

August 2, 2020

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The Eighth 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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**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.

As with other public buildings in MN, masks are now required for churches. We also practice social distancing as recommended by our government. Please do not use any of the pews where the seat cushions have been turned on edge, and reserve socializing for the outdoors. Thank you.

**Prelude** Mrs. Kathy Lueck

**Liturgy** Page 12ff. in *The Worship Supplement*

**Old Testament Lesson** Jeremiah 23:16-24 Thus says the Lord of hosts: "Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the Lord. They say continually to those who despise the word of the Lord, 'It shall be well with you'; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, 'No disaster shall come upon you.'"

For who among them has stood in the council of the Lord to see and to hear His word, or who has paid attention to His word and listened? Behold, the storm of the Lord! Wrath has gone forth, a whirling tempest; it will burst upon the head of the wicked. The anger of the Lord will not turn back until He has executed and accomplished the intents of His heart. In the latter days you will understand it clearly.

"I did not send the prophets, yet they ran; I did not speak to them, yet they prophesied. But if they had stood in My council, then they would have proclaimed My words to My people, and they would have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their deeds.

"Am I a God at hand, declares the Lord, and not a God far away? Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the Lord.

**Epistle Lesson** Romans 8:12-17 "Therefore, brethren, we are debtors—not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together."

**Hymn** 751 *God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It*

**Sermon** Matthew 7:15-23 "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. By their

fruit you will recognize them. You do not gather grapes from thorn bushes or figs from thistles, do you? So then, every good tree produces good fruit, but a bad tree produces bad fruit. A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot produce good fruit. Every tree that does not produce good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. So then, by their fruit you will recognize them. Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and drive out demons in your name and perform many miracles in your name?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Depart from me, you evildoers.' [EHV]

## Spiritual Deception...

**Hymn** 446 *Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray*

### **The Benediction**

**Hymn** 52 *Almighty Father, Bless the Word*

**CALLS** Mrs. Jolene Albrecht and Mrs. Lana Strike have accepted the calls extended to them by the voters. Mrs. Eigenberg's acceptance letter appeared in the bulletin last week. We are grateful to the Lord for providing us with capable and willing teachers. May He bless them in the work they will be doing.

**PAPER** We have received more rolls of paper that are available to any who could use them. If you know of teachers from other schools who could benefit from them, please let them know asap. These are end-cuts from a paper company and are on hard, cardboard centers. They can easily be made into tear-off rolls.

**CLC NEWS** Pastor Doug Libby, Mankato, has resigned from his call at Eden Prairie for health reasons.

**ILC Building Fund Paid Off--and Then Some** "A substantial gift was recently given to the CLC, designated for the ILC Building Fund. This special gift completely paid off the entire Academic Center Fund balance, and provided approximately one million dollars for a future building project. CLC President Mike Eichstadt has appointed a Planning Committee to move this forward. Since every building project has to be approved by a convention,

the Committee's mandate is to present a plan and cost estimate to the 2021 convention. The Committee is using the 2006 ILC Long-Range Planning Committee's 134 page report as its starting point.

In recent years some have wondered what the next ILC building project will be. An updated and expanded gym? A dedicated Chapel? The 2006 Planning Committee did some work in that area. Since the current gym's footprint could not accommodate the space requirements of the new gym, the 2006 Planning Committee recommendation was to build a new gym to the south of the Commons (in the area between the Commons, slab, and amphitheater) and to completely renovate the existing fieldhouse to house functions like morning chapel, mass choir and band practices, plays, musicals, CLC GPC and conventions, storage, etc. Look for more details to be announced in the future."

**Maintenance Position** A full-time position has opened in the maintenance department of ILC. In service to the LORD and for the welfare of our students, the responsibilities include the maintenance and improvement of the grounds, roads, buildings and equipment, plowing, mowing, etc. If you would like more information please contact Professor Daniel Schierenbeck or speak with the pastor. ([dan.schierenbeck@ilc.edu/660.864.9231](mailto:dan.schierenbeck@ilc.edu/660.864.9231)).

**Trip to Israel** – “A group trip to Israel, which has been planned for January 2021, is still scheduled and is now less than six months away. The dates are set for January 13-22, 2021 with a possible three-day extension to Jordan for those who are interested. We currently have 17 members of CLC congregations registered for the trip, and over a dozen more have expressed an interest. The tour company is expecting that our tour will be possible, but they do have options available for us if it has to be cancelled due to the situation at that time. You are invited to join this group of like-minded believers as we see the places where God stepped into History to fulfill His plan of salvation for sinners!” Contact Pastor Nathanael Mayhew (404-729-4602 or [nnmayhew@sleepyeyelutheran.com](mailto:nnmayhew@sleepyeyelutheran.com)).

**BOOK** Deborah Ude's third book, “*Sunshine in Shadows,*” is now available on Amazon (the digital version is \$2.99 and the printed paperback is \$11.99.) All three of Debi's books are also available in printed form at the CLC Bookstore or directly from John Ude, [john.ude@ilc.edu](mailto:john.ude@ilc.edu).

**CLEANING** (Wk 3) J. Jensen, M. DeWall, S. DeWall  
J. Kazemba