



First Lutheran Church - Putting Christ First
Kirkland, IL - Est. December 26, 1873
Saturday, August 19, 2023
(With Readings for the 12th Sunday after Pentecost)

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(with scripture readings for the 12th Sunday)

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.

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: “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” LBW 559

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, eternal God, increase in us your gifts of faith, hope and love; and in order that love may abide in us, help us to celebrate what your love has done for us. 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.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

¹Thus says the LORD: "Keep justice, and do righteousness, for soon my salvation will come, and my righteousness be revealed."

⁶And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it, and holds fast my covenant — ⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples." ⁸The LORD God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares, "I will gather yet others to him besides those already gathered."

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

PSALM 67 (read responsively by half verse)

p. 243-244

SECOND READING

Romans 11:1-2a, 13-15, 28-32

¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a}God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

¹³Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry ¹⁴in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them.

¹⁵For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead?

²⁸As regards the gospel, they are enemies for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. ²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

³⁰For just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to

you they also may now receive mercy. ³²For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all.

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

GOSPEL

Matthew 15:21-28

²¹Jesus went away from {Gennesaret} and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon." ²³But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying out after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶And he answered, "It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

SERMON: "FAITH OF A BELIEVER"

SONG: "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

LBW 439

STATEMENT OF FAITH – Nicene Creed

LBW p.84

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Holy God, you are the source of our strength in this life. Grant us strength in the face of trials and help us to fully rely on you as we struggle through the storms of life. Give us courage to let go of that which we cannot control and trust that you have our best interests in mind always, because of your great love for us.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

Father, we ask that you would watch over those who serve in the armed forces or who serve as peace officers in our community. Protect them and bring them home safely to their families.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

We pray for the Bride of Christ, dear Lord, the holy catholic and apostolic Church. Empower us to follow Jesus with our whole lives and to make disciples of all nations that your name may be praised and honored in all the earth. Be with church leaders and help them lead with integrity and faith, trusting in the Holy Spirit to guide them.

Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.

God of healing, be with all those who are sick or injured and are in the hospital or recuperating at home. Bring strength to their weary bodies and hope to their hearts and minds. We pray for those who are aging and are bound to their homes. Give them good friends to visit with and loved ones to care for them. We remember all those who are suffering this day, especially...

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: "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

LBW 370

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: Dan & Janelle Pahnke

Attendance Last Saturday 8/12: 10

Website: www.kirklandflc.org

pastor@kirklandflc.org

secretary@kirklandflc.org

Offering Counters: Elda Bruning & Susan Wilson

Last Sunday, 8/13: 38



Clara Jane Norris was born this past Tuesday (8/15). She weighed 9lb and 2oz and was 20 inches long. Her parents are Heath and Taylor Norris, and big sister is Natalie. Grandma is Val Norris and great grandma is Ina Koehler.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!

Nancy Bakanas 8/19 Joshua Atkinson 8/19

ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS!!

Chuck & Chloe Schindler	8/17/68
Fred & Judy Goltermann	8/17/19
Wade & Jennifer Sunderlage	8/19/95

SCHOOL BAGS

Jean Bauer & Donna Koehnke made 87 school bags. Jean contacted St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Oregon, IL and asked if they could use the empty bags. The answer was "YES! We have received a Thrivent gift card that will be used to fill the school bags."

The filled bags will then be taken to Rantoul, IL where the District Relief items are located.

Roger & Jean took a truck load of items to Rantoul as they were on their way to visit a friend in that area. Thank you Roger & Jean!

BEN BLOBAUM'S CALL

I just wanted to share the exciting update with you and FLC, that I just accepted a Call to St. John's in Flanagan, IL. Please express my gratitude to the congregation for all of their prayers throughout this final period of formation and discernment. Amy and I (and Josiah) are so very appreciative of all the love and support we have received from our home church.

Moreover, we look forward to joining you as ministry partners in the GRMD! And depending on my schedule, we hope to join you all for the 150th anniversary celebration in October.

To God alone be the glory,

Ben

(I received this email from Ben on Aug. 11th - Dianna)

CHURCH FUN FACTS

Our Clothes Closet is run by Jean Bauer, Elda Bruning, Lorraine Krabbe and June May. They sort through all donations and keep them organized for those in need to take what they can use. If you want to join the fun, contact them.

CHURCH LIGHTS & HEAT/AIR CONDITIONING

If you notice the lights or the narthex heat/air conditioning on after a service, please feel free to turn them off. Help us to keep costs down.

Sunday 8/20: Join us after service in the fellowship hall for coffee.

Newsletter Items Due today!

Monday 8/21: Food Truck Delivery, 8:30am.

Tuesday 8/22: Food Pantry Set-up, 9:30-11am; dist. 12-2pm.

Newsletter folding, 2pm.

Thursday 8/24: Wittenberg Door-Pastor's Fellowship, 10am.

Saturday 8/26: Worship Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 8/27: Worship Service, 9am.

PARISH CONCERNS

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

- Marage Harger (Sister in Law to Charmine) is not doing well.
- 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.
- 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 Bernhardt.
- Pray for pregnant women and the babies they are carrying.
- 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.
- The NALC, NALS, the Great Rivers Mission District, and all Christian churches.

Next Week's Readings:

Isaiah 51:1-6; Psalm 138; Romans 11:33-12:8; Matthew 16:13-20