

July 25, 2021

Vol. XXIII No. 30

The Eighth 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 – 507-351-8584

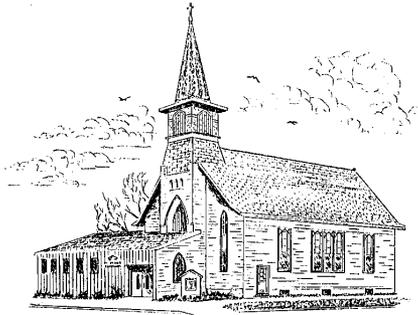
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www.okabenalutheran.org



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.

If you are looking for a church home or would like to know more about our beliefs and practices, please see the pastor. He will be glad to visit with you at your convenience.

Prelude Mrs. Kathy Lueck

Hymn 449 *My Soul, Be on Thy Guard*

Order of Service Page 5 ff. in The Lutheran Hymnal

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, To His feet your tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, Evermore His praises sing:
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for His grace and favor To His people in distress;
Praise Him still the same as ever, Slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Alleluia, alleluia! Glorious is His faithfulness.

+ WS 742:1-2 +

Old Testament Lesson Jeremiah 23:16-24 Thus says the Lord of hosts: "Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the Lord. They say continually to those who despise the word of the Lord, 'It shall be well with you'; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, 'No disaster shall come upon you.'" for who among them has stood in the council of the Lord to see and to hear His word, or who has paid attention to His word and listened? Behold, the storm of the Lord! Wrath has gone forth, a whirling tempest; it will burst upon the head of the wicked. The anger of the Lord will not turn back until He has executed and accomplished the intents of His heart. In the latter days you will understand it clearly.

"I did not send the prophets, yet they ran; I did not speak to them, yet they prophesied. But if they had stood in My council, then they would have proclaimed My words to My people, and they would have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their deeds. "Am I a God at hand, declares the Lord, and not a God far away? Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the Lord.

Gospel Lesson Matthew 7:15-23 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus you will recognize them by their fruits. "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in

your name?’ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’

Hymn 446 *Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray*

Sermon Romans 8:12-17 Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation—but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by Him we cry, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in His sufferings in order that we may also share in His glory.

Adopted into God’s Family

CLC Ministry by Mail, Professor Mark Weis

Father-like He tends and spares us; Well our feeble frame He knows;
In His hand He gently bears us, Rescues us from all our foes;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely yet His mercy flows.

The Offering of Thankful Hearts

Hymn 751 *God’s Own Child, I Gladly Say It*

Prayer + The Lord’s Prayer

The Benediction

Hymn 52 *Almighty Father, Bless the Word*

COMMUNION Our monthly celebration of Communion will take place next Sunday. If that’s not feasible and you’d like to commune privately, please contact the pastor.

THANK YOU A special thanks to Dr. Sumey for handling the service today. It’s a huge blessing that we do not have to call on another pastor to fill in when your pastor is out of town. He, especially, appreciates this.

QUARTERLY MEETING At last Sunday's meeting: Mr. Hansen was received as a voting member; Doreen Iverson was transferred to Messiah, Eau Claire; the proposed budget with a 3% COLA increase for the called workers was adopted (copies of the financial report are available on the entryway table); the voters requested Missionary Evensen as our guest speaker for Mission Festival (if possible); this year's Reformation Service lands on a Sunday – no evening service; Next Quarterly meeting: October 17. Adapted from the minutes.

VBS If you haven't already registered your children, please do so on our church website asap. We need to know how many to plan for as well as their t-shirt sizes.

The Teacher's meeting will be held on Wednesday at 6:00. There is still a need for volunteers.

VOLUNTEERS The Round Lake School will be hosting an All-School reunion on Sat. August 14 from 8:00am to 4:00pm. Volunteers are needed. Proceeds will go toward the cost of maintaining the school building. Our congregation has benefited from the use of the Round Lake building in a number of ways. It served as the site for hosting this year's ILC Tour Choir concert and is used for our youth basketball practices. Please see Jim Kazemba for more information if you are able to help.

INVITATION Prince of Peace Lutheran Church of Hecla, SD, welcomes you to their annual Harvest Festival, 4 pm, Sunday, Aug. 8. An outdoor service will be held on the grounds of the Guelph School, followed by a turkey barbecue dinner. Guelph, ND, is between Ellendale and Oakes ND, one mile off ND-11 at the sign which directs you north. For more information, contact pastor_daub@hotmail.com or (605) 994-2145.

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USHERS 7/25 Phil S., Zachary S., Nathan V., Anthony F.
8/1 Trevor B., Tim Z., Austin F., Christian K., Rylee C.,
David R., Luke S.

CLEANING (Wk. 4) The Luecks and Strikes
D. Ling, C. Rovere, S. Sumey