

February 4, 2024

Vol. XXVI No. 5

The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

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

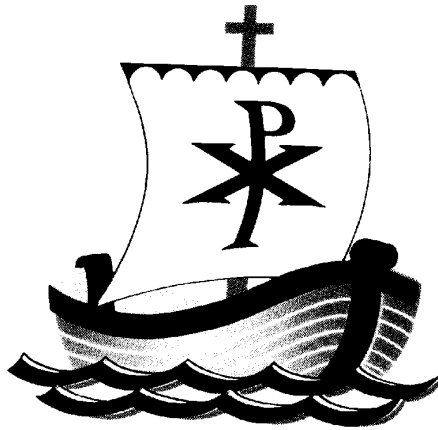
James Albrecht, Pastor – 507-351-8584

Lana Strike, Upper Grades – 507-360-9491

Ruth Eigenberg, Lower Grades – 507-360-7725

Church/School Phone – 507-853-4550

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 17:1-5 *Oh, Worship the King*

Order of Service Page 5 ff. 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 Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have *the gift of* prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed *the poor*, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.

Love suffers long *and* is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails. But whether *there are* prophecies, they will fail; whether *there are* tongues, they will cease; whether *there is* knowledge, it will vanish away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.

When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.

And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these *is* love.

Gospel Lesson Luke 18:31-43 Then He took the twelve aside and said to them, “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of Man will be accomplished. For He will be delivered to the Gentiles and will be mocked and insulted and spit upon. They will scourge *Him* and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again.” But they understood none of these things; this saying was hidden from them, and they did not know the things which were spoken.

Then it happened, as He was coming near Jericho, that a certain blind man sat by the road begging. And hearing a multitude passing by, he asked what it meant. So they told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by. And he cried out, saying, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” Then those who went before warned him that he should be quiet; but he cried out all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be brought to Him. And when he had come near, He asked him, saying, “What do you want Me to do for you?” He said, “Lord, that I may receive my sight.” Then Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight; your faith has made you well.” And immediately he received his sight, and followed Him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw *it*, gave praise to God.

Hymn 430:1-5 *What is the World to Me?*

Sermon Job 7:1-7 [Job said], “Is there not a time of hard service for man on earth? Are not his days also like the days of a hired man? Like a servant who earnestly desires the shade, and like a hired man who eagerly looks for his wages, so I have been allotted months of futility, and wearisome nights have been appointed to me. When I lie down, I say, ‘When shall I arise, and the night be ended?’ For I have had my fill of tossing till dawn. My flesh is caked with worms and dust, my skin is cracked and breaks out afresh. My days are swifter than a weaver’s shuttle, and are spent without hope. Oh, remember that my life is a breath! My eye will never again see good.”

A Reality Check

CLC Ministry by Mail, Pastor Michael Eichstadt

Father-like He tends and spares us; Well our feeble frame He knows;
In His hand He gently bears us, Rescues us from all our foes;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely yet His mercy flows.

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Hymn 521 :1-5 *What God Ordains is Always Good*

Prayer + The Lord's Prayer

The Benediction

Hymn 39:1-2, 4 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

THANK YOU We owe a special thanks to Jim Kazemba and Phil Strike for their work in conducting today's service. It is a great blessing to have men who can fill in during the pastor's absence.

The pastor and Jolene are spending time with family in Wisconsin.

BIBLE CLASS The "Fourth Evening Lecture" will be discussed in Bible Class next Sunday. There are copies of the lecture and handout (folded) on the entryway table.

FESTIVAL OF NATIONS Our CDS will host a Festival of Nations on Wednesday evening at 6:00. This will include student displays, a question and answer session, costumes, artwork, and traditional foods. All are invited!

LENT The season of Lent begins one week from Wednesday.

ANNUAL REPORT Please see the address list in the entryway and make sure that your information is up to date. Thank you.

CLC NEWS Pastor Timothy Daub, Hecla, SD has the call to Mankato.

Service text and music reprinted and used by permission under OneLicense #A-7126690 and Concordia Publishing House, license #130002755.

Scriptures quoted are from the New King James Version® of the Holy Bible, ©1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

USHERS 02/04 Phil S., Nathan V., Anthony F., Daniel R.
02/11 Trevor B., Tim Z., Joshua E., Christian K., David R.
02/18 Kendall B., Larry B.

CLEANING (Wk. 4) The Strikes
D. Ling, C. Rovere, S. Sumey