

The Seventh 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

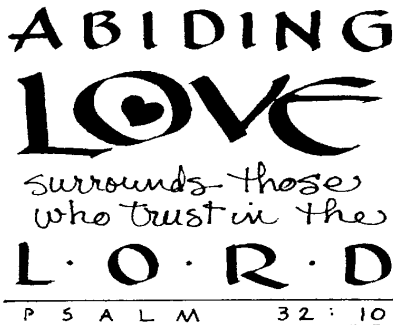
James Albrecht, Pastor – 507-351-8584

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. Kathy Lueck

Hymn 19:1-4, 6 *All Praise to God, Who Reigns Above*

Order of Service Page 5ff. in The Lutheran Hymnal

Old Testament Lesson Amos 7:7-15 [EHV] This is what He showed me: I saw the Lord standing by a wall that had been constructed with a plumb line. He had a plumb line in His hand. The Lord said to me, “What do you see, Amos?” I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord said:

Look, I am about to set up a plumb line next to My people Israel.
I will no longer overlook their sin.
The high places of Isaac will be desolate,
and the sanctuaries of Israel will be ruined.
I will rise up against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.

Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent a message to Jeroboam king of Israel: Amos has conspired against you in the midst of the house of Israel. The land is not able to endure all of his words. This is what Amos says: “Jeroboam will die by the sword, and Israel will certainly go into exile away from its own soil.” Then Amaziah said to Amos, “You seer, get out of here! Flee to the land of Judah. You may eat food and prophesy there. But you must never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the sanctuary of the king and the national temple.” Then Amos responded to Amaziah: I was not a prophet, nor was I a son of a prophet. Rather, I was a sheep breeder and I took care of sycamore fig trees. But the Lord took me from tending flocks, and the Lord said to me, “Go, prophesy to My people Israel.”

Epistle Lesson Ephesians 1:3-14 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him. In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory. In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of

truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

Hymn 347:1-5 *Jesus, Priceless Treasure*

Sermon Mark 6:14-28 Now King Herod heard of Him, for His name had become well known. And he said, "John the Baptist is risen from the dead, and therefore these powers are at work in him." Others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is the Prophet, or like one of the prophets."

But when Herod heard, he said, "This is John, whom I beheaded; he has been raised from the dead!" For Herod himself had sent and laid hold of John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife; for he had married her. Because John had said to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." Therefore Herodias held it against him and wanted to kill him, but she could not; for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a just and holy man, and he protected him. And when he heard him, he did many things, and heard him gladly.

Then an opportune day came when Herod on his birthday gave a feast for his nobles, the high officers, and the chief men of Galilee. And when Herodias' daughter herself came in and danced, and pleased Herod and those who sat with him, the king said to the girl, "Ask me whatever you want, and I will give it to you." He also swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half my kingdom." So she went out and said to her mother, "What shall I ask?" And she said, "The head of John the Baptist!" Immediately she came in with haste to the king and asked, saying, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter."

And the king was exceedingly sorry; yet, because of the oaths and because of those who sat with him, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent an executioner and commanded his head to be brought. And he went and beheaded him in prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl; and the girl gave it to her mother.

Learning to See Things as God Sees Them...

Hymn 132:1-4 *O God of God, O Light of Light!*

Prayer + The Lord's Prayer

The Benediction

Hymn 47 *Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise*

QUARTERLY MEETING (From the chairman) The voting members of St. John's are invited and encouraged to attend our July Quarterly Meeting on Sunday, July 21, in the auditorium after church. Besides regular Board reports, the agenda will include: St. John's Budget for the next fiscal year (July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025), Reformation Service schedule, Mission Festival schedule/speaker, School Board to call prospective Sunday School teachers, October Quarterly Meeting date, Preparations for hosting the General CLC Teacher's Conference. Additional agenda items should be given to Chairman Phil Strike as soon as possible.

CLEANING SCHEDULE Copies of the new cleaning schedule are now available. If you did not receive one, please see the pastor or Connie DeWall.

VBS Registration for Bible School (July 22-26) is now open on our website. Anyone interested in pulling or riding on the St. John's float for the Brewster parade, please talk to Ruth Eigenberg.

CLC NEWS Pastor Aaron Ude, Rapid City, SD has the call to Sleepy Eye. Pastor Luke Bernthal, Mountain View/Hayward, CA has the call to Hales Corners, WI. Missionary Peter Evensen was diagnosed with Septic Arthritis in his knee on July 2 in Lincoln, NE. He underwent surgery to clean out the infection and has been receiving IV antibiotics. Severe pain in his leg forced him back to the E.R. where doctors discovered blood clots. Please remember him in your prayers.

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 07/23 Kendall B., Larry B.

06/30 Phil S., Nathan V., Anthony F., Daniel R.

07/07 Trevor B., Tim Z., Joshua E., Christian K., David R.

CLEANING (Wk. 3) S. Aden, L. Baumann, B. Dronen, L. Ferguson
The Boernsens