

March 14, 2021

Vol. XXIII No. 11

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

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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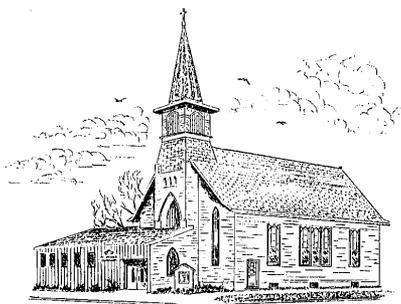
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www.okabenalutheran.org



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. Thank you.

Prelude Mrs. Lana Strike

Hymn 155 *Sweet the Moments, Rich in Blessing*

Old Testament Lesson Exodus 16:1-15 And they journeyed from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came to the Wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they departed from the land of Egypt. Then the whole congregation of the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. And the children of Israel said to them, "Oh, that we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat *and* when we ate bread to the full! For you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you. And the people shall go out and gather a certain quota every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in My law or not. And it shall be on the sixth day that they shall prepare what they bring in, and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily."

Then Moses and Aaron said to all the children of Israel, "At evening you shall know that the Lord has brought you out of the land of Egypt. And in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord; for He hears your complaints against the Lord. But what *are* we, that you complain against us?" Also Moses said, "*This shall be seen* when the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening, and in the morning bread to the full; for the Lord hears your complaints which you make against Him. And what *are* we? Your complaints *are* not against us but against the Lord."

Then Moses spoke to Aaron, "Say to all the congregation of the children of Israel, 'Come near before the Lord, for He has heard your complaints.' " Now it came to pass, as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud.

And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "I have heard the complaints of the children of Israel. Speak to them, saying, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. And you shall know that I *am* the Lord your God.' "

So it was that quail came up at evening and covered the camp, and in the morning the dew lay all around the camp. And when the layer of dew lifted, there, on the surface of the wilderness, was a small round substance, *as*

fine as frost on the ground. So when the children of Israel saw *it*, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it *was*. And Moses said to them, “This *is* the bread which the Lord has given you to eat.

Gospel Lesson John 6:36-51 But I said to you that you have seen Me and yet do not believe. All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

The Jews then complained about Him, because He said, “I am the bread which came down from heaven.” And they said, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How is it then that He says, ‘I have come down from heaven?’”

Jesus therefore answered and said to them, “Do not murmur among yourselves. No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’ Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me. Not that anyone has seen the Father, except He who is from God; He has seen the Father. Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life. I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and are dead. This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.”

Hymn 721 *Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow*

Sermon Exodus 16:1-15

Superfood from Heaven...

The Offertory

Hymn 422 *Savior, I Follow On*

Prayer + The Lord's Prayer

The Benediction

Hymn 341:1, 3, 4 *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

LENT This is week 5 (of 6) of our midweek Lenten services (4 & 7 p.m.). We will continue the series "*Hands of the Passion.*"

ILC TOUR CHOIR The concert will be held this Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Round Lake Community Center (plenty of room for social distancing). The address is 445 Harrison Street. There is a map available on our website.

There will be a catered meal for supper. All are invited. The time of the meal has not yet been determined. The choir is scheduled to arrive at 5 p.m. By Wednesday, we should have the time nailed down. If you are interested in helping with the serving, please contact Jim Kazemba.

This is Professor Reim's final year as the choir director. He plans to retire at the end of the school year. The tour has been limited to congregations in the upper Midwest.

BOOK If you are interested in "*Enough for Now,*" we would like to get the order placed as soon as possible. There is a sample of the book next to the sign-up sheet in the entryway. The book will serve as a basis for a monthly Women's study group.

DIRECTORY Pictures will be taken again today in the auditorium. If you we don't already have your picture, please make every effort to get that done today, or on March 28, or on Easter Sunday, April 4. We would like to have full cooperation and participation so that this can be part of the 125th anniversary and 25th anniversary of the School.

CARDS The order has arrived. Please check the coat rack in the entryway.

CLC NEWS The MN Delegate Conference has been scheduled for Saturday, June 5, in Mankato. The group will discuss the items that are coming before this summer's Convention.

CLEANING (Wk. 3) C. Ahrens, A. Fogelman, M. Fogelman
R. Gustaf, D. Voit, N. Voit