



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

*Saturday, March 16, 2024*  
*With Readings for the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent*

# *First Lutheran Church – Putting Christ First*

**Saturday, March 16, 2024**

*(with scripture readings for the 5th Sunday in 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:** “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

**LBW 559**

## **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 favorably upon your family. Graciously rule our bodies lest we are enticed to love the world and guard our spirits lest we fail to recognize your love. 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.

### FIRST READING:

Jeremiah 31:31-34

<sup>31</sup>{Thus says the LORD,} “Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, <sup>32</sup>not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. <sup>33</sup>For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

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

**PSALM 119:9-16** (Read responsively by whole verse)

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### SECOND READING:

Hebrews 5:1-10

<sup>1</sup>For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. <sup>2</sup>He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. <sup>3</sup>Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people. <sup>4</sup>And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was. <sup>5</sup>So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”; <sup>6</sup>as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek.” <sup>7</sup>In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. <sup>8</sup>Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. <sup>9</sup>And being made perfect, he

became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, <sup>10</sup>being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

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

**GOSPEL:**

Mark 10:35-45

<sup>35</sup>And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you."

<sup>36</sup>And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" <sup>37</sup>And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory."

<sup>38</sup>Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" <sup>39</sup>And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized, <sup>40</sup>but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

<sup>41</sup>And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. <sup>42</sup>And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. <sup>43</sup>But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, <sup>44</sup>and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. <sup>45</sup>For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

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

**SERMON: "GOD'S PLAN"**

**SONG:** "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

**LBW 479**

**NICENE CREED**

LBW p. 84

**THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

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Heavenly Father, through the teachings of your Son Jesus, we know that he did not come to this world to be served, but to serve. Help us discern the needs of others, so we may also serve as he did. We humbly pray for your guidance as we seek to serve those who are in need.

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

Father of all creation, it is through your Son, Jesus Christ that we are made new again. Let us rejoice and celebrate all that we have in you! The earth is also renewed in its Spring, just as we are renewed through faith in you. Let us sing your praises as we relish all the reminders of new growth on the earth.

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

Almighty God, we pray for the wisdom and strength of our leaders in our churches, communities, government, and in our world. May they seek to understand your way and be considerate of one another in all matters. We also pray for those in the military who are upholding our freedom. Watch over them, protect them, and bring them home safely.

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

Merciful Father, we know we can come to you for comfort when we have fallen ill, but let us not forget to praise you in all health matters. We pray that you make whole what needs to be mended or cured whether it be in our body, mind, or our spirit. We lift up to you all those who are suffering in any way...

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

## **OFFERING**

### **WE PREPARE FOR HOLY COMMUNION**

**P** The Lord be with you.    **C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts!    **C** We lift them up to the Lord!

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

### **THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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#### **COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

#### **THE BENEDICTION**

**P** When Jesus instituted Holy Communion at the Last Supper, He promised His disciples that one day they would again feast together in the kingdom of heaven.

**C** Dear Lord, keep us steadfast in faith until that day!

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.    **C** Amen.

**CLOSING SONG: "Give Me Jesus"**

**WOV 777**

**P** Go in peace! Serve the Lord! **C** Thanks be to God!

**Church Office:** (815) 522-3886

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

**Pastor:** Dr. Tom Thorstad (716)990-6244 (c)

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

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

**Pianist:** Nancy Plote

**Hosts:** Dan & Janelle Pahnke

**Attendance Last Week:** Saturday, 3/9:15: Sunday, 3/10:37 adults 12 children

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

George Vodden 3/20

Mike Sester 3/21

Oliver Ash 3/22/15

Colleen Cerutti 3/23

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

### **LENTEN SCHEDULE**

This Lenten schedule runs each Wed. 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**

Mar. 20 Church Men

Pork chops

### **HOLY WEEK PRAYER VIGIL**

The Prayer Vigil will be available again this year. The vigil will begin Friday, 8:30pm - 10:30pm. Then resume on Saturday at 6:00am and conclude at 2:00pm. We do appreciate all who take the time to participate in the prayer vigil. It is a quiet reflection time with God in our sanctuary.

**Note: There will be no Saturday service on March 30th.**

### **HOLY WEEK SERVICES:**

**Maundy Thursday, 3/28 at 7pm**

**Good Friday, 3/29 at 7pm**

**EASTER March 31:**

**7AM** Easter Sunrise Service

**8AM** Breakfast – **RSVP for breakfast**, sign is in the Narthex.

**9:30AM** Easter Festival Communion Service

### **EASTER BREAKFAST**

Breakfast casseroles will be served this year, please sign-up in the kitchen to bring ingredients to make the casseroles. .

## **CHOIR – WILL YOU JOIN US!**



Please consider singing in the Easter Choir, which will sing on Good Friday and at the 9:30am service on Easter Sunday. Rehearsal for the very familiar songs will be after the Wednesday Lenten Service on March 20th, at approximately 7:15 pm.

The congregation so appreciates the extra music, please join us. See you in the choir loft!

## **Easter Lily Memorial Garden orders are due by March 17<sup>th</sup>.**

The lilies are \$11. each or you may give in memory or honor of someone. The forms are available on the narthex bulletin board.



## **EASTER CANDY**

We are now accepting pre-filled easter eggs, if you are able. Candy donations, or easter eggs would be appreciated as well. This will be for the Easter Egg Hunt on Easter. Please bring the eggs and candy to the church by March 24<sup>th</sup>.

## **Save The Date**

### **Spring Women's Gathering**

The northern churches in the *Great Rivers Mission District*

Saturday, April 13 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

New Life Lutheran Church 702 W Lynn BLVD

Sterling IL

**TORNADOES** - Southern Illinois and 6 other states were impacted by an outbreak of tornadoes last evening - Terry Doyle from American Lutheran Church Rantoul is ready to deliver emergency relief supplies, as the need is identified. Your help is needed: Please share with your congregations to send monetary donations to NALC Disaster Response, P.O. Box 130455, Saint Paul, MN 55113.

Please send gift cards to NALC Disaster Response, 16500 Noble Ave., Caldwell, Ohio 43724.

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

**Sunday 3/17:** Join us in Fellowship Hall for coffee after service.

Adult Forum, 10:30am.      **Newsletter items due.**

Memorial garden deadline.

**Monday 3/18:** Food Truck delivery, 8am; Online Lenten Study, 7pm.

**Tuesday 3/19:** Food Pantry set-up, 9:30-11am; dist. 12-2pm.

Newsletter folding, 2pm.

**Wednesday 3/20:** Lenten Dinner, 5:45pm; Lenten Service, 6:30pm.

**Thursday 3/21:** Wittenberg Door – Pastor’s Fellowship at 10am, in DK.

**Saturday 3/23:** Worship Service, 5:30pm.

**Sunday 3/24:** Palm Sunday Service with Sunday School, 9am.

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

- Jeff “Bo” Beach, father of Ashley Loomis, died on Sunday, 3/10. His birthday. May the promise of God’s resurrection bring ‘Bo’s’ family peace.

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

- Nathan Wrobel, Louie Mielke’s son-in-law, needs intense prayers.
- Michelle Bruning is still having health issues.
- All those who are suffering physical or mental illness, and their families, caregivers, and medical teams, especially:

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.