



First Lutheran Church - Putting Christ First
Kirkland, IL - Est. December 26, 1873
Saturday, July 1, 2023
(With Readings for 5th Sunday after Pentecost)

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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.

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: "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus"

LBW 389

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

Lord of all power and might, you are the author and giver of all good things. Graft into our hearts a love of your name. Increase in us true faith, nourish us with what is good, and watch over all who are in your care. Grant this, we pray, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 28:5-9

⁵The prophet Jeremiah spoke to Hananiah the prophet in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD, ⁶and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD make the words that you have prophesied come true, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. ⁷Yet hear now this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes to pass, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."

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

PSALM 119:153-160 (read responsively by whole verse) **p. 278**

SECOND READING

Romans 7:1-13

¹Do you not know, brothers — for I am speaking to those who know the law — that the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives? ²For a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage. ³Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress. ⁴Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. ⁵For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. ⁶But now we are released

from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code. ⁷What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, "You shall not covet." ⁸But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. For apart from the law, sin lies dead. ⁹I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died. ¹⁰The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me. ¹¹For sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. ¹²So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good. ¹³Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure.

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

GOSPEL

Matthew 10:34-42

³⁴{Jesus said to the disciples,} "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. ³⁶And a person's enemies will be those of his own household. ³⁷Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. ³⁸And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ⁴⁰Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. ⁴¹The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. ⁴²And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward."

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

SERMON: "JESUS ABOVE ALL"

SONG: "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

LBW 487

STATEMENT OF FAITH – Nicene Creed

LBW p.84

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Gracious Father, give speech and wisdom to those whom you have called to teach your sacred Word. Fill them with your Spirit and inspire them with your power that they may speak for you. Open the ears and hearts of all who hear the message of your servants, that your promise would engender faith within them.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

Lord of creation, you are the source of all blessings. We ask that you would grant favorable growing conditions to those who farm the land and provide food for your children around the world. Bring rain to areas of drought and sunshine to nurture growth, and make our farms fruitful.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

Gracious Lord, in Christ you have set us free from the power of sin and death and raised us to new life in him. Teach us to treasure the freedoms and independence which we are privileged to enjoy in this country. Help us to use them for the good of all.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

God of compassion, strengthen with your healing power those whose names we bring to you in prayer. Look upon those who are sick and surround them with your love; [we remember ...]. Send them men and women skilled in using your good gifts of medicine. By your Spirit, move us to be among the instruments you use to offer comfort where we have the opportunity.

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

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: Jack & Josh Sunderlage

Attendance Last Saturday 6/24: 41

Website: www.kirklandflc.org

pastor@kirklandflc.org

secretary@kirklandflc.org

Offering Counters: Lisa Coyle & Renee Krabbe

Last Sunday, 6/25: 25



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 or to ride the float, please contact the Pahnke's –

Dan (815) 751-4568 or

Janelle (815) 739-1538.



BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!

Joanne Seegers 7/5 Phil Gronbach 7/7
Dennis Peterson 7/7

ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS!!!

Chris & Ashley Boyer 7/2/11

THANK YOU



Dear friends,

It is with joy and thanksgiving, I come again to say how thankful I am to have such a wonderful congregation of friends. Each card or message I receive from you is so much fun to open. It brings joy and the connection with each of you.

You are not forgotten; I think of you daily.

In God's Love, Nancy Bakanas

CHURCH FUN FACTS

Jim Woodward built the cup rack in the kitchen so every member could store a cup between fellowships.

Next Week's Readings:

Zechariah 9:9-12; Psalm 145:1-14; Romans 7:14-25a;
Matthew 11:25-30

Sunday 7/2: Join us after service in the fellowship hall for coffee.

Tuesday 7/4: Food Pantry opens on Wednesday, due to the 4th.

Watch for our float! HAPPY 4th of July!

Wednesday 7/5: Food Pantry Set-up, 9:30-11am; dist. 12-2pm.

Thursday 7/6: Food Truck Delivery, 8am

Saturday 7/8: Worship Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 7/9: Worship Service, 9am.

PARISH CONCERNS

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

- Pastor Tom as he visits Laos soon. He will return Aug. 3rd.
- Mark Bernhardt, son of Marvin & Wanda Bernhardt and brother to Lisa & Bob Coyle, has been diagnosed with lymphoma. Mark will see an oncologist.
- Pray for the Gideon's as they will be handing out bibles and brochures of our congregation inviting interested people to connect with our congregation.
- All those who are suffering physical or mental illness, and their families, caregivers, and medical teams, especially Chuck Schindler, Ina Koehler, James Klus, David Sanderson, and Susan & Jim Colgan.
- Lonn Buzzell has had surgery for a broken leg.
- Elaine Mitchell is home, visits are welcome, however contact Heather (Emerich) Von Bergen 1st.
- Pray for pregnant women and the babies they are carrying, especially Taylor Norris, due in August.
- 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.
- 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 1st church.
- The NALC, NALS, the Great Rivers Mission District, and all Christian churches.