



ENTER INTO
THE JOY
OF YOUR MASTER.

MATTHEW 25:21

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

*Sunday, November 19, 2023
25th 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 and Thanksgiving" **LBW 409**
- *Apostolic Greeting and Kyrie P. 57
- *This Is the Feast P. 60
- *Prayer of the Day

Lord God, rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit, that while keeping the end of all things in mind, we may be stirred up to holiness in this life and come to be with you forever in that life to come. 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.

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

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

First Reading

Zephaniah 1:7-16

⁷Be silent before the LORD God! For the day of the LORD is near; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests. ⁸And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice — "I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire. ⁹On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their

master's house with violence and fraud. ¹⁰On that day," declares the LORD, "a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills. ¹¹Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off. ¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The LORD will not do good, nor will he do ill.' ¹³Their goods shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them." ¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there. ¹⁵A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, ¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

Psalm 90:1-12 (*read responsively by half verse*)

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Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

*The Alleluia

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*Gospel

Matthew 25:14-30

¹⁴{Jesus said to the disciples,} "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property.

¹⁵To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each

according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. ¹⁷So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. ¹⁸But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.' ²¹His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²²And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.' ²³His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.' ²⁶But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. ²⁹For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

Sermon: "STEWARDS OF GOD"

*Hymn of the Day: "Take My Life, That I May Be"

LBW 406

*Nicene Creed

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*Prayers of the Church

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Holy Father, through water and the Word, you have washed away our sins and given us a promise in which we can trust. We thank you for laying claim to us in our baptism and adopting us as your own. Help us to live lives of trust and repentance. Give us new life by the work of your Spirit.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, the giver of all good gifts. Thank you for giving us a place within your family and for lavishing your blessings upon us. Grant us the gift of truly thankful hearts, and a willingness to express our thanks with joyful songs of praise.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Be with all those who are traveling to distant places this week. Grant them safety on the roads and in the air. Be with all who operate or work on airlines, railroads, taxis, or busses. Give people patience and consideration as they make their way to and from family gatherings.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord of all creation, you have filled the earth with wondrous natural resources. Grant that they would be used with care and that all would benefit from their usage. Protect against those who would hoard resources or gain from taking them away from others.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

*Sharing of Peace

Offering

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

*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

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*Offertory Prayer

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*Great Thanksgiving

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*Words of Institution

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*The Lord's Prayer

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Lamb of God

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Communion Distribution

*Thank the Lord

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*Post Communion Prayer

*Benediction and Threefold Amen

*Closing Hymn: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

LBW 771

*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: Pastor Deuane
Ushers: Louie Mielke (Head Usher), Roger & Jean Bauer
Offering Counters: Roger Bauer and Renee Krabbe
Attendance Last Saturday, 11/11: 15 adults 1 child

Website: www.kirklandflc.org
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Coffee Servers: Louie Mielke
Acolyte: Abraham Thorstad

Last Sunday, 11/12: 51 adults 51

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!

Charmaine Massey 11/19 Beth Jones 11/20
Jack Sunderlage 11/26 Joshua Sunderlage 11/26

ANNIVERSARY BLESSING!!

James & Sara Haag 11/22/02
Jim & Carolyn Suhr 11/26/71

STEWARDSHIP – DUTY & DELIGHT

Heavenly Father, you are delightful beyond our imagination. Through your Spirit, teach us to delight in you, and to find ever-growing delight in serving you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen



SOCKS

The Lydia Circle will begin collecting new, white socks next week for the homeless in our area. There will be a box in the narthex until Dec. 17th.

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

After double checking our numbers, there were **98** quilts in total. (I had a chance to see some of them, they were beautiful! Dianna)

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". They will be picked up on Monday!



I'm so sorry for last week's bulletin with the same reading, twice. Maybe someone needed to read 1 Thessalonians 4, twice? I'm so sorry, Dianna

Next Week's Readings:

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 95:1-7a; 1 Corinthians 15:20-28;
Matthew 25:31-46

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Sunday 11/19: Join us for coffee after the service in the Fellowship Hall.

Adult Forum, 10:30am. **Newsletter Items Due!**

Monday 11/20: Food truck food delivery, 9:30am.

Thanksgiving Dinner boxes pick-up, 12-2pm.

Tuesday 11/21: Food Pantry Set-up, 9:30-11am; distr., 12-2pm.

Newsletter Folding, 2pm.

Wednesday 11/22: **NO** On-line Bible Study, 7pm.

Thursday 11/23: Happy Thanksgiving!

Saturday 11/25: Worship Service, 5:30pm. White Socks collection

Sunday 11/26: Worship Service with Sunday School to follow, 9am.

White socks collection.



PARISH CONCERNS

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

- Beau Norris, age 11, will be having a cardiac procedure on Dec. 12th. Beau is the son of Brad & Denise, and grandson of Val Norris.
- 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.