

Sexagesima Sunday

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

P.O. Box 98, Okabena, MN 56161

A member congregation of the

Church of the Lutheran Confession

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The Communion service scheduled for today will be held on March 3 instead.

Organ Prelude Mrs. Lana Strike

Hymn 10 *This is the Day the Lord Hath Made*

1. This is the day the Lord hath made; He calls the hours His own;
Let heaven rejoice, let earth be glad And praise surround the throne.
2. Today He rose and left the dead. And Satan's empire fell;
Today the saints His triumphs spread And all His wonders tell.
3. Hosanna to th' anointed King To David's holy Son!
Help us, O Lord; descend and bring Salvation from the throne.
4. Blest be the Lord, who comes to men With messages of grace;
Who comes in God His Father's name To save our sinful race.
5. Hosanna in the highest strains The Church on earth can raise.
The highest heavens, in which He reigns, Shall give Him nobler praise.

Pastor In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation Amen. (spoken)

The Confession of Sins

PSALM 51:1-3; 7-8

HAVE MERCY UPON ME, O GOD

Antiphon



Psalms Tone



Have mercy upon me, Ó God,*
According to Your lovingkindness;
According to the multitude of Your tender mercies,*
Blot out my transgressions.
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,*
And cleanse me from my sin.
For I acknowledge my transgressions,*
And my sin is ever before me.

Antiphon

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;*
Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
Make me to hear joy and gladness,*
That the bones which You have broken may rejoice.
Hide Your face from my sins,*
And blot out all my iniquities.
Glory be 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.

Antiphon

Pastor Jesus Christ is the atoning Sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. According to His authority, and by His command, I announce to you the unalterable decree of our God that all of your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

LAMB OF GOD *Agnus Dei*



O Lamb of God, O Christ our Lord, whose
blood, once shed, true life re - stored, Im -
part Your joy, our faith in - crease. Sus -
tain with Your mer - cy and grant us Your peace.

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 55:10-13

“For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven,
And do not return there,
But water the earth,
And make it bring forth and bud,
That it may give seed to the sower
And bread to the eater,
So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth;
It shall not return to Me void,
But it shall accomplish what I please,
And it shall prosper *in the thing* for which I sent it.
“For you shall go out with joy,
And be led out with peace;
The mountains and the hills
Shall break forth into singing before you,
And all the trees of the field shall clap *their* hands.
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress tree,
And instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree;

And it shall be to the LORD for a name,
For an everlasting sign *that* shall not be cut off."

Gospel Lesson Luke 8:4-15 And when a great multitude had gathered, and they had come to Him from every city, He spoke by a parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trampled down, and the birds of the air devoured it. Some fell on rock; and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it. But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold." When He had said these things He cried, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" Then His disciples asked Him, saying, "What does this parable mean?" And He said, "To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest *it is given* in parables, that 'Seeing they may not see, And hearing they may not understand.' "Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. But the ones on the rock *are those* who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. Now the ones *that* fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity. But the ones *that* fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep *it* and bear fruit with patience.

Hymn 446:1-5 *Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray*

1. Rise, my soul, to watch and pray, From thy sleep awaken;
Be not by the evil day Unawares o'ertaken.
For the Foe, Well we know,
Oft his harvest reapeth While the Christian sleepeth.

2. Watch against the devil's snares Lest asleep he find thee;
For indeed no pains he spares To deceive and blind thee.
Satan's prey Oft are they
Who secure are sleeping And no watch are keeping.

3. Watch! Let not the wicked world With its pow'r defeat thee.
Watch lest with her pomp unfurled She betray and cheat thee.

Watch and see Lest there be
Faithless friends to charm thee, Who but seek to harm thee.

4. Watch against thyself, my soul, Lest with grace thou trifle;
Let not self thy tho'ts control Nor God's mercy stifle.
Pride and sin Lurk within
All thy hopes to scatter; Heed not when they flatter.

5. But while watching, also pray To the Lord unceasing.
He will free thee, be thy stay, Strength and faith increasing.
O Lord, bless In distress
And let nothing swerve me From the will to serve Thee.

Sermon 1 Corinthians 1:21-31 For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, *are called*. But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, that no flesh should glory in His presence. But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption— that, as it is written, “He who glories, let him glory in the Lord.”

Christ Crucified...the Great Divide

Hymn 385:1-4 *Now I Have Found a Firm Foundation*

1. Now I have found the firm foundation
Which holds mine anchor ever sure;
'Twas laid before the world's creation
In Christ my Savior's wounds secure;
Foundation which unmoved shall stay

When heaven and earth will pass away.

2. It is that mercy never ending,
Which human wisdom far transcends,
Of Him who, loving arms extending,
To wretched sinners condescends;
Whose heart with pity still doth break
Whether we seek Him or forsake.

3. Our ruin God hath not intended,
For our salvation He hath yearned;
For this His Son to earth descended
And then to heaven again returned;
For this so patient evermore
He knocketh at our heart's closed door.

4. O depth of love, to me revealing
The sea where my sins disappear!
In Christ my wounds find perfect healing,
There is no condemnation here;
For Jesus' blood through earth and skies
Forever "Mercy! Mercy!" cries.

Prayers and Benediction

Closing Hymn 385:10 *Now I Have Found the Firm Foundation*

10. I'll stand upon this firm foundation
As long as I on earth remain;
This shall engage my meditation
While I the breath of life retain;
And then, when face to face with Thee,
I'll sing of mercy, great and free.

FLOWERS The altar flowers were given in loving memory of Ken DeWall. Ken's birthday would have been on February 19. He was taken to heaven in February of 2012.

COKE REWARDS Thanks to all who collected and submitted Coke Rewards. The School just received a check for \$28.60.

CEMETERY The Cemetery Board is looking for volunteers to assist with mowing and/or trimming this summer. If you are interested (even if you don't have equipment) please speak with Jim Eigenberg.

CALLING TREE A number of people did not find out about last week's service being cancelled until they arrived at church. If there is an alternate number to reach you, please make it known to those who are scheduled to call you. If there is any question about the status of the service, please contact the pastor or one of the Elders.

THANK YOU A special thanks is due to those who helped with snow removal from around the church. Heavy snow was removed from in front of the building. Snow was also removed from the roof of the school.

TEACHERAGE ONE The following comes from the attorney in Lakefield per selling Teacherage One:

For the congregation to sell real estate, it is required that this notice be read to the congregation for four successive Sunday's and that a vote cannot take place until the fifth Sunday after the first reading of this announcement. In order to pass, the vote must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting.

A general meeting, after Sunday services on March 24, 2019, will be held for the voters to approve the sale by St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation, of Okabena, Minnesota, of real estate described as the North Half (N1/2) of Lot 7 and all of Lot 8, in Block 1, in Aden's Addition to the City of Okabena, Jackson County, Minnesota, to Marty Bern for the sum of \$54,500.00 and, further, authorizing the church officers (trustees) to execute a deed to convey the property to the purchase. The resolution to be voted upon is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

TOUR CHOIR The ILC Tour Choir will perform a concert at 7 o'clock on Friday, March 15. A sign-up sheet for housing will be posted on the bulletin board. There will also be a list of roommates.

DAILY REST The first quarterly publication of the new, CLC devotional booklet has arrived. The publication was approved and authorized by last

summer's Convention. Each household is welcome to take a copy for free. If you like what you see, subscriptions will be available for \$15 / year.

CLC NEWS Missionary Peter Evensen has the call to Corpus Christi. Pastor Joe Naumann, Mankato, has the call to Morris. The congregation in Houston has disbanded and their pastor has left the CLC.

Update: With the recent cancellation of our Missionary's visa to India and his inability to return, the Board of Missions is reassigning our Resident Missionary to West Africa. He will continue to serve as our liaison with our Indian brethren for now. Due to some of the increased scrutiny and problems we and our Indian brethren have had in the last year, the Board of Missions has also made the decision to relocate this year's Mission Helper Trip from India to East Africa. This was done out of concern for the Mission Helpers, but also our Indian brethren who may be investigated because of the presence of so many foreigners. The Board of Missions is working on a plan to send two CLC pastors to India for a three-week visitation this summer. In addition, our Traveling Missionary plans to make a visit to India later this year. Please remember our Indian brethren in your prayers as they continue to proclaim His truth in a hostile environment!

Missionary Ohlmann: <https://missionaryohlmann.blogspot.com/2019/>.

2018 Convention Proceedings Correction: The 2018 CLC Convention *Proceedings* do not accurately reflect the Convention's work concerning a proposed amendment to the CLC Constitution Article VIII B. On p. 76 of the *Proceedings*, the floor committee's resolution to amend the constitution is printed without comment. This suggests that the resolution to amend was passed. In fact, the resolution failed. The Convention did not approve the amendment and that article of the Constitution remains unchanged. To correct the inaccuracy of the *Proceedings*, please make a notation on p. 76 in your copy of the *Proceedings*: "The resolution to approve the recommended constitutional amendment failed. Article VIII B was not changed."

USHERS Bruce E., Steve R., Joe L., Nathan A., Josh T.
Kendall B., Kraig B., Larry B., Jonathen L., Jonah A.

CLEANING (Wk 2) J. Jensen, M. DeWall, S. DeWall
R. Gustaf, J. Zuehlke