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Matthew 9:9

First Lutheran Church - Putting Christ First
Kirkland, IL - Est. December 26, 1873
Saturday, June 10, 2023
(With Readings for the 2nd week after Pentecost)

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(with scripture readings for 2nd Sunday after Pentecost)

A WARM WELCOME TO ALL who are worshipping 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.

LBW – green hymnal WOV – blue hymnal *Please stand

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: “How Firm a Foundation”

LBW 507

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

O God, you are the protector of all who trust in you, and beside you, nothing is strong or holy. Multiply your mercy and guide us that while using the good things of this fleeting life, we do not lose hold of the things that endure forever. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING:

Hosea 5:15-6:6

¹⁵I will return again to my place, until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face, and in their distress earnestly seek me.

¹“Come, let us return to the LORD; for he has torn us, that he may heal us; he has struck us down, and he will bind us up. ²After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. ³Let us know; let us press on to know the LORD; his going out is sure as the dawn; he will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth.” ⁴What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes early away.

⁵Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light. ⁶For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

P The Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God!

PSALM 119:65-72 (read responsively by whole verse)

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SECOND READING:

Romans 4:13-25

¹³For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression. ¹⁶That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring — not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations” — in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸In

hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, "So shall your offspring be."¹⁹ He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb.²⁰ No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²That is why his faith was "counted to him as righteousness." ²³But the words "it was counted to him" were not written for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, ²⁵who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

P The Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL:

Matthew 9:9-13

⁹As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he rose and followed him. ¹⁰And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹²But when he heard it, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³Go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

P The Gospel of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

SERMON: "RETURN TO THE LORD"

SONG: "I, the Lord of Sea and Sky"

WOV 752

STATEMENT OF FAITH – Apostles' Creed

LBW p. 85

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Lord God, you rule over all creation. We thank you for establishing law and order among us and for revealing to us your will in our lives. Help us to hear your Word and obey your commandments. Show us those places in our lives where we fall short of your glory, and by the power of your Holy Spirit, lead us to true repentance and faith.

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

Mighty Lord, you have promised to always be with us. Give to your people the faith to trust in your daily presence among us, that we may serve you as your witnesses to those around us. By remaining faithful to your Word, may our lives proclaim the promise of our Lord and Savior to all the world.

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

Life-giving Spirit, transform our communities into places of welcome for those who have been shunned or marginalized. Help us to see in them the very presence of our Lord Jesus. Then, by your power, send us forth with greetings of grace and peace on our lips and compassion and mercy in our hearts.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

Great Physician, we pray that all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit may know your healing presence. We especially lift up those we name before you aloud or in our hearts ... [pause]. Send your Spirit upon them to make them whole, and give them hope and strength in you.

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

LORD'S PRAYER

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OFFERING

CLOSING RESPONSIVE READING

(The prophecy of Joel, recorded in Acts 2:17-21)

- P** In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
C And your sons and your daughters shall prophesy!
P And your young men shall see visions!
C And your old men shall dream dreams!
P Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.
C Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

LBW 315

- 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: Dan & Janelle Pahnke

Attendance Last Saturday, 6/3: 14

Website: www.kirklandflc.org

pastor@kirklandflc.org

secretary@kirklandflc.org

Offering Counters: Jo Boehmer & Susan Wilson

Last Sunday, 6/4: 39

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!

June May 6/10

Richard Wince 6/10

Ashley Boyer 6/15

Calli Emerich 6/15/06

Cameron Emerich 6/15/06

Thank you

Thank you to everyone for all the birthday greetings sent to George and I, as well as get well, Easter, and St. Patrick's day cards. George received a wonderful variety of stickers, and we will surely use them in the upcoming months.

Jill and George Vodden

Our family would like to thank Pastor Tom for his Pastoral support at the visitation and funeral for Louise's brother, Don Peterson. It was very much appreciated!

Tom & Louise Hoffman

Keith & Renee Krabbe

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Thank you to all who attended the Ice Cream Social and the opening of the church's Cornerstone. Your next opportunity to see some of the display will be at our Oct 29 celebration.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

– 18 students attended

Val and Denise Norris would like to express a big thank you to all the Vacation Bible School group leaders for their help, as well as others who provided the snack for the 4 days of VBS. Even with such a short timeframe to get VBS organized, we are thankful for its success.

FOURTH OF JULY –

Parade candy donations are now being accepted. Please place them in the office.

CHURCH FUN FACTS

The side walls of the church were insulated in 1986; a year later new furnaces and an air conditioner were installed.

A fire escape was added in 1994 because we had Sunday School upstairs, but unfortunately, the cement base settled two inches on top of the sewer system for the basement, breaking the cast iron pipe. Fortunately, it broke at an angle and was two and a half inches from the wall so Marv Bernhardt with Roger Bauer's help took out part of the cement base to finagle his new plumbing replacements away from the fire escape and get it hooked up to the new addition's line again.

Sunday 6/11: Join us after the service in the fellowship hall for coffee and fellowship.

Tuesday 6/13: Food Pantry Set-up, 9:30-11am; dist. 12-2pm.
Church Council, 7pm.

Saturday 6/17: Communion Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 6/18: Communion Service, 9am. Happy Father's Day!

PARISH CONCERNS

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

- Emmaline Renee Haag, who was born on Friday, June 2nd.
- Chuck Schindler is in hospice care at Serenity House in Oregon, IL.
- James Klus has colon cancer.
- Susan & Jim Colgan, friends of Mary Loomis', both are dealing with cancer. Susan has breast cancer and Jim has brain cancer.
- Elaine Mitchell is home, visits are welcome, however contact Heather (Emerich) Von Bergen 1st.
- David Sanderson, Joanie Sanderson's son needs prayers.
- Ben Blobaum, pray for God's leading to his 1st church.
- Pray for pregnant women and the babies they are carrying, especially Taylor Norris.
- 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.
- All who are traveling throughout the summer months.
- 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, and all Christian Churches.