

The Second Sunday in 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

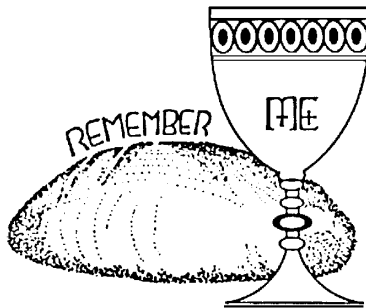
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WELCOME To all of you who are visiting our service this morning, we extend a most cordial welcome in Jesus' name. It is our hope that you will feel at home in our midst and will be blessed by our message of Christ crucified and risen for the sins of 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 155 *Sweet the Moments, Rich in Blessing*

Order of Service Page 15 ff. in The Lutheran Hymnal

Epistle Lesson Romans 5:1-11 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

Gospel Lesson Mark 8:27-38 Now Jesus and His disciples went out to the towns of Caesarea Philippi; and on the road He asked His disciples, saying to them, "Who do men say that I am?"

So they answered, "John the Baptist; but some say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets."

He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

Peter answered and said to Him, "You are the Christ."

Then He strictly warned them that they should tell no one about Him.

And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He spoke this word openly. Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him. But when He had turned around and looked at His disciples, He rebuked Peter, saying, "Get behind Me, Satan! For you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."

When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, “Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel’s will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.”

Hymn 326 *Lord, to Thee I Make Confession*

Sermon Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless. And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly.” Then Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, saying: “As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations. No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you.

Then God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. And I will bless her and also give you a son by her; then I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of peoples shall be from her.”

The Divine Name Changer...

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Choir *O Man of Sorrow*

The Communion Liturgy

Distribution Hymns 755, *The Lamb, Lamb of God*, 315

COMMUNION The Bible tells us to be "*perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.*" One way that unity is expressed is by communing together. We therefore ask that anyone who has not established this unity through membership in a CLC congregation first schedule a meeting with the pastor before communing. We hold this position in loving obedience to the Word of God, not in judgment of anyone's Christian faith, sincerity, or standing before the Lord.

LENT Our third midweek service will be held on Wednesday evening at 7. Be sure to make the most of these opportunities to grow in your faith and appreciation of all that Jesus did for us.

SPECIAL VOTERS MEETING A special voters meeting will be held immediately after the service. The sole purpose is to decide what to do with our current copier after it is replaced on February 27. It is not eligible to be used as a trade-in. If you need more information, please speak with Rick Gustaf.

SINGING Our Sunday School students will be singing, Children of the Heavenly Father as part of our worship next Sunday.

SURGERY The Lord blessed Allen Jensen with successful kneecap replacement surgery. He is currently recovering at home.

CLC NEWS Pastor Michael Gurath, Phoenix, has the call to Mankato. Teacher Matthew Thurow, Inver Grove Heights, MN currently has the ILC call. Teacher Matthew Kranz, Mankato, has the call to Eau Claire. Teacher Levi Schaller, Fridley, has calls to Markesan and Hales Corners, WI. Teacher Josh Ohlmann, W. Columbia, SC has the call to Saginaw, MI. Teacher Neil Bernthal, Winter Haven, FL has the call to Fond du lac, WI.

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USHERS 02/25 Phil S., Nathan V., Anthony F., Daniel R.
03/03 Trevor B., Tim Z., Joshua E., Christian K., David R.
03/10 Kendall B., Larry B.

CLEANING (Wk. 3) The Eigenbergs, R. Gustaf
C. Ahrens, The Fogelmans