

The Thirteenth 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](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.

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.

Jesus was often more impressed by the faith of foreigners than He was with the faith of His own people. The reason is two-fold. First, you would expect more from someone who had grown up in the faith. Rightly so. What a huge advantage the Jews had over the Gentiles! Jesus even said: *“To whom much is given, of him, much shall be expected.”* Sadly, His own people neglected and ultimately despised the privilege they had.

A second reason Jesus was impressed by foreigners, at times, was the fact that they didn't take things for granted. They knew what it was like to be without faith and without hope in the world. Imagine hearing the Gospel for the very first time in your life. The news that all of your sins have been washed clean and that you stand before God with the righteousness of Christ – would seem too good to be true. What a thrill to learn that the Creator of heaven and earth listens to every Christian prayer and has promised to answer! What a blessing to know that Jesus is with us every hour of every day of our lives.

If you haven't done so already, please be sure to sign our guest book in the entryway and to join us again. If you have any questions about our teaching and practice, the pastor will be happy to visit with you at your convenience.

**Prelude** Mrs. Jennifer Dukleth

**Hymn** 285 *How Precious is the Book Divine*

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

**Epistle Lesson** Galatians 3:15-22 “Brethren, I speak in the manner of men: Though it is only a man's covenant, yet if it is confirmed, no one annuls or adds to it. Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ. And this I say, that the law, which was four hundred and thirty years later, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God in Christ, that it should make the promise of no effect. For if the inheritance is of the law, it is no longer of promise; but God gave it to Abraham by promise. What purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator. Now a mediator does not mediate for one only, but God is one. Is the law then against the promises of God? Certainly not! For if there had been a law giv-

en which could have given life, truly righteousness would have been by the law. But the Scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.”

**Gospel Lesson** Luke 10:23-37 Then turning to the disciples he said privately, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it." And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How do you read it?" And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live." But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise."

**Hymn** 373:1-5 *By Grace I'm Saved*

**Sermon** Romans 2:11-16 God does not show favoritism. Indeed, all people who have sinned without law will also perish without law, and all the people who have sinned in connection with law will be judged by law. For it is not those who hear the law who will be righteous in God's sight, but those who do the law who will be declared righteous.

In fact, whenever Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature what the law requires—even though they do not have the law—they are a law for themselves. They demonstrate the work of the law that is written in their

hearts, since their conscience also bears witness as their thoughts go back and forth, at times accusing or at times even defending them.

This will happen on the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge people's secrets through Jesus Christ. [EHV]

## All Lives Matter to God...

### The Offertory

Hymn 769 *Lift High the Cross*

### The Benediction

Hymn 651 *Be Still, My Soul*

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS We plan to have our first meeting on Wednesday evening at 6:30.

FALL SCHEDULE Next Sunday we begin our regular, Fall schedule with Sunday School at 9:15, Bible Class at 9:30, and Worship at 10:30.

NON-CDS CONFIRMATION The pastor would like to meet with the parents of this year's non-CDS students after today's service.

FLOWERS The arrangements on the altar were given in loving memory of Dale and Evelyn Aden.

WOMEN'S RETREAT SEC All women are invited to attend the CLC Women's Retreat in Myrtle Beach, SC November 13-15. Presentations will include: 1. God's Time Not Ours (Lindsey Lueck's journey as a double lung transplant recipient) 2. Different Seasons of Our Lives (what is our main job given by God in each season?) 3. Time Spent With Jesus (a look at the top devotion books for women/what devotion book do you use/recommend) 4. How do I Use My Time?(what are my priorities? are they in the right order?) There are some information sheets on the entryway table. Or go online at: <https://christianwomensretreat.weebly.com/myrtle-beach.html>

CLEANING (Wk 4) D. Iverson, D. Ling, C. Rovere, S. Sumeay  
J. Albrecht, N. Albrecht, C. Ling