



*Look down from heaven, and see;
have regard
for this vine.*

Psalm 80:14

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

*Sunday, October 8, 2023
19th Sunday after Pentecost*

First Lutheran Church - Putting Christ First

19th Sunday after Pentecost – October 8, 2023

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 and pass it down the pew. Then after worship, you're encouraged to introduce yourself to anyone you haven't met.

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: "Praise and Thanksgiving" **LBW 409**

*Apostolic Greeting and Kyrie P. 57

*The Glory to God in the Highest P. 58

*Prayer of the Day

Generously pardon and give peace to your faithful people, O Lord, that being cleansed from every sin, we may be free and glad to serve; 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 (Sunday School to follow)

First Reading

Isaiah 5:1-7

¹Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ²He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. ³And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? ⁵And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briars and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. ⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for

justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

Psalm 80:7-18 (*read responsively by whole verse*)

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Second Reading

Philippians 3:4b-14

^{4b}If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith — ¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

*The Alleluia

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*Gospel

Matthew 21:33-46

³³{Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people,} “Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants and went into another country. ³⁴When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. ³⁵And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’ ³⁹And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

⁴⁰When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." ⁴²Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?" ⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. ⁴⁴And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him." ⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

Sermon: **"CONFIDENCE IN WHAT?"**

- *Hymn of the Day: "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" **LBW 294**
- *Apostles' Creed P. 65
- *Sharing of Peace
- Offering
- *Create in Me A Clean Heart P. 75
- *Prayers of the Church P. 75

Almighty God, strengthen and sustain all congregations who gather around your Word and Sacrament and venture forth to bring the Good News of your redemption to all. May we be humble in our serving, counting all as a loss which we do for ourselves and all as a gain that Christ does in our lives.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord of all creation, may the fields yield a fruitful harvest and bring forth an abundance so that all may find sustenance from the bounty of the earth. Feed those around the world that have little or nothing to eat; provide assistance to teach people to grow food and feed their children.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, we love because you first loved us. Grant strength to all married couples that their lives would be a blessing to those around them and that they would model your love for your people, as they live with you in the center of their lives.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for all who suffer with illness or pain, [particularly]
Restore them to health and wholeness and surround them with compassionate caregivers who remind them of your love for them and your never-failing presence.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

*Lord's Prayer

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*Benediction

*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)

Organist: Pauline Cultra

Lay Reader: Lenny Peterson

Ushers: Doug Springborn (Head usher), Angie, Abby, and Brynn

Offering Counters: Susan Wilson & Angie Springborn

Attendance Last Saturday, 9/30: 7

Website: www.kirklandflc.org

pastor@kirklandflc.org

secretary@kirklandflc.org

Coffee Server: Louie Mielke

Last Sunday, 10/1: 45

PAINTING UPDATE

HELP is needed after the service today to prepare the fellowship hall for painting which will begin on Monday. Please help move all the tables, chairs and accessories.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!

Darla McManus 10/9 Jim Loomis 10/11 Michael Klus 10/13

ANNIVERSARY

Ryan & Jennifer Block	10/8/16
Brian & Krista Haberkamp	10/11/03

DISTRICT CONVOCATION

The Annual Great Rivers Mission District convocation is next Saturday, October 14, in Flanagan, Illinois. We are looking for another person/delegate to join Pastor Tom at this all-day event. If interested, please talk to the Pastor prior to the October 10 Council Meeting.



STREET LIGHT DECORATING

FLC will again be decorating a street light pole downtown for the Christmas season, and we are inviting the congregation to submit ideas for a new decoration. Possibly our 150th anniversary could be part of the theme! Please submit any ideas to a council member.

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

There is a nice heavy desk that needs a new home. Donations are accepted for the Sunday School program. Please contact Susan Wilson (224) 629-0016. If nobody wants the desk, I will advertise on marketplace, and Vsale. (the computer) and the monies collected will go towards Sunday school.

Thank you kindly,
Susan Wilson

Sunday 10/8: Join us after the service for Adult Forum and coffee in the Fellowship Hall.

Tuesday 10/10: Food Pantry Set-up, 9:30-11am; dist., 12-2pm.
Church Council, 7pm

Wednesday 10/11: On-line Bible Study, 7pm.

Saturday 10/14: Communion Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 10/15: Communion Service; Sunday School to follow, 9am.
Newsletter Items due today!

PARISH CONCERNS

Donna Peterson passed away on Sept 26th. Her funeral was held on Monday, Oct.3.

Lois Swan passed away on 9/18. Her celebration of life was in Elgin.

Marilyn Fink passed away on Sept. 30. She was living in Beloit, Wi. May God's promise of the resurrection bring peace to Donna, Lois and Marilyn's family and loved ones.

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.
- 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, Dale Johnson, and many others.
- All those who are affected by the natural disasters.
- 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 25:6-9; Psalm 23; Philippians 4:4-13; Matthew 22:1-14