

The Twenty-first 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

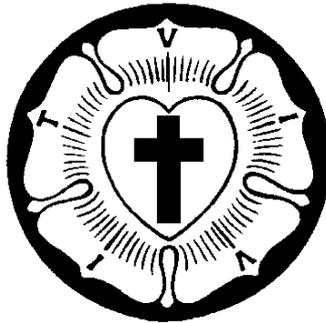
Lana Strike, Upper Grades – 507-360-9491

Ruth Eigenberg, Lower Grades – 507-360-7725

Jolene Albrecht, Kindergarten – 507-351-1204

Church/School Phone – 507-853-4550

[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.

**Prelude** Mrs. Kathy Lueck

**Hymn** 606 *O'er the Distant Mountains Breaking*

**Liturgy** Page 15ff. 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!  
- WS 775 -

**Epistle Lesson** Hebrews 12:18-28 For you have not come to the mountain that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest, and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words, so that those who heard *it* begged that the word should not be spoken to them anymore. (For they could not endure what was commanded: "And if so much as a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned or shot with an arrow." And so terrifying was the sight *that* Moses said, "I am exceedingly afraid and trembling.") But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn *who are* registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than *that of* Abel.

See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more *shall we not escape* if we turn away from Him who *speaks* from heaven, whose voice then shook the earth; but now He has promised, saying, "Yet once more I shake not only the earth, but also heaven." Now this, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. For our God *is* a consuming fire.

**Gospel Lesson** John 4:46-54 So Jesus came again to Cana of Galilee where He had made the water wine. And there was a certain nobleman

whose son was sick at Capernaum. When he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea into Galilee, he went to Him and implored Him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. Then Jesus said to him, "Unless you *people* see signs and wonders, you will by no means believe." The nobleman said to Him, "Sir, come down before my child dies!" Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your son lives." So the man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him, and he went his way. And as he was now going down, his servants met him and told *him*, saying, "Your son lives!" Then he inquired of them the hour when he got better. And they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." So the father knew that *it was* at the same hour in which Jesus said to him, "Your son lives." And he himself believed, and his whole household. This again *is* the second sign Jesus did when He had come out of Judea into Galilee.

**Hymn** 471:1, 3-6 *Hark! The Sound of Holy Voices*

**Sermon** Revelation 7:9-17 After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation *belongs* to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor and power and might, *Be* to our God forever and ever. Amen." Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?" And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

## A Lutheran View of the End Times

### The Great Tribulation...

## **The Offertory**

**Hymn** 473:1-2, 4-5 *The Church's One Foundation*

## **The Benediction**

**Hymn** 656:1-2 *Behold a Host, Arrayed in White*

**COMMUNION** The Lord's Supper will be celebrated after the service. If you are visiting today, please be aware of the fact that we practice "close-communion."

**BIRTH** Sophie Belle was born to Nathan and Mary Albrecht (nee Lack) on October 29 in Omaha. She was born again with Water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism hours after her birth. The cardiologists will soon determine what kind of procedure to use in order to correct issues with her heart.

Her family thanks you for your many prayers and expressions of concern. Your kindness and love are greatly appreciated.

**PAPER** We received another shipment of paper at the school. The teachers have gone through the boxes and chosen the items that will be useful in the classrooms. The remaining items are in the middle room downstairs and are available to any who could use them.

**THANK YOU** We very much appreciate the work that was done in removing the many leaves from the church property.

**SATURDAY SERVICE** With the time-change in effect, it will be necessary to reschedule or discontinue our Saturday services. Those who have been attending will be polled to determine a course of action.

**CLC NEWS** Pastor Aaron Ude, Rapid City, has the call to Cheyenne. Pastor John Schnose, who is in the process of going through colloquy and currently lives in the Detroit area, has accepted the call to serve as the onsite vacancy pastor at Morris. Teacher Ted Quade, Hales Corners, WI has announced his retirement, effective at the end of the 2020-2021 school year. Teacher Carrie Reim will be resigning from Messiah, Eau Claire, as well.

**CLEANING** (Wk. 4) J. Kazemba

A. Aden, R. Dronen, J. Thaemlitz