



DO NOT  
BE AFRAID.

MATTHEW 14:27

*First Lutheran Church - Putting Christ First*  
*Kirkland, IL - Est. December 26, 1873*  
*Saturday, August 12, 2023*  
*(With Readings for the 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)*

# *First Lutheran Church – Putting Christ First*

**Saturday, August 12, 2023**

(with scripture readings for 11th Sunday 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

## **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:** “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”

**LBW 487**

## **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**

Almighty and merciful God, only by your gift of grace can the faithful offer service that is worthy of you and deserving of praise. Keep us from stumbling as we run to receive your promises; 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:**

Job 38:4-18

<sup>4</sup>“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. <sup>5</sup>Who determined its measurements — surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? <sup>6</sup>On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, <sup>7</sup>when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy? <sup>8</sup>Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, <sup>9</sup>when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, <sup>10</sup>and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors, <sup>11</sup>and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed’? <sup>12</sup>Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place, <sup>13</sup>that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it? <sup>14</sup>It is changed like clay under the seal, and its features stand out like a garment. <sup>15</sup>From the wicked their light is withheld, and their uplifted arm is broken. <sup>16</sup>Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep? <sup>17</sup>Have the gates of death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness? <sup>18</sup>Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this.”

**P** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God!

**PSALM 18:1-6** (read responsively by whole verse)

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**SECOND READING:**

Romans 10:5-17

<sup>5</sup>Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. <sup>6</sup>But the righteousness based on faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) <sup>7</sup>"or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). <sup>8</sup>But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup>because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. <sup>11</sup>For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." <sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." <sup>14</sup>How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? <sup>15</sup>And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" <sup>16</sup>But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "LORD, who has believed what he has heard from us?" <sup>17</sup>So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

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

Matthew 14:22-33

<sup>22</sup>Immediately {Jesus} made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. <sup>23</sup>And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup>but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup>And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. <sup>26</sup>But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup>But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is

I. Do not be afraid.”<sup>28</sup> And Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.”<sup>29</sup> He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus.<sup>30</sup> But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.”<sup>31</sup> Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?”<sup>32</sup> And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased.<sup>33</sup> And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

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

## SERMON: “THE CHOPPY SEAS OF MINISTRY”

**SONG:** “Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me”

**LBW 333**

**STATEMENT OF FAITH** – Apostles’ Creed

LBW p. 85

### THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Holy God, there are so many places around the globe where people live in constant turmoil due to fighting and conflict. Bring a lasting peace to war-torn areas. Bring peace to families and communities that struggle for stability. Bring peace to relationships and help us center our lives in you.

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

Loving God, your creation is such a magnificent work of art. Help us to appreciate your handiwork and to stand in awe of all that you have formed. Let us delight in all of the species of plants and animals and marvel at the sight of mountains and seas, as we praise your name in all the earth.

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

Lord of the Sabbath, we pray that you would refresh and renew those who are away from home on vacation. Grant that they may find rest and recuperation from their daily tasks, spend quality time with family, and have quiet time to hear your voice in their lives. Let them return home with peace-filled hearts.

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

Healing God, we ask your tender care to be with those who are suffering this day in mind, body or spirit. You know the needs of each person you have made, even before we do ourselves. Please attend to the needs of all who are in trouble, facing trials, or are struggling with sickness, especially....

*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:** "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"

**LBW 294**

**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:** Vernon & Jane Johnson

**Attendance Last Saturday, 8/5:** 9

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

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

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**Offering Counters:** Elda Bruning & Susan Wilson

Last Sunday, 8/6: 28

## **THANK YOU**

Thank you to Tom Plote for providing pulpit supply today.

Pastor Tom is on his way home from the NALC Convocation

### **BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!**

Chuck Schindler	8/13
Brynn Springborn	8/13/2010
Louise Hoffman	8/15
Eric Boehmer	8/17
Nancy Bakanas	8/19
Joshua Atkinson	8/19

### **ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS!!**

Chuck & Chloe Schindler	8/17/68
Fred & Judy Goltermann	8/17/19

**FOOD PANTRY:** Food Pantry volunteers are needed to help on Tuesdays to carry groceries to the client's vehicles. If you are available, please contact Jean or John Royalty at (815) 885-4035.

### **CHURCH FUN FACTS**

In 1982 Strawberry Patch was "planted" as a preschool in our basement. In 1992 it was changed to a Christian Preschool and had grown to 70 children by 1994. In 1997-8 it could accommodate 20 children preschool to kindergarten and 20 three-year-olds in a morning session.



### **CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS**

Statements for the first half of 2023 (January – June) are available upon request, Dianna will print a copy for you.

Sunday 8/13: Join us after the service in the fellowship hall for coffee and fellowship.

Tuesday 8/15: Food Pantry Set-up, 9:30-11am; dist. 12-2pm.  
Church Council, 7pm.

Saturday 8/19: Communion Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 8/20: Communion Service with Installation of  
Council Members, 9am.  
Newsletter Items due!

### **PARISH CONCERNS**

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

- Dale Johnson is now at Lincolnshire Place in Sycamore. Maybe he will visit with George Vodden, who is also there.
- All who are traveling throughout the summer months.
- Lizzie Klausner, Peggy Wince's 22-year-old niece has internal bleeding, unknown cause as of last Saturday.
- 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, Susan & Jim Colgan and Mark Bernhardy.
- Pray for pregnant women and the babies they are carrying, especially Taylor Norris, due mid- 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 1<sup>st</sup> church.
- The NALC, NALS, the Great Rivers Mission District, and all Christian churches.