

The Last 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

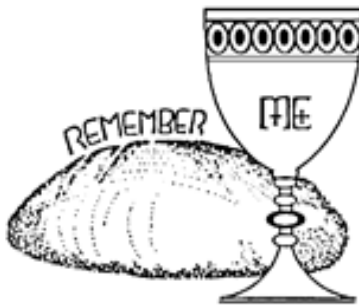
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WELCOME To all of you who are visiting our service this morning, we extend a most cordial welcome in Jesus' name. It is our hope that you will feel at home in our midst and will be blessed by our message of Christ crucified and risen for the sins of 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 618 *Jerusalem, My Happy Home*

Liturgy page 15 ff. in the front of 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 1 Corinthians 15:20-28 But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming. Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be destroyed is death. For "He has put all things under His feet." But when He says "all things are put under Him," it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.

Gospel Lesson Matthew 25:31-46 "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.'

"Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'

“Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.’

“Then they also will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?’ Then He will answer them, saying, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.’ And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Hymn 611:1-3, 5-6 *The Day is Surely Drawing Near*

Sermon 2 Thessalonians 2:13-3:5 But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle. Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting consolation and good hope by grace, comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work. Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified, just as it is with you, and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men; for not all have faith. But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one. And we have confidence in the Lord concerning you, both that you do and will do the things we command you. Now may the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patience of Christ.

Live Ready...

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Distribution Hymns 755, The Lamb, 736

Prayer + The Lord’s Prayer

The Benediction

Hymn 611:7 *The Day is Surely Drawing Near*

+ + +

HOLY COMMUNION The Lord's Supper is not something that we do for our Lord and Savior but something He does for us. The Sacrament is a gracious way in which our Savior comes to us to forgive our sins and strengthen our trust in Him. By taking the Lord's Supper together, the members of this church proclaim to the world that we are united together in Christ. As the Scripture says: *"For we, though many, are one bread and one body; for we all partake of that one bread"* (1 Cor. 10:17). For this reason, we ask that only communicant members of the "Church of the Lutheran Confession" come forward to celebrate the Lord's Supper.

If you are interested in what is necessary for communing with us in the future, please see the pastor.

MISSION SOCIETY The group is scheduled to meet after the service this morning in the kitchen. The discussion will include the idea of organizing a holiday gathering of donations for a local food shelf or women's shelter. It was also suggested that we utilize the Outreach Seminar from the CLC Committee on Domestic Fields. Both items will be presented at the meeting.

ELECTION MEETING All voters of St. John's are encouraged to attend our annual Election Meeting after church next Sunday, December 3, in the auditorium. There will be no regular Board reports at this meeting. There are a couple of annual housekeeping items, plus the Treasurer would like voter input on where the savings and checking account balances should be placed (rates of return). There is one membership matter: the reception of Ryan and Emily Mueller by transfer from Batavia, IL.

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USHERS 11/26 Kendall B., Larry B. Jonathen L.
11/03 Phil S., Nathan V., Anthony F., Daniel R.
12/10 Trevor B., Tim Z., Joshua E., Christian K., David R.

CLEANING (Wk. 2) The Eigenbergs, R. Gustaf
The Voits