

WHERE DO WE  
BELONG

Christmas Day

Reign It In



First Lutheran Church Kirkland

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

*Monday, December 25, 2023  
The Nativity of Our Lord*

# *First Lutheran Church - Putting Christ First*

## **THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD**

Christmas Day, Monday, December 25, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.



Merry Christmas! We welcome you to First Lutheran Church for our Christmas Day Celebration Communion Service!

Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper. All who believe that Christ is present in this Sacrament are invited to share in His supper. Children who have not received communion instruction should come forward with arms crossed upon their chest for a baptismal blessing.

Prelude

GREETING AND WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: "JOY TO THE WORLD"

**LBW 39**

THE INVOCATION

P. 56

WE CONFESS

**P** Let us pray.

**C** Dear God, we spend so much time fearing to draw near to You, indeed running away from You, because we fear your judgment upon us for our sins. We fear this, despite how often you have promised to forgive, for our faith is weak. And so we thank you that when you came to earth, you came as a little baby, an infant! – the least threatening, the least judgmental figure we know. Like the shepherds and the wise men, we are drawn to you, no longer anxious or preoccupied with our sins, but focused only on your infant smile and your loving embrace. Amen.

WE HEAR THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

**P** Dear friends: When the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph to tell him that Mary would soon bear a child, he said, "She will bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." His name *is* Jesus, and he lives to fulfill the angel's words. In the name of Jesus, who came to save us, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins. Amen.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, grant that the new birth of your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set free all who are held in servitude under the yoke of sin; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## FIRST READING

Isaiah 52:7-10

<sup>7</sup>How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." <sup>8</sup>The voice of your watchmen — they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the Lord to Zion. <sup>9</sup>Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. <sup>10</sup>The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

**P** The Word of the Lord   **C** Thanks be to God

PSALM 2:1-13 (Read responsively by half verse)

P. 215

HYMN: "Away in A Manger"

**LBW 67**

## SECOND READING

Hebrews 1:1-6

<sup>1</sup>Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. <sup>3</sup>He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. <sup>5</sup>For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"? <sup>6</sup>And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him."

**P** The Word of the Lord   **C** Thanks be to God

## GOSPEL

John 1:1-14

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. <sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. <sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**P** The Gospel of the Lord   **C** Thanks be to God

## SERMON: **"REIGN IT IN"**

HYMN OF THE DAY: HYMN: "OH, COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL" **LBW 45**

NICENE CREED

LBW p.84

PRAYERS

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING (Duet by Chris Mothkovich and Jill Vodden)

HYMN "ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH"

**LBW 71**

LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL

p.86

OFFERTORY PRAYER

p.87

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

p.88

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER (Prayer #33)

p.90

THE LORD'S PRAYER

p.91

LAMB OF GOD

P.92

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P. 94

BENEDICTION & THREE-FOLD AMEN

P.95

CLOSING HYMN: "HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING"

**LBW 60**

**P** Go in peace, serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God!

Church Office: (815) 522-3886

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### **BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!**

Charles Peterson 12/26

Rick Schmidt 12/27

Natalie Norris 12/27/2019 Malcolm Anderberg 12/29

Amanda Wrobel 12/29

Nathan Watson 12/31

### **ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS!!!**

Ben & Amy Blobaum 12/28/2020

David & Laura Block 12/31/2020

### **OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE READY!**

The envelopes are in the narthex. Questions?

Contact Dianna (815)378-6654.

### **OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANNUAL MEETING: SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2024**

Reports due to Dianna on Thursday,  
January 4<sup>th</sup>,2024.



I would prefer reports be sent via email to  
**[secretary@kirklandflc.org](mailto:secretary@kirklandflc.org)**.

Booklets will be ready Jan. 13<sup>th</sup>.

Those who were on Council January- June 2023, I need a short report, (no more than half a page, please) from each of you.

Questions? Ask Dianna or call me (815) 378-6654.



## *Christmas Memorial Garden*

*(remembering and honoring with love and affection our families and loved ones, both past and present)*

**GIVEN IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

**Armin Koehler, grandfather** by Brad & Denise Koehler

**Doug Koehler, uncle,** by Brad & Denise Koehler

**Loved Ones,** by Jean & Roger Bauer

**Logan Thomas Marshall,** by Jennifer & Ryan Block

**Ray & Marion Littlejohn, Jen's grandparents,** by Jen & Ryan Block

**My son, Joel William,** by Trudy Loomis

**Jim Loomis,** by his family

**Ken, my husband, and Roger, my son,** by Loraine Krabbe

**Our Parents,** by Richard & Peggy Wince

**Our daughter, Dominique,** by Richard & Peggy Wince

**Pastor Tom,** by the Boehmer family

**Kirsten Boehmer, mother of Dom, Addi, Audrey & Charlee,**  
by the Boehmer family

**Debra Nolf,** by Robert & Lisa Coyle

## **THE GOOD SAMARITAN FUND**

### **GIVEN IN LIEU OF FLOWERS IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

**Curly Sanford, my husband,** by Elsie Sanford

### **GIVEN IN LIEU OF FLOWERS IN HONOR & THANKSGIVING:**

**All the faithful volunteers of First Lutheran Church,**  
by Jo & John Boehmer

## **YOUTH MINISTRIES**

### **GIVEN IN LIEU OF FLOWERS IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

**Curly Sanford, my husband,** by Elsie Sanford

**My husband, Herb, and son, Tim,** by Dolores Plote

**My dad, Herb and my brother, Tim** by Lynne & Dennis Peterson

**Our brothers: Roger Krabbe, Roger Hoffman, and Ron Hoffman,**  
by Keith & Renee Krabbe

**Keith's dad, Ken Krabbe,** by Keith & Renee Krabbe

## **KIRKLAND FOOD PANTRY**

### **GIVEN IN LIEU OF FLOWERS IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

**Curly Sanford, my husband,** by Elsie Sanford

**Jerry Awe,** by Judy & Fed Goltermann

**Armin Koehler, my dad and Doug Koehler, my brother,** by Val  
Norris

## **CHOIR MUSIC FUND**

### **GIVEN IN LIEU OF FLOWERS IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

**Curly Sanford, my husband,** by Elsie Sanford

## Calendar of Events:

Tuesday 12/26: Happy Anniversary First Lutheran Church – 150<sup>th</sup>!

Tuesday 12/26: Food Pantry Set-up, 9:30-11am; dist., 12-2pm.

Saturday 12/30: Worship Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 12/31: Worship Service, 9am.

## PARISH CONCERNS

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

- Beau Norris, 11, had a cardiac procedure. He is home, doing well.
- Fallon Mitchell is getting stronger every day!
- All those who are suffering physical or mental illness, and their families, caregivers, and medical teams, especially:  
Chuck Schindler, Ina Koehler, James Klus, Jim Hetland, Emmaline Haag, David Sanderson, Susan & Jim Colgan, Mark Bernhardt, and Shannon Daab.
- 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.
- Our church and its activities.
- 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.



**2023 END OF YEAR OFFERINGS** – please have any offerings to be counted for 2023 to the office by Thursday, Dec. 28<sup>th</sup> by noon.