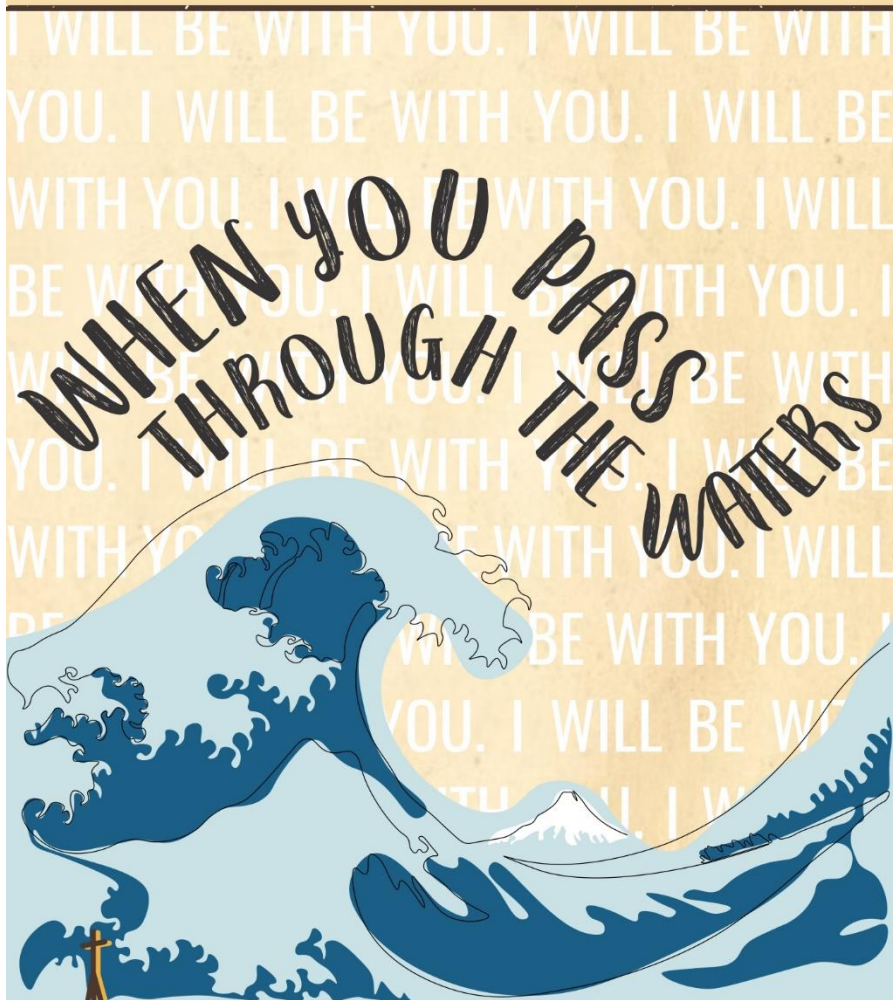


4th Sunday after Epiphany

February 2nd, 2025



Liturgy: WS p. 1



# ST. JOHN'S

Lutheran Church & School

100 W. Market St.  
P.O. Box 98

Sam Rodebaugh, Pastor  
(414) 534 - 7279

Okabena, MN 56161 sam.rodebaugh@gmail.com

www.okabenalutheran.org

## ✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: TLH #522

"When In the Hour of Utmost Need"

**P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Pastor

**C** Congregation

### Confession of Our Sins

*We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and that we daily need His forgiveness.*

**P** Beloved of God: Let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

**C** **Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer: we confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved you above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive our sins.**

**P** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen!

*"If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld." (John 20:23)*

### The Kyrie & The Gloria Patri

*Latin for "Lord, Have Mercy" and "Glory be to the Father"*



(P:) Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to all peo-ple on  
earth. (C:) Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al -  
might - y God and Fa - ther: We wor - ship You, we  
give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo - ry.  
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the  
Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:  
You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on  
us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the  
Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.  
For You a - lone are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone  
are the Lord, You a - lone are the Most High,  
Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the  
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## Collect Prayer of the Day

*A prayer to God that collects together the thoughts and theme of the day.*

**P** Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**



### Isaiah 43:1-3

But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. <sup>2</sup> When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. <sup>3</sup> For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you.



### Matthew 8:23-27

And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. <sup>24</sup> And behold, there arose a great storm on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. <sup>25</sup> And they went and woke him, saying, "Save us, Lord; we are perishing." <sup>26</sup> And he said to them, "Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?" Then he rose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. <sup>27</sup> And the men marveled, saying, "What sort of man is this, that even winds and sea obey him?"

**P** Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

**C** *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

***These words are written that we may believe that  
Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.***

***Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

**☒ I BELIEVE...**

**in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, Whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Hymn: TLH #427:1, 3-5, 7**

*"How Firm a Foundation"*

✠ **The Sermon** ✠



**Romans 8:18-27**

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup> For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. <sup>20</sup> For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup> For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains

of childbirth until now. <sup>23</sup> And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup> For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? <sup>25</sup> But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. <sup>26</sup> Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. <sup>27</sup> And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

## Jesus Gives Hope in Groaning

I. In Our Groaning

II. In Creation's Groaning

III. In the Spirit's Groaning

### The Offertory

---

*In this prayer we offer our hearts, asking God for the best gift, the Holy Spirit.*

**C** *♩ Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold me with Your free Spirit.*

✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

Hymn: TLH #448

"Brief Life Is Here Our Portion"

✠ The General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer ✠

### The Benediction

*Numbers 6:24-26*

---

*The blessing given by God for His people.*

**P** The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

**C** Amen!

Hymn: TLH #523:1-5

"Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me"

**School Winter Fair** – The Christian Day School will be holding its annual Winter Fair on Wednesday, February 5, at 6:00 pm. The congregation is invited and encouraged to attend to see the hard work put in by our students. There will be student displays, artwork, and finger-food refreshments.

**Arts Camp 2025 Registration** – Registration for Arts Camp 2025 opens February 8th at 12pm CST. You can find the link to registration at [immanuelmankato.org/school/arts-camp/](http://immanuelmankato.org/school/arts-camp/) or on our Facebook page "Immanuel Arts Camp". Arts Camp is for students in grades 5th-8th at Immanuel Mankato, March 21-23, 2025. Questions? Email:[artscamp@immanuelmankato.org](mailto:artscamp@immanuelmankato.org)

**Basketball Practice** – There will be basketball practice today in preparation for the CLC Grade School Basketball Tourney, which will be held in Eau Claire, March 14-16.

**CLC Call News** – Pastor Paul Krause of Trinity Lutheran Church and School, Watertown, SD and Zion Lutheran Church, Hide-wood Township, SD has **returned** the call to St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School, Mountain View, CA. <> Sam Naumann of Eau Claire, WI has **returned** the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO.<> Teacher Claire Abbas of Berea Lutheran School, Inver Grove Heights, MN has **returned** the call to Trinity Lutheran School, Watertown, SD. <> Teacher Mikela Schmitt of St. Stephen Lutheran School has **received** the call to Trinity Lutheran School, Watertown, SD. <> Ms. Blair Sydow has **received and accepted** the call to continue serving as the full time upper grade teacher at Holy Trinity Lutheran School, West Columbia, SC.

<b>Ushers</b>	2/2	Phil S, Nathan V, Anthony F, Daniel R.
	2/9	Trevor B, Tim Z, Josh E, Christian K, David R.
	2/16	Kendall B, Larry B.
<b>Cleaning</b>	This Week – Strike, Strike (wk. 4)	
	Up Next – Ling, Sumey, Rovere	

## Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

February 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025

---

**Mon John 4:4-24** Jesus asks a drink from a Samaritan woman, but would rather give her much more (v14). He shows her the need for spiritual wisdom to worship God in spirit and in truth (v24).

**Tues 1 Corinthians 2:1-5** The apostle uses his own example to show that faith does not come through human wisdom, but by the persuading power of the Holy Spirit.

**Wed 1 Corinthians 2:6-10** There is indeed a wisdom at work among God's people, but it is not the world's wisdom. It is the wisdom that God reveals to us through His Spirit (v10).

**Thurs Genesis 22:1-19** Abraham's faith is tested when He is told to offer Isaac up to God. Abraham's faith in God's promises survive the test and the Lord provides a ram to be offered up instead of his son.

**Fri Micah 6:1-8** The Lord accuses His people of rebelling against Him (v1-5), and Israel's response is to remember His word which requires doing justice, loving mercy, and walking humbly with their God (v6-8).

**Sat 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12** The apostle Paul commends the Thessalonians' brotherly love, and encourages them to do so even more, conducting themselves decently toward outsiders as well.



Service text and music reprinted and used by permission under OneLicense #A-7126690 and Concordia Publishing House, license #130002755. Scriptures quoted are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®) © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.