



Follow me.

Matthew 9:9

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

*Sunday, June 11, 2023  
Second Sunday after Pentecost*

# *First Lutheran Church – Putting Christ First*

**Sunday, June 11, 2023**

**Second Day after Pentecost**

**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.

LBW – green hymnal    WOV – blue hymnal    \*Please stand as able.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

## Order of Service

- \*Brief Order for Public Confession P. 77
- \*Opening Hymn: “How Firm a Foundation” **LBW 507**
- \*Apostolic Greeting and Kyrie P. 78
- \*Glory to God in the Highest P. 80
- \*Prayer of the Day P. 82

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.

Children's Sermon

First Reading

Hosea 5:15-6:6

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

<sup>1</sup>“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.

<sup>2</sup>After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. <sup>3</sup>Let 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.”

<sup>4</sup>What 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. <sup>5</sup>Therefore 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. <sup>6</sup>For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

Psalm 119:65-72 (*responsively by whole verse*)

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Second Reading

Romans 4:13-25

<sup>13</sup>For 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. <sup>14</sup>For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression. <sup>16</sup>That 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, <sup>17</sup>as 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. <sup>18</sup>In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.” <sup>19</sup>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. <sup>20</sup>No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup>fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup>That is why his faith was “counted to him as righteousness.” <sup>23</sup>But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, <sup>24</sup>but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, <sup>25</sup>who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

\*Alleluia

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\*Gospel

Matthew 9:9-13

<sup>9</sup>As 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. <sup>10</sup>And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and

were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. <sup>11</sup>And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” <sup>12</sup>But when he heard it, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>13</sup>Go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”

## Sermon: “RETURN TO THE LORD”

\*Hymn of the Day: “I, the Lord of Sea and Sky”

**WOV 752**

\*Apostles' Creed

P. 85

\*Sharing of Peace

Offering (Women's Choir)

\*Create in Me A Clean Heart

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\*Prayers of the Church

P. 97

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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\*Benediction

\*Threefold Amen

\*Closing Hymn: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

**LBW 315**

\*Pastor: Go in Peace, Serve the Lord!

**\*Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

\*Postlude

**Church Office:** (815) 522-3886

**Pastor:** Thomas Thorstad (716) 990-6244(c)

**Secretary:** Dianna Wittwer (815) 378-6654(c)

**Pianist:** Jill Vodden

**Lay Reader:** Laura Block

**Ushers:** Lenny Peterson (Head usher), Sue Peterson, Roger & Jean Bauer

**Offering Counters:** Jo Boehmer & Susan Wilson

Attendance Last Saturday, 6/3: 14

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

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

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

**Acolyte:** Abraham Thorstad

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*



## **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.

## **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.



## **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 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- 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 1<sup>st</sup>.
- David Sanderson, Joanie Sanderson's son needs prayers.
- Ben Blobaum, pray for God's leading to his 1<sup>st</sup> 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.