



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

*Sunday, August 20, 2023
12th 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.



Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper. All who believe that Christ is present in this Sacrament are invited to share in His supper. The inner glasses on the tray are grape juice and water, the rest of the glasses are wine. Children who have not received Communion instruction should kneel at the altar with their arms crossed upon their chest to receive a Baptismal blessing.

LBW – green hymnal **WOV** – blue hymnal *Please stand as able.

Prelude

Welcome and the Announcements

Order of Service

- *Brief Order for Public Confession P. 77
- *Opening Hymn: "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" **LBW 559**
- *Apostolic Greeting and Kyrie P. 78
- *This Is the Feast P. 81
- *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.

Children's Sermon

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.”

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.

*Alleluia

P. 83

*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.

Sermon: **“FAITH OF A BELIEVER”**

*Hymn of the Day: “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

LBW 439

Installation of Church Council

P: In Holy Baptism, we are set apart for the mission and ministry of Christ’s Church, to serve in our own unique ways, using the talents and gifts that God entrusted to us. As Jesus commissioned his disciples after his resurrection, saying: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” (Matthew 28:19)

P: The following brothers and sisters in the faith have been elected by this congregation to serve Christ’s mission in a capacity of leadership, for the good of the entire faith community.

Call those present to come forward...

P: Concerning our mutual ministry in Christ and our calling to serve, St. Paul writes in his letter to the Ephesians:

“I, therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call: one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.” (Ephesians 4:1-6)

“He gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to full maturity, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.”

(Ephesians 4:11-13)

Statement of Intent

The minister addresses the gathered leaders.

P: Will you accept this position of leadership and responsibility within First Lutheran Church in submission to the Word of God?

R: I will, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P: Will you strive to be an example of the Christian faith and life by your daily witness, and by your faithful participation in worship through Word and Sacrament?

R: I will, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P: Will you promote harmony in this faith community, and use your God-given gifts in service to the Lord's mission, by striving to be a faithful disciple of Christ in the position to which you have been called to serve?

R: I will, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The minister addresses the congregation.

P: Will you, as the people of God, by our Lord's grace and mercy, pray for, uphold and support these brothers and sisters in their positions of leadership in this congregation?

C: We will, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P: May the Lord who has given you the will to do these things graciously give you the strength and spirit to carry them out. You are hereby installed as your elected position in this congregation.

Elder: Let us pray: Gracious God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, you have called these people to serve in leadership roles in the parish, to work together for the mission and ministry of this congregation, and to encourage all the baptized to live faithfully. Bless them and their work by pouring out your Holy Spirit upon them. Give them your holy wisdom, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C:** Amen.

*Nicene Creed

P. 84

*Prayers of the Church

P. 85

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.

*Sharing of Peace

Offering

*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

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*Offertory Prayer

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*Great Thanksgiving

P. 88

*Words of Institution

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*Lord's Prayer

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Lamb of God

P. 92

Communion Distribution

*Thank the Lord

P. 92

*Benediction

*Threefold Amen

*Closing Hymn: "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

LBW 370

*Pastor: Go in Peace, Serve the Lord!

***Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

*Postlude

Next Week's Readings:

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

Church Office: (815) 522-3886

Pastor: Thomas Thorstad (716) 990-6244(c)

Secretary: Dianna Wittwer (815) 378-6654(c)

Pianist: Jill Vodden

Lay Reader: Louie Mielke

Ushers: Lenny Peterson (Head usher), Sue Peterson, Jo Boehmer

Offering Counters: Elda Bruning & Susan Wilson

Attendance Last Saturday 8/12: 10

Website: www.kirklandflc.org

pastor@kirklandflc.org

secretary@kirklandflc.org

Acolyte: Keegan Marshall

Last Sunday, 8/13: 38

IT'S A GIRL!

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

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.

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!

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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

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.
- The NALC, NALS, the Great Rivers Mission District, and all Christian churches.