

I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28



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

Saturday, July 8, 2023
(With Readings for the 6th Sunday after Pentecost)

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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

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: “Lord of All Hopefulness”

LBW 469

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 never undermine your purpose, as you perfectly provide for all that you create. Remove from our way all that is harmful and give us what will profit that we may share in your invincible grace; 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:

Zechariah 9:9-12

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. ¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

P The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

PSALM 145:1-15 (read responsively by half verse)

LBW p. 286

SECOND READING:

Romans 7:14-25a

¹⁴We know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. ¹⁵For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. ¹⁷So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. ²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ^{25a}Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

P The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL:

Matthew 11:25-30

²⁵Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SERMON: "TRUE REST IN CHRIST ALONE"

SONG: "Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling"

WOV 734

STATEMENT OF FAITH – Apostles' Creed

LBW p. 85

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Lord God, thank you for all the faithful saints who live by faith and seek to do your will among us. Guide your Church in faithfully sharing Word and Sacrament, in teaching and in preaching, in caring and in nurturing, and encourage your people to serve you as instruments of your love for all.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

Ever-present God, you sent your prophets and apostles out into a faithless world that rejects your Word. Be with all who suffer persecution, especially those seeking to bear faithful witness to Christ in places where they face persecution because of their loyalty to Jesus as Lord.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

Lord and Guardian of our souls, you have established law and order for our sake and the sake of our neighbors. Protect all who dedicate their lives to keeping us safe. We remember especially those serving in law enforcement. Protect our police/sheriff, security officers, and other first responders in our community, and all who work to do good in our community.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

Gracious God and Father, your Son stooped to heal the needs of those who were wounded and weary. Fill with joy the hearts of all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit [especially ...]. Turn their sorrow into joy; their suffering into health; and their cries for help into shouts of praise.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

LBW p.97

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: "How Great Thou Art"

LBW 532

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)

Organist: Nancy Plote

Hosts: Vernon & Jane Johnson

Attendance Last Saturday, 7/1: 12

Website: www.kirklandflc.org

pastor@kirklandflc.org

secretary@kirklandflc.org

Offering Counters: Lisa Coyle & Renee Krabbe

Last Sunday, 7/2:26

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!

Leif Wrobel 7/9/13 Vongdeuane Sengone 7/10
Reagan Cook 7/14/10

ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS!!

Nick & Molly Kisling	7/11/15
Doug & Angie Springborn	7/12/03
Richard & Susan Wilson	7/12/97

Church Fun Facts

Emil C. Peterson took a whole year off work to oversee the 1952 renovations on the church which included moving it south six feet, raising the basement ceiling and creating an extension that moved the front of the church 25 feet south. Being a jack of all trades, he did much of the work himself.

Next Week's Readings:

Isaiah 55:10-13; Psalm 65: [1-8] 9-14; Romans 8:12-17;
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23



OUR FLOAT WON 2nd PLACE!!

Congratulations to all who helped decorate the parade float! We won second place!!!

Thank you to all who supplied candy and water, it was greatly appreciated.

A special thank you to Bob & Lisa Coyle for building the church replica, Vernon & Jane Johnson who stored the trailer and all who rode the float – Pastor Tom; John, Jo, Audrey, Charlee and Addie Boehmer.

Thank you,
Dan & Janelle Pahnke

Sunday 6/9: Join us after the service in the fellowship hall for coffee.

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

Saturday 6/15: Communion Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 6/16: Communion Service, 9am.

PARISH CONCERNS

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

- Louie Mielke's vision is getting better. Praise God!
- Richard Wince on the loss of two sisters. Lona Dean Lawrence passed away on June 23. A memorial service was planned for July 1 for Jeri Schormann, who passed April 16. The family will honor both sisters on July 1. Richard's other 3 siblings will be together. Pray for all of the families on their loss of Jeri and Lona, may they find peace.
- All who are traveling throughout the summer months especially Pastor Tom & his family.
- Mark Bernhardt, son of Marvin & Wanda Bernhardt and brother to Lisa & Bob Coyle, has been diagnosed with lymphoma. Mark will see an oncologist soon.
- 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.
- All 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.