

## The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

# 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*

James Albrecht, Pastor – 507-351-8584

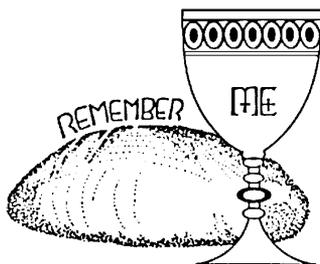
Benjamin Hansen, Upper Grades – 715-491-3837

Lana Strike, Lower Grades – 507-360-9491

Ruth Eigenberg, Kindergarten / Preschool – 507-360-7725

Church/School Phone – 507-853-4550

[www.okabenalutheran.org](http://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.

**Prelude** Mrs. Kathy Lueck

**Hymn** 540:1-3 *With the Lord Begin Thy Task*

**Liturgy** Page 15 ff. in The Lutheran Hymnal

**Epistle Lesson** Acts 8:26-39 Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, “Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is desert. So he arose and went. And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace the queen of the Ethiopians, who had charge of all her treasury, and had come to Jerusalem to worship, was returning. And sitting in his chariot, he was reading Isaiah the prophet. Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go near and overtake this chariot.”

So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, “Do you understand what you are reading?” And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him. The place in the Scripture which he read was this:

“He was led as a sheep to the slaughter;  
And as a lamb before its shearer *is* silent,  
So He opened not His mouth.  
In His humiliation His justice was taken away,  
And who will declare His generation?  
For His life is taken from the earth.”

So the eunuch answered Philip and said, “I ask you, of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man?” Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, “See, *here is* water. What hinders me from being baptized?” Then Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” And he answered and said, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.” So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing.

**Gospel Lesson** Luke 10:38-42 Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus’ feet and heard His word. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, “Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me.” And Jesus answered and said to her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about

many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her.”

**Hymn** 366:1, 5-7 *One Thing’s Needful, Lord, This Treasure*

**Sermon** Mark 9:17-30 Then one of the crowd answered and said, “Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not.”

He answered him and said, “O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me.” Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth. So He asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood. And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.” Jesus said to him, “If you can believe, all things *are* possible to him who believes.” Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!”

When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!” Then *the spirit* cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, “He is dead.” But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” So He said to them, “This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting.” Then they departed from there and passed through Galilee, and He did not want anyone to know *it*.

## Find the Unbelieving Believers...

**The Offertory**

**Offering of Thankful Hearts**

**Distribution Hymns** 755, 306, 736

**Closing Hymn** 540:4-5 *With the Lord Begin Thy Task*

+ + +

**HOLY COMMUNION** The Bible exhorts us to be "*perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.*" Holy Communion is therefore both a communing with God and a public statement that those communing together believe the same thing. We therefore ask that anyone who has not established this unity through membership in a CLC congregation first schedule a meeting with the pastor before communing. We hold this position in loving obedience to the Word of God, not in judgment of anyone's Christian faith, sincerity, or standing before God.

**BAPTISM** Megan Leah Baumann was born to Lance Baumann and Leah nee Olson on August 11. She was born again through Water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism on September 11. May the Lord preserve Megan in her baptismal grace throughout her life.

God's own child, I gladly say it; I am baptized into Christ!  
He, because I could not pay it, Gave my full redemption price.  
Do I need earth's treasures many? I have one worth more than any  
That brought me salvation free Lasting to eternity!

- WS 751 -

**Ladies Sign Making Party** All women of the congregation are invited to attend a sign making party (in church basement) that is scheduled for Sunday, October 9th at 1pm. There will also be a potluck and wine served for the ladies during that time. Please feel free to bring an item for the potluck and/or wine to share with the group. Vicky's Create & Paint will be teaching us how to make a Fall sign. More details and an example of the sign are on a sign up sheet in the entryway. Any questions, please contact Mary Albrecht.

Service text and music reprinted and used by permission under OneLicense #A-7126690 and Concordia Publishing House, license #130002755.

Scriptures quoted are from the New King James Version® of the Holy Bible, ©1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

**USHERS** 09/25 Trevor B., Tim Z., Joshua E., Christian K., David R.  
10/02 Kendall B., Kraig B., Larry B. Jonathen L.  
10/09 Phil S., Zachary S., Nathan V., Anthony F.

**CLEANING** (Wk. 1) D. Ling, C. Rovere, S. Sumeay  
J. Albrecht, N. Albrecht