



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

*Saturday, February 24, 2024
With Readings for the Second Sunday in Lent*

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(with scripture readings for the 2nd Sunday of Lent)

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

THE SERVICE BEGINS

P We begin this service IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER:

C O Loving God, you gave your only Son to die for us, that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life;

P AND OF THE SON:

C O Jesus, our Lord, you humbled yourself, and became obedient unto death - even the death of the cross;

P AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:

C O Holy Spirit, guide us into all truth, and remind us of everything Jesus has taught us. AMEN!

OPENING SONG: "Christ, the Life of All the Living"

LBW 97

WE CONFESS

P Let us confess our sin and griefs, and hear the comfort of the Lord.

C O Lord, we have often given in to temptation. We have often been weak under pressure, and because of fear or flattery, we have disobeyed you. We ask you of your great mercy, to forgive us, to make us whole, to draw us near to you, and to strengthen us for the next time we are tempted.

WE HEAR THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

P Our savior is able to sympathize with our weakness, for He too was tempted by the devil. In the wilderness, Satan encouraged Jesus to use his power for himself, instead of for others. And when He was dying, some tempted Him to come down off the cross. Had He given in, we would have been lost! But He prayed, "Father, not my will, but Thine be done." And thus strengthened, He gave himself into death for our sins. In His name, I declare to you that Jesus Christ has made full satisfaction for all your sins. Your guilt is removed. You are clean and pure, and standing in the presence of God. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, look upon the hearty desires of your humble servants and stretch forth the right hand of your majesty to be our defense against all our enemies. Grant this, we pray, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING:

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless, ²that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly." ³Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, ⁴"Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. ⁷And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

¹⁵And God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover, I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

P The Word of our Lord

C Thanks be to God

PSALM 22:22-30 (Read responsively by half verse)

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SECOND READING

Romans 5:1-11

¹Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ²Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. ⁶For while we were still weak, at the

right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷For one will scarcely die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die — ⁸but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. ¹¹More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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

GOSPEL

Mark 8:27-38

²⁷Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” ²⁸And they told him, “John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets.” ²⁹And he asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Christ.” ³⁰And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him. ³¹And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.” ³⁴And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ³⁵For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s will save it. ³⁶For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? ³⁷For what can a man give in return for his soul? ³⁸For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

P The Gospel of our Lord

C Thanks be to God

SERMON: "WHAT/WHO DO WE FOLLOW?"

SONG: "Beautiful Savior"

LBW 518

APOSTLES' CREED

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THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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Gracious Heavenly Father, we give you thanks that we have been justified through faith and we have peace with you through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Grant us the hope that comes with this amazing knowledge of reconciliation with you. We pray for the world to accept the good news that we are saved by your grace and are set free to live fully for you alone.

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

Merciful God, forgive us, renew us, and heal us for the sake of your beloved son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. May we boldly confess your truth in all the world, so others may come to know you. Let us walk by faith and share that faith with we meet.

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

Father God, you pour out your Holy Spirit upon us to pursue peace and unity. Let us be a beacon of light to guide others toward your unwavering love. We pray for all who struggle in this world, especially those who live in war torn countries, or places where freedom is not a reality. May they find solace in your promise of eternal peace with you.

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

Lord, Almighty Healer, we pray for all those who are sick, whether at home or in the hospital, [especially ...]. Guide their hearts and minds as they begin the healing process; that they are comforted to know you are there with them and you know their every need. We pray for their healing restoration to be rooted in their faith and love for you. Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

**THE LORD'S PRAYER
OFFERING**

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CLOSING RESPONSIVE READING

(Based on Psalm 51, prayed by King David, when Nathan confronted him with his sin)

L Have mercy on me, O God, according to your lovingkindness;

C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

L Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

C Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

L O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

C Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. AMEN.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG: "Give Me Jesus"

WOV 777

P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God!

Church Office: (815) 522-3886

Pastor: Thomas Thorstad (716) 990-6244(c)

Secretary: Dianna Wittwer (815)378-6654(c)

Pianist: Nancy Plote

Hosts: Vernon & Jane Johnson

Attendance Saturday, 2/17: 12 adults 1 child

Website: www.kirklandflc.org

pastor@kirklandflc.org

secretary@kirklandflc.org

Offering Counters: Jo Boehmer & Mary Loomis

Attendance: Sunday, 2/18: 36 adults 13 children

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!

Wyatt Mielke 2/26/14 Kailey Haberkamp 2/28/11

Peggy Wince 2/29 Brayden Loomis 3/2/16

Onie Luepkens 3/5

ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS!!!

Steve & June May 2/27/74

If I have missed a birthday or anniversary, please let me know – Dianna.

Lenten Bible Study: Journey Through Lent: Exploring Biblical Themes

This bible study will be hosted online, and anyone is welcome to join. It will be a Bible study series led by various multi-denominational pastors from across the USA. Together, we will delve into the rich tapestry of Lenten themes, growing in faith and understanding.

The start date was on Feb 19, 2024, at 7 PM CT and will continue through March 25, 2024.

To register you can speak with Pastor Tom, or you can visit the following link: <https://swiy.co/lentbiblestudy2024>

LENTEN SCHEDULE

This Lenten schedule runs each Wed., Feb. 21-through March 20.

5:45pm – Lenten Supper

6:30pm –Midweek Lenten Service

The theme for all the Lenten services will be from the Sermon on the Mount.

LENTEN MEAL SCHEDULE

Feb. 28 Lydia Circle

Spaghetti

Mar. 6 Potluck sign-up

Soup Potluck

Mar. 13 Sunday School

Sloppy Joes

Mar. 20 Church Men

Pork chops

SOUP & DESSERT SAMPLER MID-WEEK LENTEN MEAL

On Wednesday, March 6th, we will have a soup and dessert sampler Lenten dinner, there will be a sign-up sheet as time gets closer.

VERNON & JANE JOHNSON'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY **OPEN HOUSE**

Vernon & Jane will celebrate their anniversary with an open house on **Saturday, March 9th from 2:00-4:00p.m.** here at church. There will be cake and light appetizers. Please **RSVP** to their daughter Shannon Ross at (815)985-3641.

MEAT RAFFLE

Kirkland Lion's Club will be hosting a Meat Raffle on Saturday, March 9 at Red Brick Inn from 6pm. Half of the proceeds will go to the **Kirkland Food Pantry**. If you would like to donate to the meat raffle, they are looking for raffle or auction items, meat or new donated silent items. The Lion's Club is a not-for-profit club, and they donate everything back to the community in many different ways. If you have any donations or questions, please call Steve Boettger at (815) 739-7879 or Ryan Block (847) 975-7104.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Sunday 2/25: Join us in Fellowship Hall for coffee after service.

Adult Forum, 10:30am.

Installation in Creston, IL. for Pastor Terese Whitten, 4pm.

Monday 2/26: Clothes Closet open, 12-1:30pm.

Online Lenten Study, 7pm. See information on the previous page or contact Pastor Tom.

Tuesday 2/27: Food Pantry set-up, 9:30-11am; dist. 12-2pm.

Wednesday 2/28: Lenten Dinner, 5:45pm; Lenten Service, 6:30pm.

Saturday 3/2: Communion Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 3/3: Communion Service with Sunday School, 9am.

Saturday 3/9: Vernon & Jane Johnson's Anniversary

Open House, 2-4pm. Please RSVP Shannon Ross (815) 985-3641.

PRAYER REQUESTS **

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:

Michelle Bruning

Matt Johnson

James Klus

Emmaline Haag

David Sanderson

- All those who are anticipating surgery or healing from surgery.

- 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.

- Persecuted Christians throughout the world.

- 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:

Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; John 2:13-22

** The above parish concerns were current as of printing on 2/19 at 8pm.