



**The harvest is plentiful.**

**Matthew 9:37**

*First Lutheran Church - Putting Christ First*  
*Kirkland, IL - Est. December 26, 1873*  
*Saturday, June 17, 2023*  
*(With Readings for 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)*

# *First Lutheran Church – Putting Christ First*

Saturday, June 17, 2023

(with scripture readings for Sunday)

**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.

## **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:** “Be Thou My Vision”

**WOV 776**

## **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 Lord, our God, arrange the course of this world that peace may come and your tranquil Church rejoice through greater service. Grant this, we pray, 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

Exodus 19:2-8

<sup>2</sup>{The people of Israel} set out from Rephidim and came into the wilderness of Sinai, and they encamped in the wilderness. There Israel encamped before the mountain, <sup>3</sup>while Moses went up to God. The LORD called to him out of the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the people of Israel: <sup>4</sup>'You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup>Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; <sup>6</sup>and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel." <sup>7</sup>So Moses came and called the elders of the people and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. <sup>8</sup>All the people answered together and said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do." And Moses reported the words of the people to the LORD.

L The Word of the Lord. C Thanks be to God.

**PSALM 100** (read responsively by half verse)

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### SECOND READING

Romans 5:6-15

<sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>For one will scarcely die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die — <sup>8</sup>but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup>Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup>For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup>More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation. <sup>12</sup>Therefore, just as sin came into the world through

one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned — <sup>13</sup>for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. <sup>14</sup>Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come. <sup>15</sup>But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man’s trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many.

L The Word of the Lord. C Thanks be to God.

## **GOSPEL**

Matthew 9:35-10:8

<sup>35</sup>Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. <sup>36</sup>When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup>Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; <sup>38</sup>therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

<sup>1</sup>And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction. <sup>2</sup>The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; <sup>3</sup>Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; <sup>4</sup>Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him. <sup>5</sup>These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, “Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, <sup>6</sup>but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. <sup>7</sup>And proclaim as you go, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ <sup>8</sup>Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay.”

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

## **SERMON: “WITNESS TO THE SHEEP WITHOUT A SHEPHERD”**

**SONG:** "Take My Life, that I May Be"

**LBW 406**

**STATEMENT OF FAITH** – Nicene Creed

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### **THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

God and Father of us all, by whom the whole family in heaven and on earth is named: Grant that all on earth who bear the earthly name of father and those who may not bear the name yet still share a fatherly love for the children around them may reflect your grace and care. Strengthen their witness to the love that you have for all your children everywhere, and lead us by their example to be people of faith.

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

Triune God, bring unity and peace to your Church throughout the world. Where there is discord among us, help us to work for reconciliation. Create in the larger Christian family, and this congregation, a climate of unity and peace, that our fellowship with one another may be grounded in your Son, Jesus Christ.

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

Steadfast God, in the midst of all the changes of this world, you are the One who is eternal. Your Son Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. As the world continues to turn, we pray for youth, working parents, single persons, homebound, and those anticipating life changes. Keep us alert for your coming.

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

God of compassion, in times of weeping and mourning -- when we are ill or suffering -- we wait upon your mercy, trusting that you never forget us. Give hope to all who wait in patience and faith [especially ...]. Be with them in their time of need, and remind them of your promise, that neither height or depth, death or life, nor anything else in all of creation, will be able to separate us from your love in Christ Jesus.

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

### **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**

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

**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:** Jill Vodden

**Hosts:** Lynne Peterson

Attendance Last Saturday 6/10: 12

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

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

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

**Offering Counters:**

Last Sunday, 6/11: 41

**BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!**

Abigail Springborn 6/19/2007

Paul Buzzell 6/22

Tadd Krabbe 6/22

Sarah (Schmidt) Hill 6/22

Jo Boehmer 6/23

David Thorstad 6/23

Russ Mothkovich 6/24

**ANNIVERSAY BLESSINGS!!**

Gary & Joanne Seegers

6/22/74

Thomas & Vongdeuane Thorstad

6/22/11

Malcolm & Leah Anderberg

6/24/61



### **FOURTH OF JULY –**

Parade candy donations are now being accepted. Please place them in the office. Float building will be happening soon. Watch the bulletins for more information. If you are willing to help, please contact the Pahnke's - Dan (815) 751-4568 or Janelle (815) 739-1538.

### **Church Fun Facts**

An 8:00 am service was added to the 10:30 one in 1982.

The church basement was named Ecklund Hall in honor of lifetime members June and Ernest Ecklund in the fall of 1983.

Dr. George Firkins, our local veterinarian, played basketball for the Lutherans in the "Y" church league. Who else was on the team?

### **Next Week's Readings:**

Jeremiah 20:7-13; Psalm 91:1-10 [11-16]; Romans 6:12-23;  
Matthew 10:5a, 21-33

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

Sunday 6/17: Join us after service for coffee in the fellowship hall.

Monday 6/19: Food Truck Delivery, 8:30am.

Tuesday 6/20: Food Pantry Set-up, 9:30-11am; dist. 12-2pm.

Thursday 6/22: Wittenberg Door, Pastor's Fellowship, 10am.

Saturday 6/24: Worship Service with Baptism of  
Emmaline Renee Haag, 5:30pm.

Sunday 6/25: Worship Service, 9am.

## PARISH CONCERNS

- Jane Hinkle, a previous member of FLC, passed away June 4th. Her funeral will be in Rockford at First Free on June 23, 2023. Visitation starts at 12:00PM and Service begins at 1:00PM.
- Pastor Ian Griffiths died on Wednesday due to cancer. Pray for his wife, Barb, and family, including his congregation, Zion Lutheran Church in LaMoille, IL.

May the promise of God's resurrection bring the families of Jane and Pastor Ian peace.

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

- Emmaline Haag, born on June 2nd has a heart murmur, pray for complete healing.
- Louie Mielke will have eye surgery on June 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Lonn Buzzell has had surgery for a broken leg.
- James Klus has colon cancer.
- Chuck Schindler and Ina Koehler as they are both in hospice care.
- 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.
- 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: 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 president, elected leaders, first responders, and military personnel, that they hear and receive God's guidance and protection.
- Ben Blobaum, pray for God's leading to his 1<sup>st</sup> church.
- The NALC, NALS, the Great Rivers Mission District, and all Christian churches.