

January 15, 2023

Vol. XXV No. 3

The Second Sunday after Epiphany

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

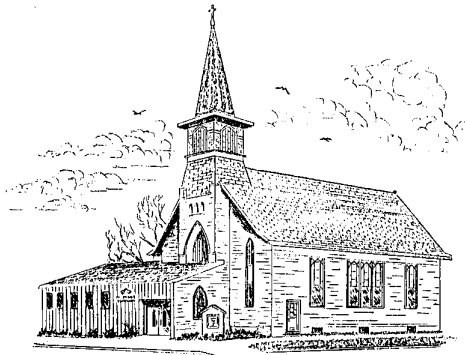
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www.okabenalutheran.org



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. Lana Strike

Hymn 24 *Lord of My Life, Whose Tender Care*

Epistle Lesson Romans 12:6-16 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, *let us use them*: if prophecy, *let us prophesy* in proportion to our faith; or ministry, *let us use it* in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness. *Let love be* without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. *Be* kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion.

Gospel Lesson John 2:1-11 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Now both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. And when they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine." Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, *do it.*" Now there were set there six waterpots of stone, according to the manner of purification of the Jews, containing twenty or thirty gallons apiece. Jesus said to them, "Fill the waterpots with water." And they filled them up to the brim. And He said to them, "Draw *some* out now, and take *it* to the master of the feast." And they took *it*. When the master of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom. And he said to him, "Every man at the beginning sets out the good wine, and when the *guests* have well drunk, then the inferior. You have kept the good wine until now!" This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him.

Hymn 134 *Songs of Thankfulness and Praise*

Sermon Genesis 50:15-21 When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "Perhaps Joseph will hate us, and may actually repay us for all the evil which we did to him." So they sent *messengers* to Joseph,

saying, “Before your father died he commanded, saying, ‘Thus you shall say to Joseph: “I beg you, please forgive the trespass of your brothers and their sin; for they did evil to you.”’ Now, please, forgive the trespass of the servants of the God of your father.” And Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also went and fell down before his face, and they said, “Behold, we *are* your servants.” Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid, for *am* I in the place of God? But as for you, you meant evil against me; *but* God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as *it is* this day, to save many people alive. Now therefore, do not be afraid; I will provide for you and your little ones.” And he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

God Uses ALL Things for Our Good...

Offertory

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Hymn 744 *How Great Thou Art*

Prayer + The Lord’s Prayer

The Benediction

Hymn 45 *Now, the Hour of Worship O’er*

ANNUAL MEETING The annual Voters Meeting will be held next Sunday, after the potluck meal at noon. In addition to the Board Reports, the agenda includes setting our CBP estimate (the amount we plan to send for CLC Missions and ILC), the schedule for Lent and Easter, and the date for the April meeting. Additional agenda items should be given to Chairman Phil Strike as soon as possible.

ANNUAL REPORT If there are address changes for the Annual Report address list, please edit the master copy in the entryway. Also, please double check to make sure that the information we have is up to date.

HOSPITALIZED Roger Wendland continues his rehab at Sanford in Sioux Falls. He is also currently waiting for the results of a blood test that was sent to the Mayo Clinic. Please remember him and Tonya in your prayers.

BAPTISM August Lynn Frewaldt, son of Eric Frewaldt and Tessa nee Moser, was baptized on January 12 in a private service. May the Lord keep him in the faith of his Baptism.

THE CHOSEN Based on feedback from those who expressed an interest, the first episode will be shown on Friday evening at 7. There will be a potluck supper at 6:30. All are invited.

CLC NEWS Pastor Andrew Schaller, Marquette, MI has the call to Fond du Lac. Pastor Wayne Eichstadt, Spokane, has the call to Eau Claire.

Appreciation “Janelle and I desire to convey our deep appreciation for all the wonderful support we have received since my cancer diagnosis. Many of our fellow Christians, known and unknown, have sent us cards, letters, emails, etc., with edifying reminders from Scripture and letting us know they are praying for us. These and the generous outpouring of financial support sent to us and to Grace Lutheran in Fridley, MN, have been absolutely incredible. We stand in awe at how the LORD uses our challenges to remind us what a gracious God He is in our lives, even as He moves hearts to such expressions full of Christian love. Our cup overflows! May the LORD be glorified during my treasured time of grace as I face what lies ahead according to His good pleasure.” In Christ, Pastor John Hein (www.caringbridge.org/visit/pastorjohnhein)

2023 CLC Mission Helper Trip – The application deadline for the 2023 CLC Mission Helper Trip to Nepal is tomorrow, January 16th. There are still a few open slots available. <https://mht.lutheranmissions.org/2023-nepal>

CHARITY OPPORTUNITY Donations for the family that lost their home in Heron Lake will be accepted until January 22 (blue box on table).

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USHERS 01/15 Kendall B., Kraig B., Larry B. Jonathen L.
01/22 Phil S., Nathan V., Anthony F., Daniel R.
01/29 Trevor B., Tim Z., Joshua E., Christian K., David R.

CLEANING (Wk. 1) The Ruthenbecks
J. Appel, E. Bass, S. Winters, J. Zuehlke