

The Ninth 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

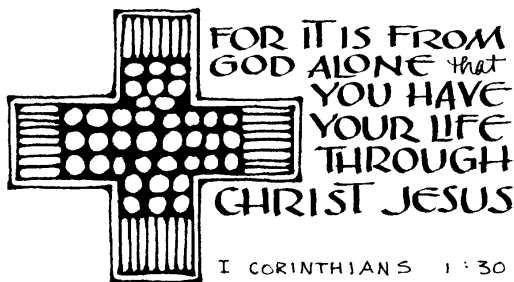
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www.okabenalutheran.org



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.

Kathy Lueck Strike

Hymn 354 *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

Order of Service Page 12ff. in the Worship Supplement

Epistle Lesson Ephesians 3:14-21 [EHV] For this reason I kneel before the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the entire family in heaven and on earth receives its name. I pray that, according to the riches of His glory, He would strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner self, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. Then, being rooted and grounded in love, I pray that you would be able to comprehend, along with all the saints, how wide and long and high and deep His love is, and that you would be able to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled to all the fullness of God.

Now to Him, who is able, according to the power that is at work within us, to do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever!

VBS Students *Jesus, Son of God Most High*

Jesus, Son of God Most High
Who did in a manger lie,
Who upon the cross did die,
Hear us, holy Jesus!

Jesus, be with us each day
In our work and in our play,
When we learn and when we pray:
Hear us, holy Jesus!

Make us brave without a fear,
Make us happy, full of cheer,
Sure that You are always near:
Hear us, holy Jesus!

Gospel Lesson Mark 6:45–56 Immediately He made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while He sent the multitude away. And when He had sent them away, He departed to the mountain to pray. Now when evening came, the boat was in the middle of the sea; and He was alone on the land. Then He saw them straining at rowing, for the wind was against them. Now about the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea, and would have passed them by. And when they saw Him walking on the sea, they supposed it was a ghost, and cried out; for they all saw Him and were troubled. But immediately He talked with them and said to them, “Be of good cheer! It is

I; do not be afraid.” Then He went up into the boat to them, and the wind ceased. And they were greatly amazed in themselves beyond measure, and marveled. For they had not understood about the loaves, because their heart was hardened.

When they had crossed over, they came to the land of Gennesaret and anchored there. And when they came out of the boat, immediately the people recognized Him, ran through that whole surrounding region, and began to carry about on beds those who were sick to wherever they heard He was. Wherever He entered, into villages, cities, or the country, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged Him that they might just touch the hem of His garment. And as many as touched Him were made well.

Hymn 342 *Chief of Sinners Though I Be*

Sermon Ephesians 4:17-24 [EHV] So I tell you this and testify to it in the Lord: Do not walk any longer as the Gentiles walk, in their futile way of thinking. They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, due to the hardness of their hearts. Because they have no sense of shame, they have given themselves over to sensuality, with an ever-increasing desire to practice every kind of impurity.

But you did not learn Christ in that way, if indeed you have heard of him and were taught in him (since the truth is in Jesus). As far as your former way of life is concerned, you were taught to take off the old self, which is corrupted by its deceitful desires, and to be renewed continually in the spirit of your mind, and to put on the new self, which has been created to be like God in righteousness and true holiness.

The Life You’ve Always Wanted

Hymn 785 *Children of the Heavenly Father*

Prayer + The Lord’s Prayer

The Benediction

Hymn 800 *Go, My Children, With My Blessing*

WITH THE LORD In His infinite wisdom and grace, the Lord called to Himself the immortal soul of Robert Dronen on July 24. His time of grace lasted for 73 years, 8 months, and 20 days. We praise the Lord for keeping Bob in his Christian faith. May the Lord comfort all who mourn his passing with the certain hope of His Word.

Many thanks to all who helped with yesterday's funeral. Everything was well done and much appreciated by the family and by us all.

VBS We appreciate the work of our staff for the excellent work this past week. The theme of the program was, "*The Time Lab.*" Students time-traveled back to the Old and New Testaments where they learned important truths about their Savior. Some of the craft items are on display in the basement. The Sunday School Picnic will begin once everything is ready.

QUARTERLY MEETING The Trustees reported the purchase and installation of a new a/c unit for the parsonage. The cost was approximately \$4,500. The amount was approved by the voters. A bid to replace the kitchen floor in the church came in at \$18,000; a second bid came in at \$13,000. The steps on the north side of the school will be replaced. The Treasurer reported that receipts for the CLC General Fund were short (\$3,000) of the projected amount. The Cemetery Board will be scheduling a tombstone leveling project in September. The budget was passed as presented. The CDS students will present a Reformation Service on November 3, with a potluck meal to follow. The Elders were empowered to call a Mission Festival speaker. The School Board was empowered to call Sunday School Teachers. Next Quarterly meeting: October 20. A call meeting on July 28 was approved. The meeting was recessed.

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USHERS 07/28 Phil S., Nathan V., Anthony F., Daniel R.
08/04 Trevor B., Tim Z., Joshua E., Christian K., David R.
08/11 Kendall B., Larry B.

CLEANING (Wk. 1) The Liepolds and Luecks
The Strikes