

January 9, 2022

Vol. XXIV No. 2

First Sunday after Epiphany

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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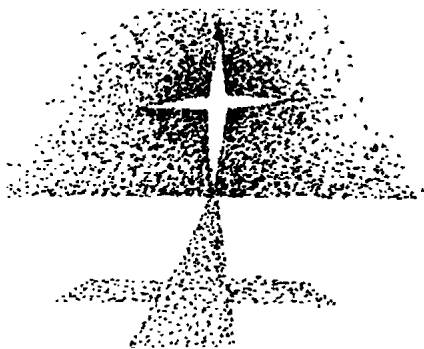
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www.okabenalutheran.org



WELCOME To all of you who are visiting our service this morning, we extend a most cordial welcome in Jesus' name. It is our hope that you will feel at home in our midst and will be blessed by our message of Christ crucified and risen for the sins of the world.

If you are looking for a church home or would like to know more about our beliefs and practices, please see the pastor. He will be glad to visit with you at your convenience. Be sure to join us again.

Prelude Mrs. Kathy Lueck

Hymn 127 *As with Gladness Men of Old*

Liturgy Page 5ff. in the Lutheran Hymnal

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, To His feet your tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, Evermore His praises sing:
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for His grace and favor To His people in distress;
Praise Him still the same as ever, Slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Alleluia, alleluia! Glorious is His faithfulness.
+ WS 742:1-2 +

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
²For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will be seen upon you.
³And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.

⁴Lift up your eyes all around, and see;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from afar,
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.
⁵Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and exult,
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

Epistle Reading: Romans 12:1-5 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of

God. For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, *being* many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

Hymn 717 *Bright and Glorious is the Sky*

Sermon Luke 2:41-52 His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. And when He was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast. When they had finished the days, as they returned, the Boy Jesus lingered behind in Jerusalem. And Joseph and His mother did not know *it*; but supposing Him to have been in the company, they went a day's journey, and sought Him among *their* relatives and acquaintances. So when they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking Him. Now so it was *that* after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers. So when they saw Him, they were amazed; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why have You done this to us? Look, Your father and I have sought You anxiously." And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?" But they did not understand the statement which He spoke to them. Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them, but His mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

Jesus is Everywhere

We Need Him to Be...

The Offertory

Hymn 133 *Within the Father's House*

Prayer + The Lord's Prayer

The Benediction

Closing Hymn 759 *These are the Facts*

HOSPITALIZED Mary Durst was released from the Worthington Hospital on Friday evening and will receive therapy at home. Please remember her in your prayers.

SOPHIE UPDATE Sophie has been released from the Boston Children's Hospital and should be back in this area on Monday. Thanks to all of you for your prayers and support! Praise the Lord for hearing and answering our prayers!

ANNUAL MEETING Next Sunday's Voters Meeting will be held immediately after the potluck meal at noon. Items for consideration should be in the hands of Chairman Ron Strike as soon as possible. At this time, there is one membership matter: Justin Winters wishes to be transferred to Messiah, Eau Claire.

ANNUAL REPORT If you have items for the annual report, please email them or put them in the pastor's mailbox.

Please also take a look at the calling tree to make sure we have the correct contact information.

DECORATIONS We plan to pack away the Christmas decorations immediately after the service today. All help will be appreciated.

CLC NEWS Pastor Luke Bernthal, Mountain View, CA has the call to Winter Haven, FL. Professor John Ude is considering the call to Eden Prairie. Mr. Nathan Wales of Columbia, SC, is considering the call to Grace Lutheran School, Sleepy Eye, MN, to serve as principal and teacher for grades 5-8, beginning with the 2022 school year.

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USHERS 01/09 Phil S., Zachary S., Nathan V., Anthony F.
01/16 Trevor B., Tim Z., Austin F., Christian K., David R.
01/23 Kendall B., Kraig B., Larry B. Jonathen L.

CLEANING (Wk. 3) The Luecks, P. Strike
D. Ling, C. Rovere, S. Sumey