

April 21, 2024

Vol. XXVI No. 16

## The Third 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

Lana Strike, Upper Grades – 507-360-9491

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[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. Be sure to join us again.

**Prelude** Mr. Ryan Mueller

**Hymn** 783 *Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep*

**Order of Service** Page 12 ff. in the Worship Supplement

**Epistle Lesson** 1 John 3:16-24 By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?

My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth. And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him. For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things. Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God. And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment.

Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

**Gospel Lesson** John 10:11-18 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.

"Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father."

**Hymn** 436 *The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want*

**Sermon** 1 Corinthians 15:17-20 If Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.

But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

## **From Hopeless to Full of Hope in a Cemetery**

### **Offering of Thankful Hearts**

**Hymn** 736 *At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing*

### **Prayer + The Lord's Prayer**

### **The Benediction**

**Hymn** 341 *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

**UNITED IN MARRIAGE** Todd Rosen and Melinda Bose were united in matrimony yesterday afternoon. May the Lord richly bless them in their life together!

The couple will reside at: 2878 Lyon Murray Rd, Garvin, MN 56132

**QUARTERLY MEETING** The voting members of St. John's are encouraged to attend our April Quarterly Voter's Meeting in the auditorium following today's potluck meal. Besides regular board reports, the agenda will include the following: dates for VBS/SS picnic, School Board to call VBS teachers, summer worship schedule, delegates for the spring Delegate Conference (10AM Saturday, June 8 @ Grace, Fridley), Budget Committee Meeting date/time, July Quarterly Meeting date. Any other agenda items should be given to Chairman Phil Strike as soon as possible.

**ENTRYWAY** This is a reminder that people not congregate at the base of the steps going into church. When there is a group of people at the bottom, it becomes more difficult for those who rely on the railings to steady themselves.

**CARD ORDERS** There is a sign-up sheet for card orders in the entryway. Feel free to look through the catalog if interested.

1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr 2024	Number	Total	Average
Sunday	13	1095	84
Midweek	7	393	56
Bible Class	12	501	42
Sunday School	12	n/a	n/a

**Received** into membership: Melinda, Kendall, and Peyton Bose; Todd Rosen  
**Transferred** to Messiah, Eau Claire, Mr. Ben Hansen

**CLC NEWS** Seminary graduate Paul Agenten has accepted the calls from St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran of Iron River, MI and Calvary Lutheran of Marquette, MI.

Ms. Ann Sprengeler has accepted the limited call from Grace Lutheran in Valentine, NE to teach the lower grades from August through December 2024. Pastor David Ude, Living Hope Lutheran, Appleton, WI, has been called to Grace Lutheran, Sleepy Eye, MN. Teacher Mathew Kranz, Immanuel Lutheran School, Mankato, MN, has been called to Berea Lutheran School, Inver Grove Heights, MN. Teacher Neal Bernthal, Immanuel Lutheran School, Winter Haven FL, has been called to Messiah Lutheran School, Eau Claire, WI. Mrs. Karen Swyter, a member at Onalaska, WI, is still considering the call to be the 1st & 2nd grade teacher of Faith Lutheran School, Markesan, WI. Teacher Katie Naumann of Immanuel Lutheran School in Winter Haven, FL has returned the call to teach at Luther Memorial in Fond du Lac, WI. Blair Sydow has received a one-year call to teach the upper grades at Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran School in West Columbia, SC. Blair is a member of Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran.

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**USHERS** 04/21 Kendall B., Larry B.  
04/28 Phil S., Nathan V., Anthony F., Daniel R.  
05/05 Trevor B., Tim Z., Joshua E., Christian K., David R.

**CLEANING** (Wk. 3) The Boernsens  
The Liepolds, the Luecks