

January 22, 2023

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The Third 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

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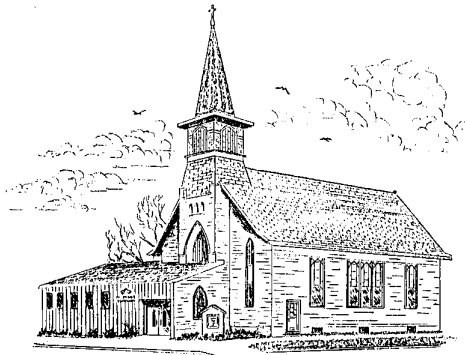
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www.okabenalutheran.org



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.

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 28:1-4 *Now Let All Loudly*

Epistle Lesson Romans 12:16-21 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.

Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but *rather* give place to wrath; for it is written, “Vengeance *is* Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord. Therefore

“If your enemy is hungry, feed him;
If he is thirsty, give him a drink;
For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.”

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Gospel Lesson Matthew 8:1-13 When He had come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed Him. And behold, a leper came and worshiped Him, saying, “Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean.”

Then Jesus put out His hand and touched him, saying, “I am willing; be cleansed.” Immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

And Jesus said to him, “See that you tell no one; but go your way, show yourself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.”

Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, saying, “Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented.”

And Jesus said to him, “I will come and heal him.”

The centurion answered and said, “Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes; and to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.”

When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, “Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel! And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” Then Jesus said to the centurion, “Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you.” And his servant was healed that same hour.

Hymn 370 *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*

Sermon Hebrews 11:1-7 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good testimony. By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible. By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks. By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, “and was not found, because God had taken him”; for before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased God. But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

What Faith Does...

Offertory

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Hymn 381 *I Know My Faith is Founded*

Prayer + The Lord’s Prayer

The Benediction

Hymn 784 *Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me*

ANNUAL MEETING The annual Voters Meeting will be held after the potluck meal at noon. The agenda includes: transfer of Joseph Albrecht from Trinity in Watertown, SD, 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 Lord willing, Roger Wendland will be released from the hospital on Friday. May the Lord bless his therapy with renewed strength and the ability to function well at home.

LADIES DAY OUT The group will be going to SoJo Coffee in Lakefield. Lunch items are available.

CLC NEWS Pastor Andrew Schaller, Marquette, MI has the call to Fond du Lac. Pastor Wayne Eichstadt, Spokane, has the call to Eau Claire. Pastor Mike Gurath, Phoenix, has the call to Tacoma/Lynnwood, WA.

President Mike Eichstadt has resigned from service to our church body for health reasons. He was hospitalized with a heart problem last fall and continues to be monitored on a regular basis. Vice President Mike Wilke, Saginaw, MI will assume the responsibilities of President.

We appreciate the years of faithful service that Pastor Eichstadt provided. May the Lord continue to bless him as he focuses on the work of the congregation in Milwaukee.

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USHERS 01/22 Phil S., Nathan V., Anthony F., Daniel R.
01/29 Trevor B., Tim Z., Joshua E., Christian K., David R.
02/05 Kendall B., Kraig B., Larry B. Jonathen L.

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