



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

*Sunday, October 15, 2023
20th Sunday after Pentecost*

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WELCOME! We hope that this service will be a blessing to you. Please complete the black friendship register and pass it down your pew. Once it is complete, place it in the offering plate.



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

Order of Service

Welcome and the Announcements

- *Brief Order for Public Confession P. 56
- *Opening Hymn: "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" **LBW 543**
- *Apostolic Greeting and Kyrie P. 57
- *This Is the Feast P. 60
- *Prayer of the Day

O Lord, sustain your Church with your perpetual mercy. Without you, in our weakness we will surely fail. Therefore, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

NO Children's Sermon (No children's sermon on Communion weeks.

Children will immediately follow the Sunday School Leader to Sunday School.)

First Reading

Isaiah 25:6-9

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. ⁷And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. ⁸He will swallow up death forever; and the LORD God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take

away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. ⁹It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the LORD; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

Psalm 23 (*read in unison*)

P. 225

Second Reading

Philippians 4:4-13

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me — practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you. ¹⁰I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. ¹¹Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹²I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

*The Alleluia

P. 62

*Gospel

Matthew 22:1-14

¹Again Jesus spoke to {the chief priests and the Pharisees} in parables, saying, ²"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, ³and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.'" ⁵But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. ⁷The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those

murderers and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.' ¹⁰And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests. ¹¹But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. ¹²And he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen."

Sermon: **"REJOICE IN THE LORD IN ALWAYS AND
IN EVERYTHING"**

*Hymn of the Day: "O Master, Let Me Walk with You"

LBW 492

*Nicene Creed

P. 64

*Prayers of the Church

P. 65

O Shepherding God, grant that we would hear your voice and follow you, trusting in your protection and leading in our lives. Give us the ability to discern your voice amidst all the other voices in the world that seek to lure us away from you and your flock.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of life, we ask for your care and watchful eye on all those who are first responders. Give them the ability to think quickly and act adeptly as they rescue those in danger. Protect them from harm as they serve those in need.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God our ever-present help, our rock, and our salvation, deepen our faith in your promise of salvation. May your grace have free reign among us that we might be emboldened to witness to your saving grace in our homes, our communities, and to all nations.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God you are our shield and our strength. Be our protector in all the uncertainty and tragedy of life. Pour out your healing upon all who are sick or suffering [particularly ...]. Keep us mindful that no evil can win the day for through the cross of your dear Son, Jesus, the kingdom is ours forever.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

*Sharing of Peace

Offering

*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful P. 66

*Offertory Prayer P. 67

*Great Thanksgiving P. 68

*Words of Institution P. 69

*The Lord's Prayer P. 71

Lamb of God P. 72

Communion Distribution

*Thank the Lord P. 72

*Post Communion Prayer

*Benediction and Threefold Amen

*Closing Hymn: "On Our Way Rejoicing" **LBW 260**

*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)

Pianist: Jill Vodden

Lay Reader: Laura Block

Ushers: Doug Springborn (Head Usher), Angie, Abby & Brynn Springborn

Offering Counters: Susan Wilson and Angie Springborn

Attendance Last Saturday, 10/7: 12

Website: www.kirklandflc.org

pastor@kirklandflc.org

secretary@kirklandflc.org

Coffee Servers: Louie Mielke

Acolyte: Lucas Boyer

Last Sunday, 10/8:37

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!

William Wittwer 10/15 Abraham Thorstad 10/17/2012

Heath Norris 10/21 John Karolus 10/22

ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS!!

Steve & Kelly Boettger 10/16/10

Nathan & Dawn Watson 10/17/92

Drew & Sabrina Peterson 10/21/11

STEWARDSHIP PACKETS

This year's theme will be "Duty & Delight". The packets have been prepared and mailed. You should receive them by the end of the week, 10/21. If you don't receive a packet and would like one, please ask Dan & Janelle Pahnke or Dianna Wittwer for one.

These packets include a letter from Pastor Tom and Stewardship Chair Janelle Pahnke, a time & talent form and a pledge form.

Offering Envelopes – *** We will be making our own envelopes again this year. Everyone will receive the specialty envelopes (Holidays, Summer Boost, Food Pantry, etc.)

Here are your three options, CIRCLE your option:

1. Weekly
2. Monthly
3. EFT, specialty envelopes only

For those who utilize EFT giving, you may select a weekly or monthly envelope, or

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.

DESK

A nice heavy desk, both in good shape for anyone to take home.

Donations are accepted for the Sunday School program. Please contact Susan Wilson (224) 629-0016.

If nobody wants the items, I will advertise on marketplace, and Vsale. (the computer) and the monies collected will go towards Sunday school.

ROLLING STORAGE UNITS

There are 2 rolling storage units that were at one time used for our preschool. They are in the Sunday School area and are not being used. If you would be interested in them, please let Susan know asap. A donation to the Sunday School would be appreciated.



Kirkland Food Pantry Prepares for the Holiday Season
We are requesting \$20.00 Donations
For Thanksgiving Dinner Boxes
Please Help

Your \$20.00 contribution will give a needy neighbor something to be thankful for during the upcoming holiday season. The Kirkland Food Pantry's annual holiday assistance program includes the purchase and distribution of dinners that include a 12 to 16 lb. Whole Frozen Turkey or 4-6 lb. Turkey Breast, vegetables, fruit, potatoes, yams, stuffing mix, gravy mix, beverage, and dessert for a family of six to eight.

During 2023, we have helped over 80 different local area households. Help us to reach even more families by giving what you can. Donations can be made in care of either the First Lutheran Church or the First United Methodist Church. Please write in the memo area "Thanksgiving Dinner."

The Kirkland Food Pantry and its many volunteers and supporters sincerely hope that everyone in our community will enjoy the blessing of a wonderful Thanksgiving.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Sunday 10/15: Join us for coffee after the service in the Fellowship Hall.

Adult Forum, 10:30am.

Newsletter Items due today.

Monday 10/16: Food Truck delivery, 9am.

Tuesday 10/17: Food Pantry Set-up, 9:30-11am; distr., 12-2pm.

Newsletter Folding, 2pm.

Wednesday 10/18: On-line Bible Study, 7pm.

Saturday 10/21: Worship Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 10/22: Worship Service with Sunday School to follow, 9am.

REMINDER – No Saturday Night service on October 28. Please come on Sunday, Oct. 29th at 9:30am to celebrate our 150th Anniversary.

PARISH CONCERNS

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

- Church painter, TJ Hillmer for safety and efficiency as he works.
- 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.
- All those who are not able to worship with us because they are in health care facilities or homebound: Nancy Bakanas, George Vodden, Dale Johnson, and many others.
- Pray for pregnant women and the babies they are carrying.
- 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:

Isaiah 45:1-7; Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10;

Matthew 22:15-22