



Blessed

are the poor
in spirit.

Matthew 5:3

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

Sunday, January 29, 2023
Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

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A WARM WELCOME TO ALL who are worshiping with us today! We hope that the service will be a joy and blessing to you. Please complete the black friendship register and pass it down the pew.

LBW – green hymnal WOV – blue hymnal *Please stand as able.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Order of Service

- *Brief Order for Public Confession LBW P. 77
- *Sharing of Peace
- *Opening Hymn: “Blessed Assurance” **WOV 699**
- *Apostolic Greeting and Kyrie P. 78
- *Glory to God in the Highest P. 80
- *Prayer of the Day

O God, you know the perilous choices we are prone to make that fall short of your desire for human faithfulness and obedience. Without you, our fragile nature cannot survive. Support us with your Word of truth, that we may grow in faith in the midst of our trials. 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.

Children’s Sermon

First Reading Micah 6:1-8

¹Hear what the LORD says: Arise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ²Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the LORD has an indictment against his people, and he will contend with Israel. ³“O my people, what have I done to you? How have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him, and

what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the righteous acts of the LORD.”⁶ “With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”⁸ He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Psalm 15 (Read responsively by half verse)

p.220

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.”

*Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

¹Seeing the crowds, {Jesus} went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: ³Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. ⁵Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. ⁶Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. ⁷Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. ⁸Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. ⁹Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. ¹⁰Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Sermon: "THE PROMISE OF BLESSINGS"

*Hymn of the Day: "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" **LBW 294**

*Apostles' Creed P. 85

*Offering

*Create in Me A Clean Heart P. 96

* Prayers of the Church P. 97

Holy Spirit, you are the Lord and giver of life. As citizens of the reign of God, we know well the blessedness which we have been given. May we be a vehicle of blessing for those whom have yet to know of your grace. Fill your church with power and equip us for all good works. *Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.*

Heavenly Creator, you give us the seasons and times of weather transitions that sustain the cycles of life and death. Through this winter season, may the ground be renewed in its fallowness. Provide adequate moisture for the spring planting and growing whether through rain or snow. May the creatures of earth, sea, and sky find adequate food supplies and shelter in harsh winter weather. *Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.*

God of Righteousness, guide the leaders of nations that they may be peacemakers and messengers of reconciliation and hope. Bring hope and healing to the lowly, oppressed and downtrodden. May our care for them be a sign of your in-breaking reign. *Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.*

Holy One, you are a strengthening and sustaining presence for all your people. Pour out your blessed presence for those suffering from depression, illness, poverty, or injustice [especially ...]. May they who are poor in Spirit remain confident that you are a faithful God who remembers your children in every situation. *Lord in your mercy ... hear our prayer.*

*Lord's Prayer

P. 97

*Benediction

*Threefold Amen

*Closing Hymn: "Give Me Jesus"

WOV 777

*Pastor: Go in Peace, Serve the Lord!

***Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

*Postlude

Church Office: (815)522-3886

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

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

Pianist: Jill Vodden

Ushers: James Haag (head Usher), Robert & Lisa Coyle & Matt Johnson

Offering Counters: Mary Loomis & Donna Koehnke

Attendance Last Saturday:1/21: 12

Website: www.kirklandflc.org

pastor@kirklandflc.org

secretary@kirklandflc.org

Lay Reader: Jo Boehmer

Attendance Sunday,1/22: 45

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!!

Alice Hintzsche 1/28

Janelle Pahnke 1/28

Becca Crain 1/30

Bob Coyle 1/31

Keith Krabbe 1/31

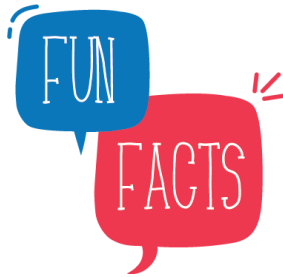
Carolyn Suhr 2/2

Josie Brykowski 2/3

No Anniversaries that are recorded in our church records. If I have missed your birthday or anniversary, please share with me as I would like our records to be as complete as possible. Dianna Wittwer



THANK YOU from Debi Hetland for all the cards and prayers!



CHURCH FUN FACTS

Rev Lindholm's family moved into the new \$1,000 parsonage on South and 6th Street on July 2, 1890. He agreed to pay the interest on the \$1000 loan as house rent.

(Celebrating our 150th Anniversary, Connie Worden has found some fun facts that will be included in the bulletins each week and the newsletters each month. Hope you find them interesting. Dianna)

SHOP NOW FOR PERSONAL CARE KITS

We will be collecting all items from mid– January through mid-February. You may bring any of the above items, you do not have to put a kit together. If you choose to make a kit, you may. All of the supplies will be taken to our local NALC disaster relief location.

Health Care Kit

(Pack in 2-gallon Ziplock or tote bag)

- o 1 bath towel
- o 1 wash cloth (optional)
- o 1 shampoo (2 if travel size)
- o 1 bar of soap (2 if travel size)
- o 1 toothbrush
- o 1 pack of floss (optional)
- o 1 toothpaste (2 if travel size)
- o 1 comb
- o 1 deodorant
- o 1 nail clippers (optional)



1. Pick up your End of Year statements.
2. Bring the Annual Reports Booklet with you when you attend the FLC ANNUAL MEETING THIS Sunday, January 29, 2023, at 10:15 A.M.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask Dianna, or call me at the office (815)522-3886 or my cell (815)378-6654.



Sunday, 1/29: Join us after the service for our Annual Congregational Meeting at 10:15am.

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

Tuesday 1/31: Pantry Set-up, 9:30-11am; distribution., 12-2pm.

Wednesday 2/1: NO On-line Bible Study this week.

Thursday 2/2: Food Truck Delivery, 8am; Lydia Circle Bible Study, 1pm.
NO Confirmation Class this week.

Saturday 2/4: Communion Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 2/5: Communion Service, 9am, with Sunday School to follow.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the following people that are near and dear to our hearts:

- Pastor's Conference Jan. 30 – Feb. 2 in San Antonia, Tx. Pray for safe travels to and from; and for the Conference to be up-lifting.
- Chris Droes, Gary Steinhorst's cousin is in hospice care now.
- All those who are not able to worship with us because they are in health care facilities or homebound: Ina Koehler, Nancy Bakanas, George Vodden and many others.
- All those who are suffering physical or mental illness, and their families, caregivers, and medical teams, especially Debi Hetland, Carolyn Suhr, Jerry Sheehan, Ryleigh Joos, Jason Gorski, and Loraine Steinhorst (Gary Steinhorst's mother).
- All elected leaders, police officers, first responders, and military personnel, that they hear and receive God's guidance and protection.
- Our church and its activities, and all Christian churches.
- All NALC churches that are searching for a Pastor.
- The NALC, NALS, and the Great Rivers Mission District.

Lessons for Next Week

Isaiah 58:3-9a; Psalm 112:1-9; 1 Corinthians 2:1-12;
Matthew 5:13-20