



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

*Saturday, March 2, 2024
With Readings for the 3rd Sunday in Lent*

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(with scripture readings for the 3rd 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, that the Lord Would Guide...”

LBW 480

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, consider the worthy desires of your humble servants. Reach out to defend us from evil by the word and work of your majestic right hand. Grant this, we pray, through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING:

Exodus 20:1-17

¹God spoke all these words, saying, ²"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.³You shall have no other gods before me. ⁴You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. ⁷You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain. ⁸Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, ¹⁰but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore, the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. ¹²Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. ¹³You shall not murder. ¹⁴You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵You shall not steal. ¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. ¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

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

PSALM 19 (Read responsively by whole verse)

P. 223-224

SECOND READING:

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. ²⁶For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the LORD."

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

GOSPEL:

John 2:13-22

¹³The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. ¹⁵And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking about the

temple of his body. ²²When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

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

SERMON: "ARE YOU WISER THAN GOD?"

SONG: "Be Thou My Vision"

WOV 776

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THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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Almighty God, let us be clear in our hearts and minds so we do not worship worldly power, influence, and wealth, but instead, worship you for all you have done for us through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It is through your power and love, O Lord, that we are redeemed and born anew. Grant us your wisdom and understanding.

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

Gracious Father, we pray for those who have not seen your beauty in this world or know of you because of their circumstances or situation in life. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon your church, that we may be a witness to your creation and reveal your beauty in this world. Let us never take for granted, all the good things you have created and all the good gifts you have bestowed upon us.

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

Father God, we pray for the wisdom and strength for all teachers of your Word. Protect them from worldly influences and guide them as they teach the Gospel of your salvation to our children. We also pray for their continual study of your Word, so they might remain whole and able to convey your message faithfully.

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

Merciful Father, grant your children mercy in the midst of trials and doubt. Let them feel your presence and tender love during turbulent times. We also pray for those who are dealing with illness in their family or who have recently lost a loved [especially for ...].

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

LBW p. 91

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: "God Be With you Till 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

P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God!

Church Office: (815) 522-3886

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

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

Pianist: Nancy Plote

Attendance Last Week: Saturday, 2/24:17: Sunday, 2/25:45 adults 14 children

Website: www.kirklandflc.org

pastor@kirklandflc.org

secretary@kirklandflc.org

Hosts: Jack & Josh Sunderlage

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!

Cindy Stoll 3/4 Onie Luepkas 3/5

ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS!!!

Vernon & Jane Johnson (Their 60th) 3/7/64

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

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.

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

Mar. 6 Potluck sign-up

Mar. 13 Sunday School

Mar. 20 Church Men

Soup Potluck

Sloppy Joes

Pork chops

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 study will continue every Monday through March 25, 2024.

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Sunday 3/3: Join us for coffee after service. Adult forum at 10:30am.

Monday 3/4: Online Lenten Study, 7pm. See information.

Tuesday 3/5: Food Pantry set-up, 9:30-11am; dist. 12-2pm.

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

Thursday 3/7: Food truck delivery, 8am; Lydia Circle, 1pm.

Saturday 3/9: Johnson's Open House, 2-4pm.

Worship Service, 5:30pm. Meat Raffle @ Red Brick at 6pm, benefits the Food Pantry. DAYLIGHT SAVINGS - SPRING AHEAD!

Sunday 3/10: Worship Service with Sunday School, 9am.

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

- Louie Mielke will have wrist surgery on March 6th.
- 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 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:

Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-9; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21