

July 21, 2024

Vol. XXVI No. 28

The Eighth 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

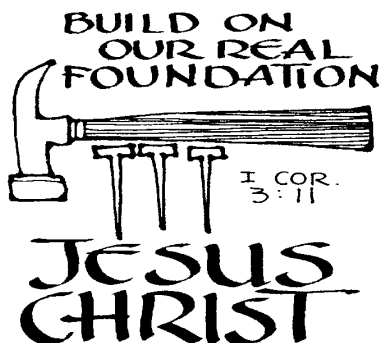
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www.okabenalutheran.org



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 466 *Christ, Thou Art the Sure Foundation*

Order of Service Page 12ff. in the Worship Supplement

Old Testament Lesson Jeremiah 23:1-6 “Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of My pasture!” says the Lord. Therefore thus says the Lord God of Israel against the shepherds who feed My people: “You have scattered My flock, driven them away, and not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for the evil of your doings,” says the Lord. “But I will gather the remnant of My flock out of all countries where I have driven them, and bring them back to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase. I will set up shepherds over them who will feed them; and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, nor shall they be lacking,” says the Lord.

“Behold, the days are coming,” says the Lord,
“That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness;
A King shall reign and prosper,
And execute judgment and righteousness in the earth.
In His days Judah will be saved,
And Israel will dwell safely;
Now this is His name by which He will be called:

THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Gospel Lesson Mark 6:30–44 Then the apostles gathered to Jesus and told Him all things, both what they had done and what they had taught. And He said to them, “Come aside by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while.” For there were many coming and going, and they did not even have time to eat. So they departed to a deserted place in the boat by themselves.

But the multitudes saw them departing, and many knew Him and ran there on foot from all the cities. They arrived before them and came together to Him. And Jesus, when He came out, saw a great multitude and was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep not having a shepherd. So He began to teach them many things. When the day was now far spent, His disciples came to Him and said, “This is a deserted place, and already the hour is late. Send them away, that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy themselves bread; for they have nothing to eat.” But He answered and said to them, “You give them something to eat.” And they said to Him, “Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give them something to eat?” But He said to them, “How many loaves do you have? Go and see.” And when they found out they said, “Five, and two fish.”

Then He commanded them to make them all sit down in groups on the green grass. So they sat down in ranks, in hundreds and in fifties. And when He had taken the five loaves and the two fish, He looked up to heaven, blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to His disciples to set before them; and the two fish He divided among them all. So they all ate and were filled. And they took up twelve baskets full of fragments and of the fish. Now those who had eaten the loaves were about five thousand men.

Hymn 473:1-2, 4-5 *The Church's One Foundation*

Sermon Ephesians 2:11-22 Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh—who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands—that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.

Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

The Walls Come Down in Christ

Hymn 465 *Christ is Our Cornerstone*

Prayer + The Lord's Prayer

The Benediction

Hymn 758 *Christ is Made the Sure Foundation*

HOSPITALIZED Bob Dronen was admitted to the Sanford Medical Center in Sioux Falls on Thursday evening. Already weakened by the last round of chemo, he was being treated for an infection when it became necessary to take him to the E.R. Scans taken on Thursday night indicated further complications from his cancer. Please remember Bob and Ruth in your prayers.

SEATING Please reserve the back pews for parents with small children.

QUARTERLY MEETING The meeting begins in the auditorium immediately after the service. Agenda: 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, General CLC Teacher's Conf. prep-work.

CALLING TREE A special thanks to Phil Strike for updating and running copies of the Calling Tree. If you did not receive a copy in your mailbox, please see Phil or the pastor.

VBS Vacation Bible School opens tomorrow morning at 9:00. Thanks to those who provided a truck, walked or rode on the float. If you still wish to enroll a student, please speak with Lydia Strike.

CLC NEWS Pastor Aaron Ude, Rapid City, SD has returned the call to Sleepy Eye. Pastor Luke Bernthal, Mountain View/Hayward, CA has accepted the call to Hales Corners, WI.

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USHERS 07/21 Kendall B., Larry B.
07/28 Phil S., Nathan V., Anthony F., Daniel R.
08/04 Trevor B., Tim Z., Joshua E., Christian K., David R.

CLEANING (Wk. 4) The Boernsens
The Liepolds and Luecks