

The Fourteenth 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


I will say of the Lord,
**HE IS MY
REFUGE**
and my
FORTRESS:
my God; in him will I trust.
Psalm 91:2

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 Mrs. Lana Strike

Hymn 540:1-4 *With the Lord Begin Thy Task*

Order of Service Page 12ff. in the Worship Supplement (tan book)

Epistle Lesson Romans 8:18-28 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now. Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance.

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

The Installation of Sunday School Teachers

Gospel Lesson Luke 12:13-21 Then one from the crowd said to Him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me."

But He said to him, "Man, who made Me a judge or an arbitrator over you?" And He said to them, "Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses."

Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?' So he said, 'I will do this: I will pull

down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry." ' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?'

"So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

Hymn 627 *Gracious Savior, Gentle Shepherd*

Sermon Ecclesiastes 2:18-25 I hated all the things I had toiled for under the sun, because I must leave them to the one who comes after me. And who knows whether that person will be wise or foolish? Yet they will have control over all the fruit of my toil into which I have poured my effort and skill under the sun. This too is meaningless. So my heart began to despair over all my toilsome labor under the sun. For a person may labor with wisdom, knowledge and skill, and then they must leave all they own to another who has not toiled for it. This too is meaningless and a great misfortune.

What do people get for all the toil and anxious striving with which they labor under the sun? All their days their work is grief and pain; even at night their minds do not rest. This too is meaningless.

A person can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in their own toil. This too, I see, is from the hand of God, for without Him, who can eat or find enjoyment?

Labor That Lasts...

The Offering

Hymn 786 *Take My Life and Let it Be*

Prayer + The Lord's Prayer

The Benediction

Hymn *For the Fruits of His Creation*

FALL SCHEDULE Our Fall Sunday School/Bible Class season begins next Sunday. Sunday School at 9:15, Bible Class at 9:30, Worship at 10:30. Our Sunday School Teachers will be installed in today's service.

MISSION FESTIVAL Pastor Joe Naumann from Mankato will serve as our Mission Festival speaker next week. A potluck meal will follow the service. Please plan accordingly.

CONFIRMATION On Sunday, September 22, Dylan Zuehlke will be confirmed in his Christian faith.

BOOK STUDY The Women's Book Study Group meets on Tuesday evening at 6:30.

BOOKS There are a number of books that are being culled from the church library. Some are duplicates and some are simply outdated or are never checked out. Take a look at the table in the basement and help yourself to whatever catches your interest.

SCHOOL May the Lord bless all of our students who return to class this week.

MANUP! Register today for the 2024 ManUp! Weekend, which will be held on September 26-29, 2024. The weekend will offer strength and encouragement for men 18 and older for their personal faith, family, and fellowship at church. The weekend will include Bible study, fellowship, leadership training, team building, relationship building, worship, and many outdoor bonding activities. The cost is \$150, which includes meals and lodging. See Phil Strike for more information.

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USHERS 09/01 Kendall B., Larry B.
09/08 Phil S., Nathan V., Anthony F., Daniel R.
09/15 Trevor B., Tim Z., Joshua E., Christian K., David R.

CLEANING (Wk. 2) C. Ahrens, M. Fogelman
The Voits