

The Sunday before Pentecost

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*

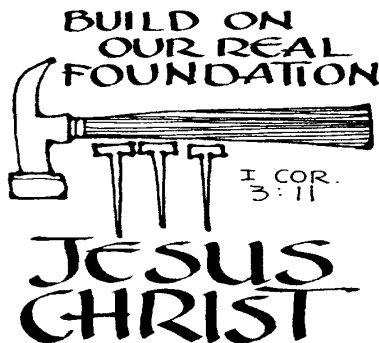
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[www.okabenalutheran.org](http://www.okabenalutheran.org)



**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** 193 *Christ the Lord is Ris'n Today*

**Order of Service** Page 12 ff. in the Worship Supplement

**Epistle Lesson** Acts 1:12ff. Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey. And when they had entered, they went up into the upper room where they were staying: Peter, James, John, and Andrew; Philip and Thomas; Bartholomew and Matthew; James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot; and Judas the son of James. These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.

And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples (altogether the number of names was about a hundred and twenty), and said, "Men and brethren, this Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke before by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus; for he was numbered with us and obtained a part in this ministry."

"For it is written in the Book of Psalms: 'Let his dwelling place be desolate, And let no one live in it'; and, 'Let another take his office.'

"Therefore, of these men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John to that day when He was taken up from us, one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection."

And they proposed two: Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias. And they prayed and said, "You, O Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which of these two You have chosen to take part in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place." And they cast their lots, and the lot fell on Matthias. And he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

**Gospel Lesson** John 17:11-19 Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves. I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep

them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.

**Hymn** 207:1-4 *Like the Golden Sun Ascending*

**Sermon** 1 John 5:4ff. For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth... If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of God which He has testified of His Son. He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son. And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may *continue* to believe in the name of the Son of God.

## God's Testimony → Our Certainty

**Offering of Thankful Hearts**

**Hymn** 427:1-4, 7 *How Firm a Foundation, Ye Saints of the Lord*

**Prayer + The Lord's Prayer**

**The Benediction**

**Closing Hymn** 625:1-4 *Oh, Blest the House, Whate'er Befall*

**CDS CARNIVAL** Our CDS students invite all of you to attend their end of the year carnival on Tuesday evening at 6. The carnival will feature skits, songs, games, and supper. Be sure to attend!

**BOOK STUDY** The group meets tomorrow evening at 6:30. If you are not currently a part of the group and would like to participate in person or online, please see Jolene.

**GRADUATES** Congratulations to this year's graduates! Please check the downstairs bulletin board for more information about them. If anyone has been inadvertently left off the list, please see the pastor.

**THE ARK AND THE DARKNESS** This new documentary was released for a limited-time showing in selected theaters around the country earlier this year. It presents a realistic look at the world before, during, and after the Genesis Flood. The first part of the film was viewed in Bible Class this morning. The presentation continues next Sunday and will be concluded during the May 26 session. Discussion will follow.

**SUMMER SCHEDULE** In previous years, the summer worship schedule began on the Sunday AFTER Memorial Day. This year, the change takes place on Memorial Day weekend. The May 26 service will be at 9:30 with a Family Bible Class to follow.

**CLC NEWS** Teacher Ross Kok, Phoenix, is considering the call to Fond du lac, WI. Teacher Neil Bernthal, Winter Haven, FL has returned the call to Eau Claire. Teacher Matthew Kranz, Mankato has accepted the call to Inver Grove Heights. Pastor David Ude, Appleton, WI has the call to Sleepy Eye.

**PROSPECTUS** The prospectus for this summer's Convention was distributed via email yesterday. There are several hard copies available on the entryway table and more can be printed for anyone who's interested. Digital copies are also available. The CLC Convention takes place in June. Craig Ahrens and Phil Strike will represent our congregation as delegates.

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**USHERS** 05/12 Kendall B., Larry B.  
05/19 Phil S., Nathan V., Anthony F., Daniel R.  
05/26 Trevor B., Tim Z., Joshua E., Christian K., David R.

**CLEANING** (Wk. 2) D. Ling, C. Rovere, S. Sumej  
The Albrechts