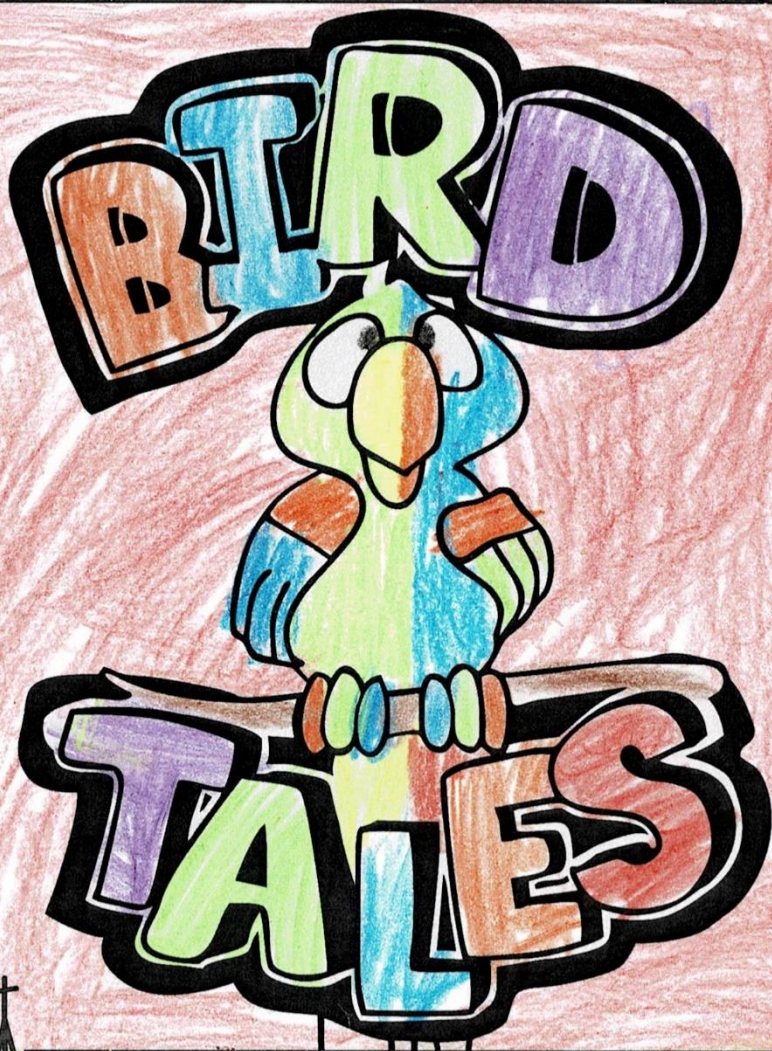


6th Sunday after Trinity

July 27th, 2025

Liturgy: WS p. 12

Organist: Lana Strike



ST. JOHN'S

Lutheran Church & School

100 W. Market St.

Sam Rodebaugh, Pastor

P.O. Box 98

(414) 534 - 7279

Okabena, MN 56161

sam.rodebaugh@gmail.com

www.okabenalutheran.org

✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: TLH #380

"Thy Works, Not Mine, O Christ"

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

C Amen.

Confession of Our Sins

P Pastor

C Congregation

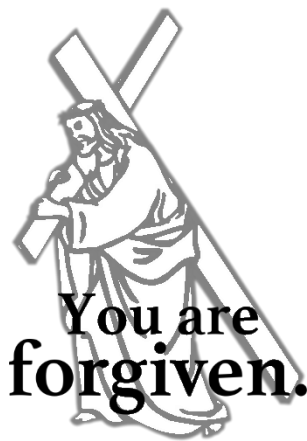
We come before God recognizing that we are sinful & need His forgiveness.

P We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

C Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin and take away my guilt.

P God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will!


C Amen!



The Kyrie & The Gloria Patri

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





C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
 3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,

Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.
 You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
 At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:

We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
 O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
 Who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,

Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
 Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
 With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

Collect Prayer of the Day

P Lord of all power and might, author and giver of all good things, graft into our hearts the love of Your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of Your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.



Exodus 20:1-17

And God spoke all these words, saying, ² "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ³ "You shall have no other gods before me. ⁴ "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the

fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶ but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. ⁷ "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain. ⁸ "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. ¹¹ For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. ¹² "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. ¹³ "You shall not murder. ¹⁴ "You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵ "You shall not steal. ¹⁶ "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. ¹⁷ "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

VBS Children

"Give Me Joy in My Heart"



Romans 6:1-11

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. ⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸ Now if we have

died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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

G ♪ *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

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

Confession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

G 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 vir-
gin 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 as-
cended 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 ap-
ostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remis-
sion of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and
the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn: TLH #375

"If Thy Beloved Son, O God"



Matthew 5:17-22

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸ For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ²¹ "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.' ²² But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire.

Preparing for God's Final Exam

- I. By yourself, you have already failed
- II. With Jesus, you've aced the test!

The Offertory

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

✪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and 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 with Your Spirit free.

✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

Hymn: TLH #369

"All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall"

The Confirmation of

Peyton Cathleen Bose & Kendall Christopher Bose

✠ The General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer ✠

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts!

C We lift them up to the Lord.

P It is truly good, right, and beneficial that we should, at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, everlasting God, through your Son Jesus Christ, who overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

The Order of Holy Communion



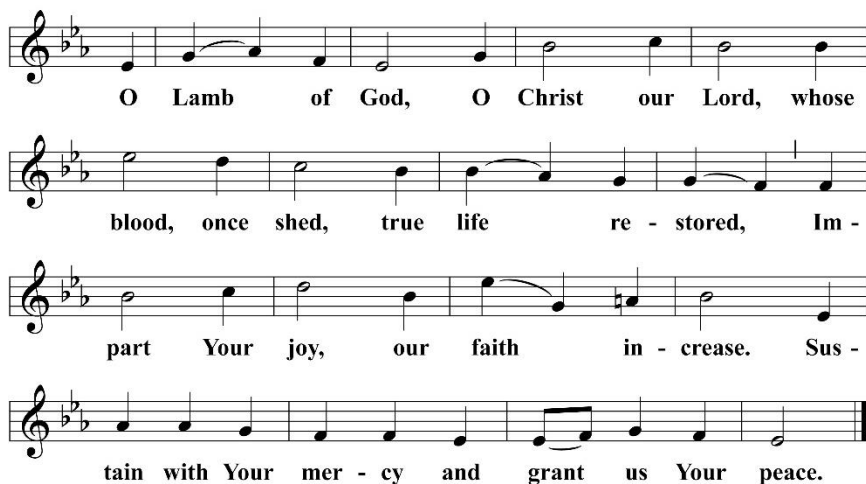
C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of Sa - ba-oth, a-dored; Heav'n and
earth with full ac-claim shout the glo - ry of Your name. Sing ho -
san - na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord; Tru - ly
blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

The Words of Institution

Lk. 22:19-20; Mt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 11:23-25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me." The peace of the Lord be with you always!



Communion Today is for Members Only Please

We don't judge anyone's faith, but we do stand up for our own. The Bible teaches what we call "Close Communion," that is, God wants you to commune only with those people with whom you are agreed in ALL the Bible's teachings. This belief is based upon 1 Corinthians 1:10 & 11:26-30, among other Bible passages. Therefore, if you are a guest with us today, and BEFORE you come up to commune with us, please speak with our Pastor to find out about communing with us in the future!

✠ The Distribution of the Lord's Supper ✠

Distribution Hymns:

TLH #310; WS #754; TLH #311

After the distribution, we'll continue with the singing of the Nunc Dimittis:

**☐ ♪ O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.**

**All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three-in-One;
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.**

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

C: My heart has now be - come Your dwell - ing, O bless - ed,
ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Your prais - es
tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly. Lord, may Your
bod - y and Your blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

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.

G Amen!

Hymn: TLH #309

"O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee"

Congratulations – Congratulations to Peyton and Kendall Bose on the completion of their confirmation instruction and reception into membership. May the Lord bless and keep you!

Ladies' Night Out – Thursday, August 21st at 6:30 PM at Meadow Forge Flower Farm in Lakefield. Join us for a relaxing evening of fellowship, including a tour of the flower fields and guidance on picking and arranging your own bouquet. Each participant will take home their personally created arrangement. The cost is \$35 per person, and all supplies are included. Space is limited to 20 participants, so please RSVP by August 14th to reserve your spot. Sign up-sheet is in the entryway. Payment can be placed in Mary Albrecht's mailbox, and any questions can be directed to her.

Thank you! – Thank you to everyone who helped this week with VBS—those who coordinated and planned, all the teachers and other volunteers, those who donated snacks and supplies for the week. It was a fun week, and it went very smoothly with all the ample help! Thanks again!

VBS Picnic – The VBS Picnic will be held today after church. Please be sure to plan on staying after church for this fellowship meal!

Membership Directory – The membership directory has been updated, but before printing, you are asked to look at the list in the entryway and double-check for any errors. Thank you!

Midwest Women's Retreat – Immanuel Mankato invites women of area congregations to a one day retreat on Saturday, October 25th from 9am-4pm. The theme for the retreat is "Finding our True Identity as a Reflection of Christ's Image." Childcare will be available. To register go to <https://tinyurl.com/3jp5ax8y>. The cost is \$20 if you register before September 24 and is free for young girls under 19. Contact Jen Theneman (507-340-1640 / jtheneman@live.com) with any questions.

CLC Call News – Lori Ruthenbeck and Mary Albrecht have both **accepted** their part-time, one-year calls to St. John's, Okabena, MN. <> Pastor Tom Naumann of Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, Madison Heights, MI, has **returned** the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI. <> Pastor David Ude of Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI, has **received** the call to St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Mountain View, CA.

Ushers	7/27	Trevor B, Tim Z, Josh E, Christian K, David R.
	8/3	Kendall B, Larry B.
	8/10	Phil S, Nathan V, Anthony F, Daniel R.
Cleaning	This Week – The Luecks, Liepolds (wk. 1)	
	Up Next – The Strikes	

Writings of the Ancient Church Fathers

Ambrose of Milan on the "Real Presence" in the Lord's Supper

"Grace has more power than nature. Yet, so far, we have only spoken of the grace of a prophet's blessing. But if the blessing of man had such power as to change nature, in the Old Testament miracles, what are we to say of that divine consecration where the very words of the Lord and Savior operate? For the Word of Christ makes the Sacrament that you receive what it is. But if the word of Elijah had power to bring down fire from heaven, shall not the word of Christ have power to change the nature of the elements? You read concerning the creation of the world: 'He spoke and they were made, He commanded and they were created.' Shall not the word of Christ, which was able to create from nothing, be able to change things that already are into what they were not?...



"But why make use of arguments? Let us use the examples He gives, and by the example of the incarnation prove the truth of the mystery. Did the course of nature proceed as usual when the Lord Jesus was born of Mary? If we look to the usual course, a woman ordinarily conceives after connection with a man. Yet His body was born of the Virgin. Why do you seek the order of nature in the body of Christ, seeing that the Lord Jesus Himself was born of a virgin, not according to nature? The true flesh of Christ was crucified and buried, so the Sacrament of His body is truly His body.

"The Lord Jesus Himself proclaims: 'This is My body.' Before the blessing of the heavenly words it is spoken of as bread; after the consecration, the body is proclaimed. So, to, with the blood. And you say, 'Amen,' that is, 'It is true.' Let the heart within confess what the mouth utters; let the soul feel what the voice speaks."

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

July 28th – August 2nd, 2025

Mon Matthew 6:1-6 Jesus urges us to help others and to pray that we might honor our heavenly Father. A hypocrite merely puts on a show in order to glorify himself, that is, to receive honor from other people.

Tues Acts 4:32-37 The life of the early church is an example of abundant grace on all of them. They proclaim Jesus' resurrection with power and help one another as the need arises.

Wed Acts 5:1-11 The sad story of Ananias and Sapphira is the story of our sin-corrupted nature. They donate in order to be seen by others and lie to enhance their own glory among the people—hypocrisy.

Thurs Ruth 1:1-17 Naomi loses her husband and two sons in the land of Moab but returns to Bethlehem with a precious daughter-in-law who loves her and shares her faith ("your God will be my God." v16).

Fri Psalm 91:1-8 Could we have it any better than to live so close to God as to be always in His shadow? He is the One who can protect at all times and cause all things to work together for our good! (cf. Romans 8:28)

Sat Psalm 91:9-16 For those who shelter with God, disaster is kept away, and the Lord Himself promises to rescue, protect, answer, accompany, deliver, honor, prolong, and save (vv14-16).



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