

20th Sunday after Trinity

October 18th, 2026

Liturgy: WS p. 12

Organist: Lana Strike



I have called you
by your name;
**YOU ARE
MINE.**



ST. JOHN'S

Lutheran Church & School

100 W. Market St.

P.O. Box 98

Okabena, MN 56161

Sam Rodebaugh, Pastor

(414) 534 - 7279

sam.rodebaugh@gmail.com

— www.okabenalutheran.org —

✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: TLH #384

"Oh, How Great is Thy Compassion"

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Pastor

Confession of Our Sins

C Congregation

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful & need His forgiveness.

P We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

C Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin and take away my guilt.

Have mercy
on me, *O God,*
according to your
steadfast *love.*

P God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will!

C Amen!

The Kyrie & The Gloria Patri

Latin for "Lord, Have Mercy" and "Glory be to the Father"



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.



C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
 3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,

Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.
 You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
 At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:

We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
 O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
 Who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,

Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
 Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
 With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

Collect Prayer of the Day

P O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



Isaiah 45:1-7

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed: ² "I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³ I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name,

I name you, though you do not know me. ⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, ⁶ that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷ I form light and create darkness; I make well-being and create calamity; I am the LORD, who does all these things.



Matthew 22:15-22

Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle him in his words. ¹⁶ And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" ²¹ They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." ²² When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

G *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

***These words are written that we may believe that
Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

G **I BELIEVE...**

**in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was
conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was
buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again
from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at
the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will**

come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn: TLH #20

"God of Mercy, God of Grace"



2 Thess. 2:13-17

(NIV '84) But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers loved by the Lord, because

from the beginning God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth. ¹⁴ He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁵ So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter. ¹⁶ May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, ¹⁷ encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.

We Should Thank God... on Your Behalf, Because

- I. God chose you from the beginning.
- II. God chose you to be saved through the work of the Spirit.
- III. God called you to faith through the Gospel of Christ.
- IV. God has given you the means to stand firm and hang on.

Pastor Andrew Schaller of Luther Memorial, Fond du Lac, WI

The Offertory

✪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.

✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

Hymn: TLH #37

"Lord, 'Tis Not that I Did Choose Thee"

✠ The General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer ✠

The Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The blessing given by God for His people.

P The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

G Amen!

Hymn: TLH #50

"Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing"

✠ ✠ ✠

Thank you to Pastor Andrew Schaller for proclaiming the Word of God among us this morning! Pastor and Mrs. Schaller are in town for a family wedding that was held yesterday in Sleepy Eye. Please pray for their safe travels home!

October Quarterly Meeting - The voting members of St. John's are invited and encouraged to attend our third quarterly meeting today after the noon potluck meal. Besides regular Board reports, Agenda items will include: Setting the Fall Worship Schedule; Election Meeting date and installation date for elected (re-elected) officers; Annual Meeting date. Any other agenda items should be given to Chairman Phil Strike as soon as possible.

The St. John's Reformation Service will be held during the regular worship time on Sunday, November 1st. The children of St. John's school will be presenting the service.

A Joint Reformation Service will be hosted by Faith in New Ulm, November 1, at 4:00 pm, with a meal to follow. If you intend to go, please let pastor know today, so that he can send an estimated head count to the host congregation.

CLC Midwest Women's Retreat – Registration is now open for the 2027 CLC Midwest Women's Retreat. Theme: "Planted in the House of the Lord" (Psalm 92:12-14). Dates: April 23-25, 2027. Location: Banquets of Minnesota, Fridley, MN. Host

Congregation: Grace Lutheran Church (Fridley). The cost is \$100 if you register before February 15, 2027. Register at: <https://womensretreat.clclutheran.net/midwest-womens-retreat/>. Questions? Contact Annette Kuehne at: womensretreat.midwest@gmail.com.

CLC Call News – Pastor Timothy Daub of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Hecla, SD, Zion Ev. Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD, and Redeemer Lutheran Church, Bowdle, SD, has **accepted** the call from the CLC Board of Missions to serve as Part-Time Missionary to Mexico with the approval of his congregation. <> Pastor Neal Radichel of Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI, has **received** the call to Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ. <> Missionary Todd Ohlmann has **returned** the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI. <> Pastor Michael Wilke of Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Saginaw, MI, has **received** the call to Gift of God Lutheran Church, Mapleton, ND, and to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ponsford, MN. <> Pastor Rob Sauers of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Winter Haven, FL, has **received** the call from the CLC Board of Missions to serve as Part-Time Missionary to India. <> Pastor Frank Gantt of Zion Ev. Lutheran Church, Loganville, GA, and Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO, has **received** the call to St. Luke's Ev. Lutheran Church, Lemmon, SD. <> Pastor Paul Krause of Trinity Lutheran Church, Watertown, SD, and Zion Lutheran Church, Hidewood Township, SD, has **received** the call to Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, Madison Heights, MI.

Ushers	10/18	Kendall B, Larry B, Caleb E.
	10/25	Phil S, Nathan V, Daniel R.
	11/1	Tim Z, Josh E, Christian K, David R.
Cleaning		This Week – Lueck, Liepold (wk. 2)
		Up Next – The Strikes

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

October 19th - 24th, 2026

Mon Matthew 22:1-14 The Pharisees are trying to arrest Jesus, but He is still reaching out to them in a parable. They are the invited ones, who should come and truly celebrate the forgiving mercy of God.

Tues Ephesians 5:15-21 Our daily walk should reflect the heavenly goal which the Lord wants for us, our songs reflect the joy the Spirit brings to our hearts, and our thanks to God show in serving each other.

Wed Isaiah 65:1-2 As Jesus invited the Pharisees (Mt22), so did the Lord in Isaiah's time also reach out to those who did not seek Him. And in our day He still calls us to repentance, saying, "Here I am, here I am" (v1).

Thurs Psalm 57 David hid in a cave more than once when Saul was chasing him, yet it is not the cave, but God, who is his refuge (v1) in this psalm of prayer (v1-6) and praise (v7-11) for saving him from "lions" (v4).

Fri Romans 11:25-32 God's own precious people includes both Jews and Gentiles (v25-26). This is not because Jews or Gentiles have been so good, but because God is good. He wants to show mercy to all (v32).

Sat Psalm 119:145-152 The psalmist prays for his life as one who relies on the Lord for salvation from every foe. From the Word, which is both true and eternal, he learns of the Lord's mercy and compassions.

Service text and music reprinted and used by permission under OneLicense #A-7126690 and Concordia Publishing House, license #130002755. Scriptures quoted are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®) © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers and from the Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright © 1984 by Biblica, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.