

July 23, 2023

Vol. XXV No. 30

## The Seventh 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*

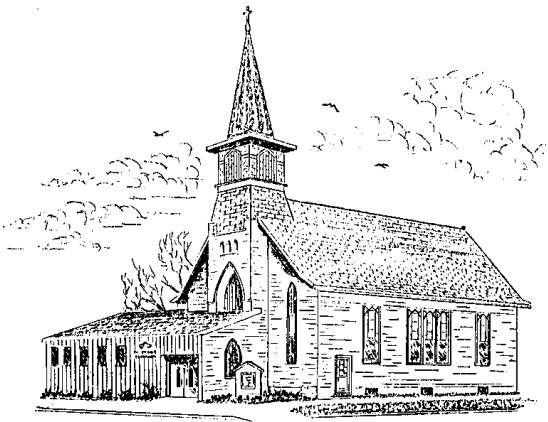
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[www.okabenalutheran.org](http://www.okabenalutheran.org)



**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. Be sure to join us again.

**Prelude** Mrs. Kathy Lueck

**Hymn** 753 *Let the Children Come to Me*

**Ratification** The Ratification of Baptism of Adalyn Faith Albrecht

**Hymn** 752 *Baptized in Water*

**Epistle Lesson** Romans 6:19-23 I speak in human *terms* because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members *as* slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness *leading to more* lawlessness, so now present your members *as* slaves of righteousness for holiness. For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things *is* death. But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Gospel Lesson** Mark 8:1-9 In those days, the multitude being very great and having nothing to eat, Jesus called His disciples to Him and said to them, "I have compassion on the multitude, because they have now continued with Me three days and have nothing to eat. And if I send them away hungry to their own houses, they will faint on the way; for some of them have come from afar."

Then His disciples answered Him, "How can one satisfy these people with bread here in the wilderness?" He asked them, "How many loaves do you have?" And they said, "Seven."

So He commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground. And He took the seven loaves and gave thanks, broke them and gave them to His disciples to set before them; and they set them before the multitude. They also had a few small fish; and having blessed them, He said to set them also before them. So they ate and were filled, and they took up seven large baskets of leftover fragments. Now those who had eaten were about four thousand. And He sent them away.

**Hymn** 744 *How Great Thou Art*

**Sermon** Matthew 14:22-33 Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away. And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the

mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there. But the boat was now in the middle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary. Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid."

And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw that the wind *was* boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!"

And immediately Jesus stretched out *His* hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God."

## Are You Walking on Water?

### Offering of Thankful Hearts

Hymn 396 *Oh, For a Faith That Will Not Shrink*

### Prayer + The Lord's Prayer

### The Benediction

Hymn 39:1-4 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

CALL The pastor welcomes your prayers for the Lord's will to be done in considering the call to Marquette, MI. He hopes to arrive at a decision sometime this week.

~~DELEGATE CONFERENCE Craig Ahrens and Larry Boernsen will report on the MN Delegate Conference after the service to~~ QUARTERLY MEETING St. John's Quarterly meeting will be held immediately after today's service. Membership matters: The following have asked to be released from membership because they have joined a different church: Coleman and Valerie

Ling (Caleb, Silas, Danika), Dalton Ling, Joshua Thaemlitz. In addition to the regular reports, the agenda includes the budget for the 23-24 fiscal year, Reformation Service, Mission Festival date and speaker, empowering the School Board to call VBS and Sunday School Teachers, the formation of a Planning Committee for hosting the CLC Teachers' Conference in 2024. Other items should be presented to Chairman Strike as soon as possible.

**PARADE** Thanks to all who helped with the parade in Brewster yesterday. May the efforts produce fruits toward the furtherance of God's kingdom.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** VBS will be held the week of July 31 – August 4. If you are able to help in any way (doing prep work, working on crafts, teaching, supporting the program with gifts of money, etc.), please see the sign-up sheet in the entryway. Parents, please register your children online as soon as possible. Be sure to indicate T-shirt sizes when you register.

**CLC NEWS** Pastor Sam Rodebaugh, Manchester, MO has the call to be the third pastor in Eau Claire.

**Man Up! Weekend** - The 2023 ManUp! Men's Weekend will be held September 21-24, 2023, at beautiful Wyalusing State Park near Prairie du Chien, WI. The weekend will offer strength and encouragement for men 18 and older for their personal faith, family, and fellowship at church. The weekend will include Bible study, fellowship, leadership training, team building, relationship building, worship, and many outdoor bonding activities. Register and send in your payment before August 31st for the discounted rate of \$75. Registration increases to \$150 after September 1st. The registration includes lodging and meals. You can register by going to the Man Up! website here: [www.manup.clclutheran.org](http://www.manup.clclutheran.org) and clicking on the Registration Form.

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**USHERS** 07/23 Kendall B., Kraig B., Larry B. Jonathen L.  
07/30 Phil S., Nathan V., Anthony F., Daniel R.  
08/06 Trevor B., Tim Z., Joshua E., Christian K., David R.

**CLEANING** (Wk. 4) The Boernsens  
The Liepolds and Luecks