

October 15, 2023

Vol. XXV No. 42

## The Nineteenth 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*

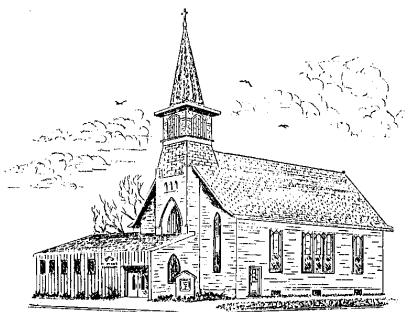
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[www.okabenalutheran.org](http://www.okabenalutheran.org)



**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. Lana Strike

**Hymn** 41 *Wondrous King, All-Glorious*

**Liturgy** Page 12ff. in the Worship Supplement

**Old Testament Lesson** Isaiah 25:6-9

And in this mountain  
The Lord of hosts will make for all people  
A feast of choice pieces,  
A feast of wines on the lees,  
Of fat things full of marrow,  
Of well-refined wines on the lees.  
And He will destroy on this mountain  
The surface of the covering cast over all people,  
And the veil that is spread over all nations.  
He will swallow up death forever,  
And the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces;  
The rebuke of His people  
He will take away from all the earth;  
For the Lord has spoken.  
And it will be said in that day:  
“Behold, this *is* our God;  
We have waited for Him, and He will save us.  
This *is* the Lord;  
We have waited for Him;  
We will be glad and rejoice in His salvation.”

**Epistle Lesson** Philippians 4:4-13 Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!

Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord *is* at hand.

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanks-giving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things *are* noble, whatever things *are* just, whatever things *are* pure, whatever things *are* lovely, whatever things *are* of good report, if *there is* any virtue and if *there is* anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at last your care for me has flourished again; though you surely did care, but you lacked opportunity. Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

**Hymn** 656 *Behold, a Host Arrayed in White*

**Sermon** Matthew 22:1-14 And Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said: “The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son, and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come. Again, he sent out other servants, saying, ‘Tell those who are invited, “See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle *are* killed, and all things *are* ready. Come to the wedding.” ’ But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business. And the rest seized his servants, treated *them* spitefully, and killed *them*. But when the king heard *about it*, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.’ So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding *hall* was filled with guests. “But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. So he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the servants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast *him* into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ “For many are called, but few *are* chosen.”

## The Kingdom is Closing...

**The Offertory**

**Offering of Thankful Hearts**

**Hymn** 736 *At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing*

## Prayer + The Lord's Prayer

### The Benediction

Hymn *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

VOTERS Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarterly Meeting will be held after today's potluck. Besides regular Board reports, the agenda includes: Membership: The release of Kraig Boernsen at his request. Cemetery Board update on what has been done to line up grave markers; Trustees / Cemetery Board update on church mower; Principal pay; possibility of renting the teacherage; Fall Worship Schedule; Nominating Committee and Election Meeting Date; Annual Meeting Date. Any additional Agenda items should be given to Chairman Phil Strike as soon as possible.

TEACHERS CONFERENCE Lord willing, our teachers will join their colleagues from Wednesday through Friday, at Inver Grove Heights. May the Lord provide safe travel and an edifying conference.

COLLEGE VISITORS DAY The annual event will be held on Friday, November 10, on the ILC campus in Eau Claire. Activities will begin with chapel at 10:05 A.M. in the Field House, followed by presentations and classroom visits until 2:50 p.m. The day will wrap up with ILC's fall theatrical production, *Beauty and the Beast*. Speak with the pastor if you're interested in attending.

CLC NEWS Pastor Neal Radichel, Mankato, has accepted the call to Eau Claire. Pastor Wayne Eichstadt's wife is recovering from a massive heart attack that happened while they were on vacation in Hawaii. Please remember their family in your prayers.

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USHERS 10/15 Kendall B., Kraig B., Larry B. Jonathen L.  
10/22 Phil S., Nathan V., Anthony F., Daniel R.  
10/29 Trevor B., Tim Z., Joshua E., Christian K., David R.

CLEANING (Wk. 4) S. Aden, L. Baumann, B. Dronen, L. Ferguson  
The Boernsens