

The Twelfth 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.

Organist Lana Strike

Hymn 541 *O Blessed Holy Trinity*

Order of Service Page 5ff. in The Lutheran Hymnal

Epistle Lesson Ephesians 5:6-21 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not be partakers with them.

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. Therefore He says: "Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light."

See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another in the fear of God.

Gospel Lesson John 6:51-59, 66-69 I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world." The Jews therefore quarreled among themselves, saying, "How can this Man give us His flesh to eat?"

Then Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me. This is the bread which came down from heaven—not as your fathers ate the manna, and are dead. He who eats this bread will live forever."

From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. Then Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you also want to go away?" But Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of eternal life. Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

Hymn 399:1-5 *Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower*

Sermon Joshua 24:1-2a., 14-18 Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and called for the elders of Israel, for their heads, for their judges, and for their officers; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, “Now therefore, fear the Lord, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the Lord! And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

So the people answered and said: “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for the Lord our God is He who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, who did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way that we went and among all the people through whom we passed. And the Lord drove out from before us all the people, including the Amorites who dwelt in the land. We also will serve the Lord, for He is our God.”

Joshua’s Call for Commitment: Right Place, Right Time, Right Message

The Offering

Hymn 762 *This is He*

Prayer + The Lord’s Prayer

The Benediction

Hymn 625 *Oh, Blest the House, Whate’er Befall*

CDS All of you are invited to attend the Opening Service for our Christian Day School on Tuesday morning at 8. This marks the 29th anniversary of the school. What a blessing that the Lord has provided for and blessed our

school these many years. May He daily prosper the Word that is sown up on the hearts of our students!

MISSION FESTIVAL Pastor Joe Naumann from Mankato will serve as our Mission Festival speaker on Sunday, September 8. (The goal was to have the celebration prior to the beginning of the harvest.) A potluck meal will follow the service.

I DO BBQ All are invited to the “I Do” BBQ at the home of Todd and Melinda Rosen on September 21 from 6 pm-midnight. Please rsvp with a guest count (call or text 507-227-0545) by August 24.

LADIES NIGHT OUT The ladies will meet on Tuesday evening at Dudley’s in Lakefield. The signup sheet is in the entryway.

CLC NEWS Pastor Michael Gurath has returned the call to Sleepy Eye.

Pastor Timothy Wheaton from Loveland, CO was just diagnosed with a rare form of inoperable stage-4 thyroid cancer. It is a very aggressive cancer for which there is currently no known cure. Your prayers for Pastor Wheaton and his family would be most appropriate and welcomed. A GoFundMe page is being set up for them.

Project Kinship is facing the largest seminary sponsorship shortage in many years. Currently there are 18 seminarians in need of support. Please consider sponsoring a seminary student in one of the many schools partnered with Kinship--Tanzania, India, Nepal, Togo, Congo, and Nigeria. The approximate cost of a sponsorship is \$40--\$50/mo (\$500--\$600/yr). Please text, call, or email Dan Roehl. cell: 507-381-2042 Email: danroehl@hotmail.com

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USHERS 08/18 Phil S., Nathan V., Anthony F., Daniel R.
08/25 Trevor B., Tim Z., Joshua E., Christian K., David R.
09/01 Kendall B., Larry B.

CLEANING (Wk. 4) The Albrechts
The Eigenbergs