

May 7, 2023

Vol. XXV No. 19

The Fourth Sunday after Easter

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



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 Kathy Lueck

Hymn 728 *Christ is Living*

Order of Service Page 12ff. in The Worship Supplement

Epistle Lesson Ephesians 2:19-22 Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief *cornerstone*, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Gospel Lesson John 16:5-15 “But now I go away to Him who sent Me, and none of you asks Me, ‘Where are You going?’ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: of sin, because they do not believe in Me; of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you. All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare *it* to you.

Hymn 207:1-5 *Like the Golden Sun Ascending*

Sermon Isaiah 38:9-20

A writing of Hezekiah king of Judah after his illness and recovery:

I said, “In the prime of my life must I go through the gates of death and be robbed of the rest of my years?”

I said, “I will not again see the Lord himself in the land of the living; no longer will I look on my fellow man, or be with those who now dwell in this world.

Like a shepherd’s tent my house has been pulled down and taken from me. Like a weaver I have rolled up my life, and he has cut me off from the loom; day and night you made an end of me.

I waited patiently till dawn, but like a lion he broke all my bones;

day and night you made an end of me.
I cried like a swift or thrush, I moaned like a mourning dove.
My eyes grew weak as I looked to the heavens.
I am being threatened; Lord, come to my aid!"
But what can I say? He has spoken to me, and he himself has done this.
I will walk humbly all my years because of this anguish of my soul.
Lord, by such things people live; and my spirit finds life in them too.
You restored me to health and let me live.
Surely it was for my benefit that I suffered such anguish.
In your love you kept me from the pit of destruction;
you have put all my sins behind your back.
For the grave cannot praise you, death cannot sing your praise;
those who go down to the pit cannot hope for your faithfulness.
The living, the living—they praise you, as I am doing today;
parents tell their children about your faithfulness.
The Lord will save me, and we will sing with stringed instruments
all the days of our lives in the temple of the Lord.

How Suffering Changes Your Perspective...

Offertory

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Hymn 192:1-4 *Awake, My Heart, with Gladness*

Prayer + The Lord's Prayer

The Benediction

Hymn 192:5-6 *Awake, My Heart, with Gladness*

MUSICAL The St. John's students will perform the funny farmyard musical, E-I-E-I-Oops! at the Okabena high school cafeteria on Wednesday, May 17, at 6:00 p.m. Free admission and all are invited. Favorite songs and refreshments will follow.

SUBSCRIPTIONS The Lutheran Spokesman, Daily Bread, and Meditations are renewed at the beginning of June. Please make any changes to the sheets on the entryway table.

CLC NEWS Pastor Nathanael Mayhew is considering the call to be the third pastor at Messiah, Eau Claire. Teacher Ross Kok has returned the call to Clarkston, WA.

New Opportunity in Uganda - The Kinship Committee and CLC Board of Missions has taken on a new and exciting opportunity—supporting a group of twenty orphans in Iganga, Uganda. Pastor Daniel Mugeni and his wife, Aidah, have taken on the task of caring for these orphans, and the financial burden on them is substantial. Pastors Gurath and Bernthal were able to spend time with the Mugeni family in July of 2022 and saw firsthand both their genuine love for these children and their genuine need for financial assistance. Please consider becoming a sponsor of one of these children. The commitment is \$45/mo.

Kinship is also in need of sponsors for seminary students throughout the world. The financial commitment required to support overseas seminary students is similar, ranging from \$30 to \$50/mo.

For more information, please contact Dan Roehl at 507-381-2042 or danroehl@hotmail.com

Concluding Activities at Immanuel: Friday, May 19, will be the final day of classes at Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary. At 7:30 p.m., there will be a concert of sacred music sung by the Mass Choir and Tour Choir at Messiah Lutheran Church. On Saturday, May 20, there will be the concluding graduation worship service at 10 a.m. at the ILC Fieldhouse.

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 05/07 Phil S., Nathan V., Anthony F., Daniel R.
05/14 Trevor B., Tim Z., Joshua E., Christian K., David R.
05/21 Kendall B., Kraig B., Larry B. Jonathen L.

CLEANING (Wk. 1) The Luecks and The Strikes
D. Ling, C. Rovere, S. Sumey