

The Twelfth 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

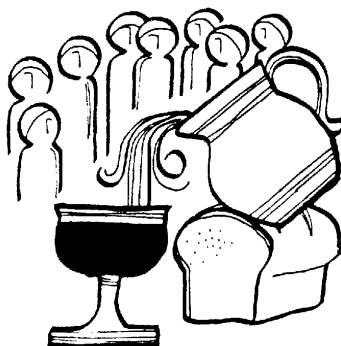
James Albrecht, Pastor – 507-351-8584

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 Mrs. Lana Strike

Hymn 465 *Christ is Our Cornerstone*

Liturgy Page 15ff. 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 51:1-6 “Listen to Me, you who follow after righteousness, You who seek the Lord:

Look to the rock from which you were hewn, And to the hole of the pit from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father, And to Sarah who bore you; For I called him alone, And blessed him and increased him.”

For the Lord will comfort Zion, He will comfort all her waste places; He will make her wilderness like Eden, And her desert like the garden of the Lord; Joy and gladness will be found in it, Thanksgiving and the voice of melody.

“Listen to Me, My people; And give ear to Me, O My nation: For law will proceed from Me, And I will make My justice rest As a light of the peoples. My righteousness is near, My salvation has gone forth, And My arms will judge the peoples; The coastlands will wait upon Me, And on My arm they will trust. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, And look on the earth beneath. For the heavens will vanish away like smoke, The earth will grow old like a garment, And those who dwell in it will die in like manner; But My salvation will be forever, And My righteousness will not be abolished.

Epistle Lesson Romans 11:33-12:8 Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! “For who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has become His counselor?” “Or who has first given to Him And it shall be repaid to him?” For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.

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. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

Hymn 758 *Christ is Made the Sure Foundation*

Sermon Matthew 16:13-20 When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then He commanded His disciples that they should tell no one that He was Jesus the Christ.

Confessions Have Consequences...

Offertory

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Distribution Hymns 755, *The Lamb*, 467:1-6

The Benediction

Hymn 467:7 *Built on the Rock the Church Doth Stand*

HOLY COMMUNION Holy Communion is 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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS The Board of Education is looking for volunteers to teach Sunday School this year. The Sunday School season does not begin until the Sunday after Labor Day. With enough volunteers, we could set up a rotation so that the same teachers wouldn't need to teach every Sunday.

FREE ITEMS Please help yourself to whatever is on the table in the middle room downstairs.

CLC NEWS Pastor Aaron Ude, Rapid City, SD has the call to Marquette, MI.

Man Up! Weekend - The 2023 ManUp! Men's Weekend will be held September 21-24, 2023, at beautiful Wyalusing State Park near Prairie du Chien, WI The weekend will offer strength and encouragement for men 18 and older for their personal faith, family, and fellowship at church. The weekend will include Bible study, fellowship, leadership training, team building, relationship building, worship, and many outdoor bonding activities. Register and send in your payment before August 31st for the discounted rate of \$75. Registration increases to \$150 after September 1st. The registration includes lodging and meals. You can register by going to the Man Up! website here: www.manup.clclutheran.org and clicking on the Registration Form. Sign up today!

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USHERS 08/27 Trevor B., Tim Z., Joshua E., Christian K., David R.
09/03 Kendall B., Kraig B., Larry B. Jonathen L.
09/10 Phil S., Nathan V., Anthony F., Daniel R.

CLEANING (Wk. 1) The Eigenbergs, R. Gustaf
C. Ahrens, The Fogelmans