

Watch  
therefore,  
for you know  
neither the day  
nor the hour.

Matthew 25:13



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

*Sunday, November 12, 2023  
24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

# *First Lutheran Church - Putting Christ First*

**24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – November 12, 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: "Be Thou My Vision" **WOV 776**

\*Apostolic Greeting and Kyrie P. 57

\*The Glory to God in the Highest P. 58

\*Prayer of the Day

Almighty, eternal God, show mercy to your children who humbly pray, that we who have no confidence in our worth may not be judged but tenderly received. 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 (Sunday School to follow)

First Reading 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

<sup>13</sup>We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. <sup>14</sup>For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. <sup>15</sup>For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. <sup>16</sup>For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup>Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. <sup>18</sup>Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Psalm 70 (*read responsively by whole verse*)

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\*The Alleluia

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\*Gospel

Matthew 25:1-13

<sup>1</sup>{Jesus said to the disciples,} “Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, <sup>4</sup>but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ <sup>7</sup>Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ <sup>9</sup>But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ <sup>10</sup>And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup>Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ <sup>12</sup>But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ <sup>13</sup>Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

Sermon: **“LIVE AS THE WISE IN FAITH”**

\*Hymn of the Day: "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

**LBW 294**

Sacrament of Holy Baptism: **Clara Jane Norris**

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(As Clara, parents and sponsors go to altar,  
the Congregation – please sing.)

The Baptismal dove is a symbol of the Holy Spirit, which has been given to Clara Jane Norris. Placing the dove on the banner among all the other doves signifies her becoming a member in fellowship with the congregation and Christ's entire church on earth.

\*Sharing of Peace

Offering

*(We lay our completed pledge materials before the altar.)*

Blessing of Quilts

\*Create in Me A Clean Heart

P. 75

\*Prayers of the Church

P. 75

Everlasting God, your Son promised he would return to the earth one day. Help us to be ready for his return, that our lamps would be lit and our hearts would be open to Jesus' second coming. Remind us that because of our faith there is nothing to fear and everything to look forward to as Jesus will judge us innocent, having taken our place on the cross.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord God, ruler of us all, you desire that all be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. Let your blessing rest on our civic leaders and all whom you have placed in positions of authority, that your people may lead quiet and peaceable lives, godly and respectful in every way, free to pray and work in your service.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord of the harvest, grant favorable weather for all the farmers who are bringing in the crops this season. Watch over them and prevent accidents or injuries as they work around large machines. Provide for our daily bread and make us truly grateful for all we have.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Merciful God, as a sign of your holy reign, grant that this congregation will identify with the suffering, the sorrowing, and the sick in both our local and global communities. By your Spirit empower us to seek ways to serve and reach out to those on the fringes in loving and tangible ways. [We offer prayer this day particularly for ...].

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

\*Lord's Prayer

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\*Benediction

\*Threefold Amen

\*Closing Hymn: "God Be with You til We Meet Again"

**REC 55**

1. God be with you till we meet again,  
By his counsels guide, uphold you,  
With his sheep securely fold you,  
God be with you till we meet again,

Refrain:

Til we meet, till we meet,  
till we meet at Jesus' feet;  
Til we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you til we meet again

2. God be with you till we meet again,  
Neath his wings protecting hide you,  
Daily manna still provide you,  
God be with you till we meet again,  
Refrain

3. God be with you till we meet again,  
When life's perils thick confound you,  
Put his arms unfailing round you,  
God be with you till we meet again,  
Refrain

4. God be with you till we meet again,  
Keep love's banner floating o'er you,  
Smite death's threat'ning waves before you,  
God be with you till we meet again,  
Refrain

\*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: Louie Mielke

Ushers: Louie Mielke (Head usher), Roger & Jean Bauer, Elaine Mitchell

Offering Counters: Roger Bauer and Renee Krabbe

Attendance Last Saturday, 11/4: 10      Last Sunday, 11/5: 33 adults 7 children

Website: [www.kirklandflc.org](http://www.kirklandflc.org)

[pastor@kirklandflc.org](mailto:pastor@kirklandflc.org)

[secretary@kirklandflc.org](mailto:secretary@kirklandflc.org)

Coffee Server: Louie Mielke

### **BAPTISMAL CONGRATULATIONS!!!**

We rejoice today as God welcomes **Clara Jane Norris**, daughter of Heath and Taylor Norris, into His family through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Congratulations and God's richest blessings to **Clara**, her family, and her baptismal sponsors, Brad & Denise Norris. Clara is the sister of Natalie and the granddaughter of Val Norris.

### **BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!**

Roger Bauer 11/11      Donna J. Koehnke 11/13

Tim Wittwer 11/14      Charmaine Massey 11/19

### **STEWARDSHIP – DUTY & DELIGHT**

Heavenly Father, we know what it means to delight in something. You delight to show mercy. By your Spirit, rekindle in us the gift of delighting in you. In Jesus' name. Amen

### **PASTOR'S PLAQUE**

Have you seen the plaque that has the history of all our Pastor's? It is in the narthex, please look at the gorgeous piece. This was donated from David Paulson. He also paid for the narthex and fellowship painting. **Please sign the "Thank You" card that is in the narthex.**



### **QUILTS, LAP ROBES, AND AFGHANS**

Many thanks and blessings to all who give their time, talents, and treasures to create these gifts of love. There are 72 quilts that will be blessed this weekend and then bless those in need.

### **KIRKLAND FOOD PANTRY PREPARES FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON**

We are requesting \$20.00 Donations for Thanksgiving Dinner Boxes. Donations can be made in care of either the First Lutheran or the First United Methodist Church. In the memo line, please write "Thanksgiving Dinner".



### **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.

### **Next Week's Readings:**

Zephaniah 1:7-16; Psalm 90:1-12; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11;  
Matthew 25:14-30

Sunday 11/12: Join us after the service for Adult Forum and coffee in the Fellowship Hall.

Tuesday 11/14: Food Pantry Set-up, 9:30-11am; dist., 12-2pm.

**Church Council, 7pm**

Wednesday 11/15: On-line Bible Study, 7pm.

Thursday 11/16: Wittenberg Door Pastor's Fellowship, 10am.

Saturday 11/18: Communion Service with pledges to the altar, 5:30pm.

Sunday 11/19: Communion Service with pledges to the altar;

Sunday School to follow, 9am. Newsletter Items due today!



**PRAYER REQUEST**

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

- 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, Jim Hetland, Susan & Jim Colgan, Mark Bernhardt, and Riley Wrobel.
- 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 Middle East unrest.
- 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.