

Blessed is the man
whose delight

is in the law
of the Lord.

Psalm 1

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

*Saturday, May 11, 2024
With readings for the Seventh Sunday of Easter
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY EVE!*

First Lutheran Church - Putting Christ First

Saturday, May 11, 2024

(with scripture readings for the 7th Sunday of Easter)

WELCOME! We hope that this service will be a blessing to you. Please complete the black friendship register and pass it down your pew. As it's passed back to you, remove the completed sheet and place it in the offering plate after noting those sharing your pew. Then after worship, you're encouraged to introduce yourself to anyone you haven't met.

THE SERVICE BEGINS

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

C O Mighty God, you raised your Son from the grave on the third day, defeating the power of death forever!

P AND OF THE SON:

C O Jesus Christ, our Risen Savior, we praise you for your glorious resurrection victory, and, like the disciple Thomas, we confess you as our Lord and God!

P AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:

C O Spirit of power and might, guide us by your Word, that we may know the Lord, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings.

All: AMEN!

OPENING SONG: "Alleluia, Sing to Jesus"

LBW 158

WE CONFESS

P Let us confess our sins, and hear the forgiveness of God.

C Like the apostle Peter, O Lord, our faith has sometimes wavered. There are days when we confess by our words and our lives that "You are the Christ, the son of the living God!" There are days when we are ready to walk on water with you. But then have come also those days when we have denied you by our words and our lives. Forgive us, Lord! Restore us to fellowship with you and one another!

WE HEAR THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

P When Jesus Christ arose triumphant from the grave, he did not come back to take revenge on those who had persecuted him, nor on those who had disappointed him. He came to restore them. To the disciples, huddled together in a locked room, He came and said, "Peace be with you." To the people of Jerusalem, he sent his

apostles with a message of mercy and forgiveness. To Peter, who had denied Him three times, He gave the chance to confess Him three times. And He restored Peter to his call as a servant and apostle in His kingdom, saying to him, "Feed my lambs." These same words of restoration are for you! All your sins are forgiven. Come, be an apostle in Christ's kingdom! His peace be with you!

C And also with you.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Blessed Trinity, your deep desire for you people is that we may be one as you are one. You have made us one in Christ through the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion. Teach this gathering of Christ's followers to live each day out of our true identity —children of God and one in Christ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 1:12-26

¹²{The apostles} returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away.

¹³And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. ¹⁴All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers. ¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about ¹²⁰) and said, ¹⁶"Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry."

¹⁸(Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. ¹⁹And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) ²⁰"For it is written in the Book of Psalms, "'May his camp become desolate, and let there be no one to dwell in it'; and "'Let another take his office.'

²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us

— one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection.” ²³And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴And they prayed and said, “You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

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

PSALM 1 (Read responsively by whole verse)

p.215

SECOND READING

1 John 5:9-15

⁹If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. ¹⁰Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. ¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life. ¹⁴And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. ¹⁵And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

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

GOSPEL

John 17:11b-19

^{11b}{Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven and said,} “Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the

truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

P The Gospel of our Lord

C Thanks be to God

SERMON: **“CALL OF MATTHIAS”**

SONG: “Christ is Made the Sure Foundation”

LBW 367

STATEMENT OF FAITH - Apostles' Creed

p.65

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

p.65

God of all wisdom, be with all students and teachers who are finishing classes for the year. Be with all those who are graduating and moving on to whatever is next in their lives. Grant parents strength as their children leave home. Instill in all graduates a deep understanding of your call on their lives, so they may serve you in all they do.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Holy Father, you tell us to ask for what we need in Jesus' name and you will answer. Let us be prayer warriors for the sake of the church and the world, that we would devote ourselves to a regular time of prayer and devotion. Help us to hear your wisdom in our lives and to faithfully follow our Lord Jesus Christ in all we do.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of all creation, gather your people together from the four corners of the earth to be one in Christ, just as you and the son and the Spirit are one. Help us to set aside things that create divisions in the Body of Christ such as jealousy, anxiety, privilege, and false teaching. Pour out your Holy Spirit on all so we may live together in faith, mutual care, and understanding.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Loving Lord, you are the healer of all our ills. Bring us to the newness of life you have promised us through Jesus Christ. Put an end to disease, chaos, and catastrophes that plague human life. Grant peace, joy, and hope to us all. [We pray especially for ...]

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

p.71

OFFERING

CLOSING RESPONSIVE READING

L I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and its rider he has thrown into the sea.

C The Lord is my strength and my song; he has been my Savior.

L This is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.

C Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power, your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy.

L Who among the gods is like you, O Lord? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in splendor, doing wonders?

C In your mercy you led forth the people you set free; you guided them in your strength to your holy habitation.

L You will bring them in and plant them on the mount that is your possession.

C The place, O Lord, you have made for your dwelling, the sanctuary, O Lord, which your hands have prepared. The Lord shall reign forever and ever.

L Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

C as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

CLOSING SONG: "Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing" **LBW 259**

P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God!

Church Office: (815) 522-3886

Pastor:

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

Pianist: Nancy Plote

Hosts: Jack & Josh Sunderlage

Attendance – Saturday, 5/4: No service

Website: www.kirklandflc.org

pastor@kirklandflc.org

secretary@kirklandflc.org

Offering Counters: Keith Krabbe & Jill Vodden

Sunday, 5/5:57 adults & 10 children

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!!

Lenny Peterson 5/16 Addison Boehmer 5/16/15

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Reverend Dr. Robert Castro, "Pastor Bob", has a special presentation after the service tomorrow entitled, "Challenges of being both Faithful and Relevant in the 21st Century". He has encouraged the parents of Sunday schoolers to attend, which addresses the three questions:

1. Where the Heck are We?
2. How the Heck did we get Here?
3. What the Heck do we do Now?

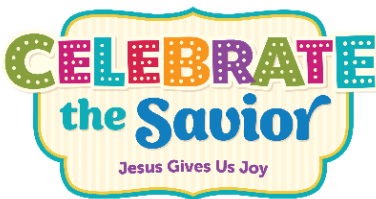


Dear First Lutheran, On Behalf of my family, we wish to send our great thanks to the congregation and to all those who gave cards or participated in the joint card by the congregation. We greatly appreciate all that has been done for us over the past few weeks as we transition to our next call. We also wish to thank the ladies who put together the potluck and all who gave to that event to send us off. We will keep First Lutheran in our prayers over the coming months.

Blessings, Pastor Tom

Thank you to all who made a dish or two for Pastor Tom & his family's farewell potluck, as well as set-up, and clean-up. Great meal and good fellowship.

Jean Bauer



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

The date has been set for VBS - Monday, June 17 – Friday, June 21 from 9a.m. – 11:30a.m. If you are willing to help in any way, please contact Co-coordinators, Val Norris, and Denise Norris. They are especially looking for Jr. high to high school age or those young at heart to help. More information will be provided soon.

PULPIT SUPPLY

Council President Richard Wilson is working on and confirming dates for pulpit supply. Pray for all the services to have a Pastor or lay person willing to step up.

Next Week's Readings:

Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 139:1-12 [13-16]; Acts 2:1-21;
John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15

Sunday 5/12: Join us after the service for coffee and a presentation by Rev. Dr. Robert Castro, "Challenges of being both Faithful and Relevant in the 21st Century". HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

Tuesday 5/14: Food Pantry set up, 9:30am; food dist., 12-2pm.
Church Council, 7pm.

Saturday 5/18: Communion Service, 5:30pm.

Sunday 5/19: Communion Service, 9am. Sunday School to follow.
Newsletter items due!

Monday 5/20: Food truck delivery, 8:30am;
Clothes Closet open (one week early), 12-1:30pm.

PARISH CONCERNS

David Sanderson, son of Joanie, lost his battle to cancer on May 8th. No funeral arrangement information was available at the time of printing.

May the promise of God's resurrection bring David's family peace.

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:

Louie Mielke	Richard Krabbe
Bill Byers	Matt Johnson
James Klus	Emmaline Haag
Michelle Bruning	Nathan Wrobel

- 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 affected by natural disasters.
- 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.