

August 9, 2020

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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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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. Lana Strike

Liturgy Page 5ff. in The Lutheran Hymnal

Thy strong word bespeaks us righteous; Bright with Thine own holiness,
Glorious, now we press toward glory, And our lives our hopes confess:
Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise to thee who light does send!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia without end.

God the Father, light-creator, To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten, Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light revealer, Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever Praise the Holy Trinity!

Epistle Lesson 1 Corinthians 10:6-13 Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted. And do not become idolaters as *were* some of them. As it is written, "*The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.*" Nor let us commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell; nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents; nor complain, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer. Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. Therefore, let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God *is* faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear *it*.

Gospel Lesson Luke 16:1-9 "He also said to His disciples: "There was a certain rich man who had a steward, and an accusation was brought to him that this man was wasting his goods. "So he called him and said to him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your stewardship, for you can no longer be steward.' "Then the steward said within himself, 'What shall I do? For my master is taking the stewardship away from me. I cannot dig; I am ashamed to beg. 'I have resolved what to do, that when I am put out of the stewardship, they may receive me into their houses.' "So he called every one of his master's debtors to [him], and said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' "And he said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' So he said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.'

"Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' So he said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' And he said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.' "So the master commended the unjust steward because he had dealt shrewdly. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in their generation than the sons of light. "And I say to you, make friends for yourselves by unrighteous mammon, that when you fail, they may receive you into an everlasting home."

Hymn 403 *Savior, Thy Dying Love*

Sermon Luke 18:9-14 Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.' And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise *his* eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified *rather* than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

An "I" Test Everyone Needs to Take...

Hymn 388 *Just as I Am, Without One Plea*

The Benediction

Hymn 728 *Christ is Living*

WEDDING Jesse Obed Noeldner and Brooke Elizabeth Wendland were united in marriage in a service at the Wendland farm yesterday afternoon. May the Lord, Who established marriage for the good of mankind, richly bless them in their life together. The couple will reside in Sioux Falls, where she works as a nurse and he will work as a carpenter.

THANK YOU Dear Members of St. John's,

We would like to thank you for the many cards and greetings we received for our anniversary. Your time and thoughtfulness are very much

appreciated. We thank the Lord for all of our church family and pray His blessings upon our congregation as we all continue to walk toward Him.

In Christ, Phil and Lana Strike

SATURDAY SERVICE Our regular service will be held at 5 p.m. on Saturday. This service is held for all, but especially those who are at risk for COVID.

LADIES AID The ladies will meet at 6 o'clock on Tuesday to clean. The meeting will follow.

FREE TECH The state of MN awarded us grant money to use on technology for our school. Chromebooks were purchased so that each Upper Grade student has one to use. Our computer lab is no longer needed. Those computers and/or monitors are available to anyone who can use them. Please check the table in the Upper Grade classroom today and help yourself.

CDS PLANS Our Christian Day School is planning to hold in-school classes starting on Tuesday, August 25.

SUNDAY SCHOOL The new Sunday School season begins, Lord-willing, on Sunday, September 13. If you are interested in serving as a Sunday School Teacher this year, please speak with a member of the School Board.

CLC NEWS Pastor Luke Bernthal, Mountain View, CA has the call to Eden Prairie. Pastor Ben Libby, Tacoma, WA has the call to Bowdle/Ipswich, SD.

Immanuel's Opening Service: Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary is opening its academic year with in-person learning. Much planning is in the works as we learn to live in the midst of the current pandemic. The opening service will be on Sun. Aug. 23, at 3 p.m. This will also include the installation of ILC President Daniel Schierenbeck and Professor Mark Weis.

Missionary Dave and Mary Koenig celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary August 8. Their address is: 130 Parkwood Drive, West Columbia, SC 29170.

CLEANING (Wk 4) J. Kazemba

S. Aden, B. Dronen, J. Thaemlitz