

The Nineteenth 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*

James Albrecht, Pastor – 507-853-4417

Lana Strike, Upper Grades – 507-360-9491

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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 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.

If you are looking for a church home and would like to know more about our teaching and practice, please let the pastor know and he will be happy to visit you at your convenience. Please join us again.

**Prelude** Mrs. Lana Strike

**Hymn** 266 *Oh God, Our Lord, Thy Holy Word*

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

**Epistle Lesson** Romans 3:19-28 Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law *is* the knowledge of sin. But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth *as* a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. Where *is* boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith. Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.

**Gospel Lesson** John 8:31-36 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How *can* You say, 'You will be made free?'" Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. And a slave does not abide in the house forever, *but* a son abides forever. Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

**Hymn** 262 *A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

**Sermon** Psalm 46

God *is* our refuge and strength,

A very present help in trouble.  
Therefore we will not fear, Even though the earth be removed,  
And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;  
*Though* its waters roar *and* be troubled,  
*Though* the mountains shake with its swelling. Selah

*There is* a river whose streams shall make glad the city of God,  
The holy *place* of the tabernacle of the Most High.  
God *is* in the midst of her, she shall not be moved;  
God shall help her, just at the break of dawn.  
The nations raged, the kingdoms were moved;  
He uttered His voice, the earth melted.  
The LORD of hosts *is* with us; The God of Jacob *is* our refuge. Selah

Come, behold the works of the LORD,  
Who has made desolations in the earth.  
He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;  
He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two;  
He burns the chariot in the fire.  
Be still, and know that I *am* God; I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth!  
The LORD of hosts *is* with us; The God of Jacob *is* our refuge.

## The Safest Place on Earth...

### The Offertory

**Hymn** 263 *O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe*

### The Benediction

**Hymn** 261 *Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word*

**POTLUCK** All are invited to the potluck meal that will be served after the service. Social distancing will be practiced. Tables have been spread out in the basement and individuals will serve you in the line.

**ANNIVERSARY CLOTHING** The shipment has arrived. If you haven't already paid for your order, the payment should be made to the Sumeys, who covered the order in our behalf.

**VOTERS** The 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarterly meeting will be held after today's potluck meal. In addition to the regular Board reports: Membership: Transfer of Brooke Noeldner (Wendland) to Berea, Sioux Falls; Holiday worship schedule, Election meeting date, Nominating Committee meeting date, Annual Meeting date. Agenda items should be given to Chairman Ron Strike as soon as possible.

**CDS SERVICE** Lord willing, the students of our Day School will present a Reformation service next Sunday, October 25. This will mean moving our usual Communion Sunday to the first Sunday in November. As always, the pastor will be happy to commune you privately.

We will not be having a Reformation service on Saturday, October 31.

**CLC NEWS** Mrs. Bethany Gurgel (nee Tiefel) has returned the call to serve as the female counselor at ILC. Pastoral vacancies currently exist in: Spokane, WA, Eden Prairie, MN, Morris, MN, Bowdle/Ipswich, SD, Cheyenne, WY, and the vacancy that will open at ILC in 2021.

**Candidates for Immanuel Professor Call** The Board of Regents for Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary invites "all pastors, professors, male teachers, and voting members of member congregations of the Church of the Lutheran Confession" (CLC Constitution) to nominate an individual or individuals to fill the vacancy which will be created by the retirement of Professor John Reim at the end of the 2020-21 academic year. The position would require someone seminary trained with the ability to teach primarily music, college Greek, and other potential disciplines commencing with the 2021-22 academic year. The person would serve as the director of the mass and tour choirs, potentially teaching piano and organ. Those submitting nominations are strongly encouraged to verify that the individual would be willing to be nominated and would need to include information regarding the nominee's educational background and teaching and/or professional experience, also indicating how the person might help our school in technology expertise, extracurricular activities, or administrative positions. Nominations are to be received by email or letter no later than midnight November 20, 2020 (letters postmarked November 10, 2020) to: Mr. James Burkhardt; 217 Windy Lane; Rockwall, TX 75087; email: [jeb6217@yahoo.com](mailto:jeb6217@yahoo.com).

**CLEANING** (Wk 2) J. Appel, E. Bass, S. Winters, J. Zuehlke  
J. Jensen, M. DeWall, S. DeWall