

February 12, 2023

Vol. XXV No. 7

## The Second Sunday before 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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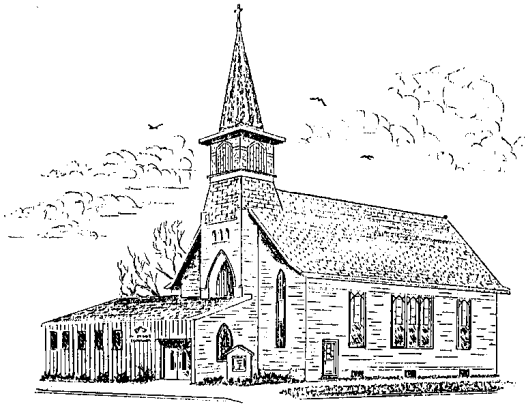
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[www.okabenalutheran.org](http://www.okabenalutheran.org)



**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.

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

**Order of Service** Page 5 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 +

**Epistle Lesson** Hebrews 4:9-13 There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God *did* from His.

Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience. For the word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things *are* naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we *must give* account.

**Gospel Lesson** Luke 8:4-15 And when a great multitude had gathered, and they had come to Him from every city, He spoke by a parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trampled down, and the birds of the air devoured it. Some fell on rock; and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it. But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold." When He had said these things He cried, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

Then His disciples asked Him, saying, "What does this parable mean?" And He said, "To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest *it is given* in parables, that '*Seeing they may not see, And hearing they may not understand.*' "Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they

should believe and be saved. But the ones on the rock *are those* who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. Now the ones *that* fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity. But the ones *that* fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep *it* and bear fruit with patience.

**Sunday School** *How Great Thou Art!*

**Hymn** 296 *Speak, O Lord, Thy Servant Heareth*

**Sermon** Mark 1:21-28 Then they went into Capernaum and immediately on the Sabbath [Jesus] entered the synagogue and taught. And they were astonished at His teaching, for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Now there was a man in their synagogue with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, saying, "Let us alone! What have we to do with You, Jesus of Nazareth? Did You come to destroy us? I know who You are—the Holy One of God!" But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be quiet, and come out of him!" And when the unclean spirit had convulsed him and cried out with a loud voice, he came out of him. Then they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? What new doctrine is this? For with authority He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him." And immediately His fame spread throughout all the region around Galilee.

## **Not Just Words**

CLC Ministry by Mail  
Pastor Michael Eichstadt

**Offertory**

**Offering of Thankful Hearts**

**Hymn** 427:1-4, 7 *How Firm a Foundation, Ye Saints of the Lord*

**Prayer + The Lord's Prayer**

**The Benediction**

**Hymn** 52 *Almighty Father, Bless the Word*

**THANK YOU** A special thanks to Dr. Sumei for conducting today's service. We appreciate the fine work that he does.

The pastor and Jolene are visiting family in WI. They plan to return at some point tomorrow.

**LADIES AID** The February meeting will be held on Tuesday evening at 6:30.

**THE CHOSEN** This Friday will be the third episode of this popular film about the life of Christ. There is an informal potluck at 6:30, followed by the showing.

**LADIES NIGHT OUT** This will be held at the Hi-Lo Club on Thursday at 5:30. All women of the congregation are invited to attend. Please sign the list in the entryway so we can let them know how large of a group to expect.

**BASKETBALL** Our young people will play in a tournament in Mankato next Sunday afternoon.

**LENT** The season officially begins one week from this Wednesday. The Lord's Supper will be celebrated in the first midweek service that evening.

**CLC NEWS** Pastor Neal Radichel, Mankato, has the call to Eau Claire.

**The CLC Tourney Band** will perform at the CLC Grade School Basketball Tournament in Eau Claire On Saturday, March 11. Register band players (grades 5-8) at [clctourneyband.weebly.com](http://clctourneyband.weebly.com) Music is available on the website. Please send questions to: [music@thelaus.com](mailto:music@thelaus.com)

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**USHERS** 02/12 Phil S., Nathan V., Anthony F., Daniel R.  
02/19 Trevor B., Tim Z., Joshua E., Christian K., David R.  
02/26 Kendall B., Kraig B., Larry B. Jonathen L.

**CLEANING** (Wk. 1) The Boernsens and Liepolds  
The Luecks and Strikes