



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

*Sunday, September 10, 2022
15th 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.

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

Prelude

Order of Service

Welcome and Announcements

*Brief Order for Public Confession P. 56

*Opening Hymn: “Jesus Loves Me”

1: Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so,
Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.

2: Jesus loves Me! This I know, as he loved so long ago,
taking children on his knee, saying, “Let them come to me.”

Refrain

3. Jesus loves me, still today, walking with me on my way,
Wanting as a friend to give light and love to all who live.

Refrain

*Apostolic Greeting and Kyrie P. 57

*The Glory to God in the Highest P. 58

*Prayer of the Day

O Lord, always lead and follow us with your grace, that we may be still more intent on doing good. 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

Presentation of Education Leaders

P: Just as our Lord Jesus devoted much of his ministry to teaching his followers, we, too, are called to make disciples through Word and Sacrament, teaching all that our Lord has commanded.

The following brothers and sisters in the faith have been asked to serve in a special capacity for the good of the entire faith community through the ministry of Christian Education

(Asked for those to come forward)

P: The Lord God has gifted his church with faithful disciples and servants of the Word. We thank you for your willingness to serve among us in the ministry of education, that the mighty acts of God may be proclaimed in this place and to the ends of the earth. St. Peter writes, "As each has received a gift, employ it for one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who utters the oracles of God; whoever renders service as one who renders it by the strength that God supplies, in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen."

(1 Peter 4:10-11)

Statement of Intent

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 provide instruction with diligence and patience, in accordance with the Scriptures and the teaching of the Lutheran church?

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.

For teachers: P: Will you support your students, pray for them, and guide them in their learning and development?

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

Congregation:

P: Will you, as the people of God, pray for these leaders, assist them in the ministry of Christian Education as you are able, and support them in their serving to the glory of God?

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

Commissioning

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 teachers and education leaders in this congregation.

P: Let us pray: Gracious God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, you have called these people to serve in

the ministry of education, to assist parents in living out the baptismal promises they have made to their children, helping them to teach your Word and be a model of the Christian faith. Bless them and their work by pouring out your Holy Spirit upon them. Give them wisdom, patience, and the heart of a servant, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

First Reading

Ezekiel 33:7-9

⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.”

Psalm 32:1-6 (*read responsively by whole verse*)

P. 230

Second Reading

Romans 13:1-10

¹Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ²Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God’s wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. ⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your

neighbor as yourself.”¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

*The Alleluia

P. 62

*Gospel

Matthew 18:1-20

¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”² And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them³ and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.⁴ Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.⁵ Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me,⁶ but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.⁷ Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes!⁸ And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire.⁹ And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.¹⁰ See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven.¹² What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray?¹³ And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray.¹⁴ So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.¹⁵ If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother.¹⁶ But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses.¹⁷ If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.¹⁸ Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.¹⁹ Again I

say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

Sermon: **“HOW TO FIGHT LIKE A CHRISTIAN?”**

*Hymn of the Day: “Restore in Us, O God”

WOV 662

*Apostles' Creed

P. 65

*Sharing of Peace

Offering

*Create in Me A Clean Heart

P. 75

*Prayers of the Church

P. 75

Lord God, you have sent us into the world to be your witnesses. You have made us watchmen over those you love, and make us duty-bound to warn others of their disobedience. This is a difficult job and will cause heartache for man, but we trust your Holy Spirit to work in the lives of those you love.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of Wisdom, we ask your tender care and instruction for all students around the world, that they would have enough to eat in order to concentrate on lessons, have a peaceful learning environment, and loving yet diligent teachers to instruct them.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Bring the presence of your peace into places where violence is an everyday reality – our homes, our neighborhoods, our cities, and across your world. Bless and sustain all those who work for peace and advocate for an end to violence.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray this day for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Bring healing to the hopeless and courage to the ill. Be present with the unemployed and underemployed, those who struggle to make ends meet, and those who are despairing.

We pray particularly for

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

*Lord's Prayer

P. 76

*Benediction & Threefold Amen

*Closing Hymn: “Holy God, We Praise Your Name”

LBW 535

*Pastor: Go in Peace, Serve the Lord!

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

*Postlude

Church Office: (815) 522-3886

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

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

Organist: Pauline Cultra

Lay Reader: Pastor Vongdeuane

Ushers: Chris Boyer (Head usher), Ashley Boyer, and James Haag

Attendance last Saturday,9/2: 9

Website: www.kirklandflc.org

pastor@kirklandflc.org

secretary@kirklandflc.org

Coffee Server: Louie Mielke

Offering Counters: Jean Bauer & Lisa Coyle

Sunday,9/3: 37

Rally Day! Sunday School will begin today. The children will listen to Pastor's children's sermon, then follow a Sunday School teacher to the lower level for their lessons & singing.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!

Anna Wince 9/9

Lois Swan 9/11

Louie Mielke 9/12

Dolores Plote 9/13

Marvin Bernhardt 9/16

ANNIVERSARY – 29 years ago on September 10, 1994, the Saturday evening worship services began.

CHURCH FUN FACTS

In 1952 our Sunday School met in the town hall and church in Vrba Chapel for 7 months in 1952 during remodeling.



ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Do you have **October 29** on your calendar? That's our 150th Anniversary Celebration, and you are invited to a 9:30 am service followed by a Hy Vee catered dinner of ham and chicken with a short program after that. Although the dinner is a donation-only event, you need a reservation. There is limited seating available. Call Connie Worden at 815-721-1605 or email the office at secretary@kirklandflc.org by October 1.

Methodist Church Rummage Sale - Sept 14-16. See flyer on bulletin board.

WNALC - Northern Great Rivers Mission District

Women's Fall Gathering

There will be a meeting on Saturday, Sept. 16th with a program at 10am in Sterling, IL. Lunch provided; RSVP needed. See the Narthex bulletin board for more information.

Sunday 9/10: CAKE RECEPTION: After the service, please come to the fellowship hall for cake and coffee to celebrate Wanda Bernhardt's birthday that was September 7, this past Thursday.

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

Wednesday 9/13: On-line Bible Study, 7pm.

Saturday 9/16: Marvin Bernhardt's 90th Birthday Celebration in the Fellowship Hall, 1-4pm. Communion Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 9/17: Communion Service and Sunday School, 9am.

PARISH CONCERNS

Praise God – Chuck Schindler is doing better; he is home and is officially off hospice care!

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

- Sunday School Teachers and the students who will be attending.
- Jim Hetland is dealing with on-going medical problems.
- 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.
- Our church and its activities, and all Christian churches.
- All elected leaders, police officers, 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:

Genesis 50:15-21; Psalm 103:1-12; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35