servant, his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor’s.’

**P** The Word of our Lord

**C** Thanks be to God.

**PSALM 53** (read responsively by half verse)

p. 240

**SECOND READING**

1 Timothy 4:6–16 ESV

<sup>6</sup> If you put these things before the brothers, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, being trained in the words of the faith and of the good doctrine that you have followed. <sup>7</sup> Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness; <sup>8</sup> for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come. <sup>9</sup> The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance. <sup>10</sup> For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe. <sup>11</sup> Command and teach these things. <sup>12</sup> Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. <sup>13</sup> Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching. <sup>14</sup> Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on you. <sup>15</sup> Practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your progress. <sup>16</sup> Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.

**P** The Word of our Lord

**C** Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL

John 14:15–17 ESV

<sup>15</sup> “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, <sup>17</sup> even 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.

P The Gospel of our Lord    C        Thanks be to God.

## SERMON: “GIVE YOURSELF TO THE LORD”

**SONG:** “I, the Lord of Sea and Sky”

**WOV 752**

**STATEMENT OF FAITH** – Nicene Creed

LBW p.84

**THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

**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 DISTRIBUTION**

**THE BENEDICTION**

P When Jesus instituted Holy Communion at the Last Supper before his crucifixion, He promised His disciples that one day they would again feast together in the kingdom of heaven.

C Dear Lord, keep us steadfast in faith until that day!

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C 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:** Lynne Peterson

**Website:** [www.kirklandflc.org](http://www.kirklandflc.org)

[pastor@kirklandflc.org](mailto:pastor@kirklandflc.org)

[secretary@kirklandflc.org](mailto:secretary@kirklandflc.org)

**Offering Counters:** Jean Bauer & Elda Bruning

### **BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!**

Lucas Boyer 5/24/12

### **ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS!!!**

Roger & Sandy Gustafson 5/26/01



### **It's time for Vacation Bible School**

June 5-8, 2023

9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Pre- K3 – 5<sup>th</sup> grade

There is still time to register your child for VBS and volunteers are always welcome. Registration can be done on-line from our website, or call Val or the church office, (815) 522-3886. Decorating helpers are needed on June 3 at 11am.

Please call/text Val Norris (815) 761-6458.

### **Church Fun Facts**

In 1970 Fred Ault paid off the last of our parsonage debt (\$650); the mortgage was burned by George Tindall, Nellie Nelson & Emil Peterson.



**Reagan Elizabeth Cook**

*“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight.”* Proverbs 3:5

**Keegan Nathaniel Marshall**

*“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.”* John 3:16

**Brynn Evelyn Springborn**

*“For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

Romans 8:38-39

***Congratulations and God’s richest blessings upon Reagan Cook, Keegan Marshall, and Brynn Springborn!***

**SEMI-ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING**

**June 4, 2023 – After Worship Service**

1. Election of new council members
2. Approval for up to \$15,000 for painting of church sanctuary

The Council slate and Agenda are on the Narthex bulletin Board.

Sunday 5/21: Join us after the service in the fellowship hall for coffee and fellowship. Please greet our new Confirmands!  
Monday 5/22: Clothes Closet open, 12-1:30pm. One week early due to Memorial Day is next Monday.  
Tuesday 5/23: Food Pantry Set-up, 9:30-11am; dist. 12-2pm.  
Wednesday 5/24: On-line Bible Study, 7pm  
Thursday 5/25: Wittenberg Door Pastor's Fellowship - here, 10am.  
Saturday 5/27: Worship Service, 5:30pm.  
Sunday 5/28: Worship Service, 9am.  
Last day of Sunday school until the fall.

### **PARISH CONCERNS**

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

- Elaine Mitchell has had 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

### **Lessons for Next Week:**

Numbers 11:24-30; Psalm 25:1-15; Acts 2:1-21; John 7:37-39