

11th Sunday after Trinity

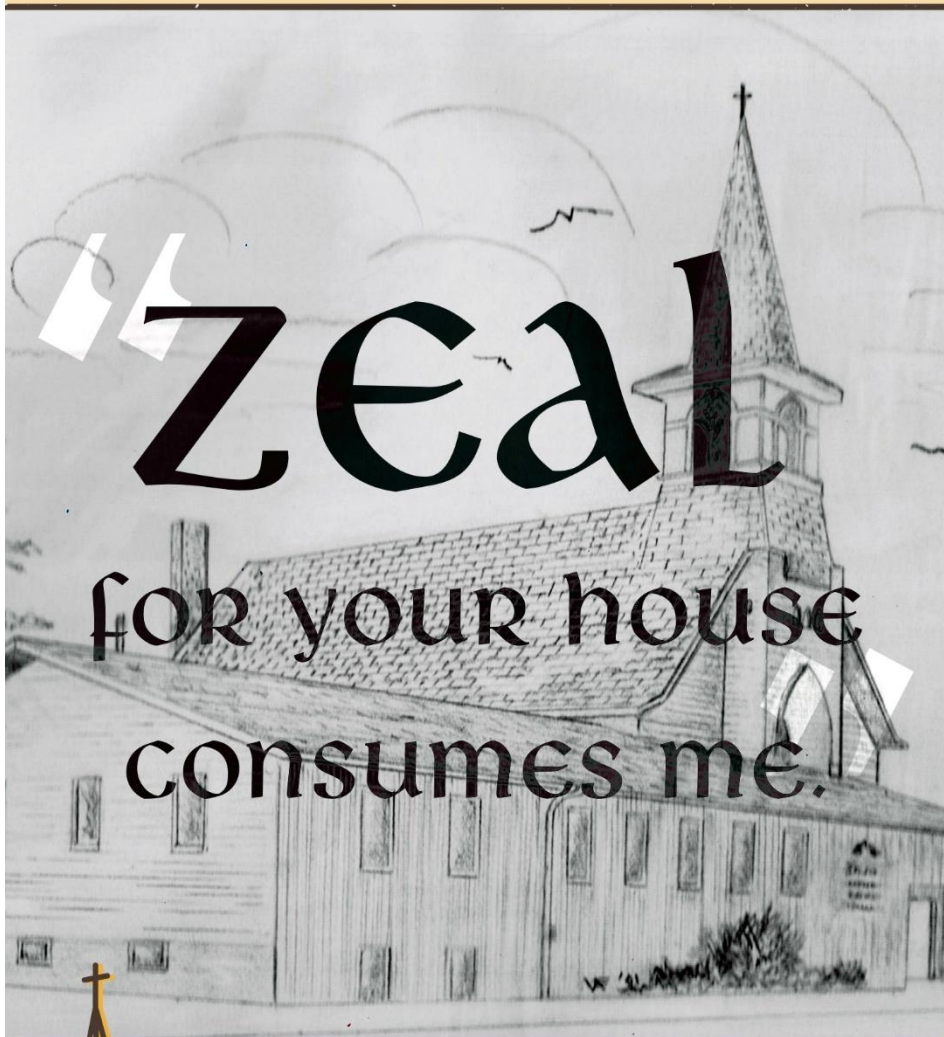
August 31st, 2025

Liturgy: TLH p. 5

Organist: Lana Strike



Zeal
for your house
consumes me.



ST. JOHN'S

Lutheran Church & School

100 W. Market St.

P.O. Box 98

Okabena, MN 56161

Sam Rodebaugh, Pastor

(414) 534 - 7279

sam.rodebaugh@gmail.com

www.okabenalutheran.org

✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: TLH #1

“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”

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

C ♪ **Amen.**

P Pastor

Confession of Our Sins

C Congregation

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

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C ♪ **Who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C ♪ **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**

P Almighty God our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto Thee that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against Thee by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Thine infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Thy grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **O most merciful God, who hast given Thine only begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Absolution from Our God

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” (1 John 1:9)

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, hath had mercy upon us and hath given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He giveth power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord unto us all.

C ♪ **Amen.**

The Introit

Ps. 119:17-32

A collection of passages that set the tone for the service.

- P** Make me understand the way of your precepts, and I will meditate on your wondrous works.
- C** **My soul melts away for sorrow; strengthen me according to your word!**
- P** Put false ways far from me and graciously teach me your law!
- C** **I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I set your just decrees before me.**
- P** I cling to your testimonies, O Lord; let me not be put to shame!
- C** **I will run in the way of your commandments when you enlarge my heart!**

The Gloria Patri

TLH #237:1

- C** ♪ ***All glory be to God on high, Who hath our race befriended!
To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended;
God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall reign on
earth again; Oh, thank Him for His goodness!***

The Salutation

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** ♪ ***And with thy spirit.***

The Collect Prayer of the Day

- P** O God, You declare Your almighty power above all in showing mercy and pity. Mercifully grant us such a measure of Your grace that we may obtain Your gracious promises and be made partakers of Your heavenly treasures; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C** ♪ **Amen.**



Jeremiah 7:1-11

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: ² "Stand in the gate of the LORD's house, and proclaim there this word, and say, Hear the word of the LORD, all you men of Judah who enter these gates to worship the LORD. ³ Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Amend your ways and your deeds, and I will let

you dwell in this place. ⁴ Do not trust in these deceptive words: 'This is the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD.' ⁵ "For if you truly amend your ways and your deeds, if you truly execute justice one with another, ⁶ if you do not oppress the sojourner, the fatherless, or the widow, or shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not go after other gods to your own harm, ⁷ then I will let you dwell in this place, in the land that I gave of old to your fathers forever. ⁸ "Behold, you trust in deceptive words to no avail. ⁹ Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely, make offerings to Baal, and go after other gods that you have not known, ¹⁰ and then come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, 'We are delivered!'-- only to go on doing all these abominations? ¹¹ Has this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your eyes? Behold, I myself have seen it, declares the LORD.

P The Holy Gospel is written in the nineteenth chapter of St. Luke, beginning at the forty-first verse:

G *Glory be to Thee, O Lord!*



Luke 19:41-48

And when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it, ⁴² saying, "Would that you, even you, had known on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. ⁴³ For the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up a barricade around you and surround you and hem you in on every side ⁴⁴ and tear you down to the ground, you and your children within you. And they will not leave one stone upon another in you, because you did not know the time of your visitation." ⁴⁵ And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who sold, ⁴⁶ saying to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be a house of prayer,' but you have made it a den of robbers." ⁴⁷ And he was teaching daily in the temple. The chief priests and the scribes and the principal men of the people were seeking to destroy him, ⁴⁸ but they did not find anything they could do, for all the people were hanging on his words.

P Here ends the Gospel.

G *♪ Praise be to Thee, O Christ!*

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I BELIEVE...

in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn: TLH #284

"Father of Mercies, In Thy Word"



Romans 15:14-33

I myself am convinced about you, my brothers, that you yourselves are also full of goodness, filled with complete knowledge, and able to instruct one another. ¹⁵ But I have written a letter to you (rather boldly at times) as a reminder to you, because of the grace God has given me ¹⁶ to be a public minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles. I am to do the priestly work of proclaiming the gospel of God so that the Gentiles would be an acceptable offering, sanctified by the Holy Spirit. ¹⁷ Therefore I have a reason to boast in Christ Jesus about my service to God. ¹⁸ For I will not dare to speak about anything except those things Christ accomplished through me that resulted in the Gentiles' obedience. Christ accomplished them by word and deed, ¹⁹ along with the power of signs and wonders done by the power of God's Spirit. As a result, I have fully proclaimed the gospel of Christ from Jerusalem all the way around to Illyricum. ²⁰ And so I consider it an honor to proclaim the gospel where Christ's name is not known, so that I may not

build on another man's foundation. ²¹ Instead, as it is written: Those who were not told about him will see, and those who have not heard will understand. ²² This is also the reason I have been prevented many times from coming to you. ²³ But now I no longer have a place to work in these regions, and I have longed for many years to come to you. ²⁴ So when I go to Spain, I hope to visit you on my way. After I have enjoyed being with you for a while, I hope that you will help me on my journey there. ²⁵ Right now I am going to Jerusalem bringing assistance to the saints. ²⁶ For Macedonia and Achaia were pleased to make a certain contribution for the poor among the saints in Jerusalem. ²⁷ Indeed, they were pleased to do this and, to be sure, they are indebted to them. For if the Gentiles have come to share in their spiritual things, then the Gentiles owe it to them to serve them with material things. ²⁸ So, after I complete this project by delivering this fruit safely to them, I will set out for Spain and visit you on the way. ²⁹ And I know that when I come to you, I will arrive with the full blessing of Christ. ³⁰ Now I urge you, brothers, through our Lord Jesus Christ and through the love of the Spirit, to struggle with me in prayers to God on my behalf. ³¹ Pray that I may be rescued from those in Judea who are disobedient and that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints, ³² so that by God's will I may come to you in joy and be refreshed in your company. ³³ May the God of peace be with you all. Amen.

Something for Him

Our lives in the congregation...something for Him.
Our accomplishments as Christians...something for Him.
Our plans for the future...something for Him.

Pastor Andrew Schaller of Luther Memorial (CLC), Fond du Lac, WI.

The Offertory

☞ ♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right spirit within me Cast me not away from Thy presence; And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; And uphold me with thy free spirit. Amen.

✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

Hymn: TLH #400

"Take My Life and Let It Be"

✠ The General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer ✠

The Order of Holy Communion



P The Lord be with you.

C *And with thy spirit.*

P Lift up your hearts.

C *We lift them up unto the Lord.*

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, Our God.

C *It is meet and right so to do.*

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. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

C *Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory; Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the Highest. Blessed is He, Blessed is He, Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the Highest.*

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."

P The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C *Amen.*

The Agnus Dei

- C** *♪ O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, That takest away the sin of the world. Have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God That takest away the sin of the world. Have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, That takest away the sin of the world. Grant us Thy peace. Amen.*
-

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 with whom you are agreed in ALL the Bible's teachings. (cf. 1 Corinthians 1:10 & 11:26-30 & more.) 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 #313; WS #755; TLH #311

The Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32

- C** *♪ Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant Depart in peace according to Thy word, For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation; Which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, A Light to lighten the Gentiles, and the Glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end. Amen.*

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, amen, a – men.*

Hymn: TLH #473:1,2,5

"The Church's One Foundation"

Announcements

Sunday School Teacher Needed – With Sunday School starting up next week, we are still in need of a teacher for the Pre-School & Kindergarten class. Please take some time to consider if you'd be willing to help and take part in this important Kingdom work of teaching God's young lambs!

Schedule Change – Next week, our weekly worship schedule will be returning to the normal times, with Sunday School beginning at 9:15 am, Bible Class beginning at 9:30 am, and the Worship Service beginning at 10:30 am. This schedule will begin next Sunday, September 7th.

Bible Class – Next week, we'll be resuming our Bible Class study of the Gospel according to Mark. We'll be picking our study back up at Mark 6:45. It would be good to re-read the first six chapters as a refresher before our study resumes!

Women's Bible Study – Karen Strike would like to meet today with the women who attend the midweek Women's Bible Study. Please find her after church, thank you!

Pastor Out-of-Town – This Tuesday afternoon through Thursday afternoon, Pastor will be in Eau Claire and Mankato, visiting our high schools in connection with his position as a CLC Recruiter to the Public Ministry. He'll be joined by fellow Recruiter, Pastor Ben Libby, and they'll be speaking with the high school upperclassmen at both schools and with the Pre-Theology students at ILC.

Women's Retreat West Registration Open – Registration is now open for this year's Women's Retreat West, to be held in Sioux Falls from September 19-21. The theme this year is "Pieces of Jesus' Peace". To register, please head over to womensretreat.clclutheran.net, click on WEST, and fill out the form. If you would rather register over email or have any questions, reach out to womensretreatwest@gmail.com. A form can be sent to you from there.

CLC ManUp! – The CLC men's retreat ManUp! is now seven weeks away. To register for \$75, registrations must be submitted by August 31. On September 1, the price to register goes up to \$150. The dates for this year's retreat are Thursday – Sunday, September 25-28.

Golf Scramble Tournament – On October 4 at 1:00, there will be a 9-hole golf scramble held at Rolling Greens in Durand, WI. The cost will be determined based on the number of groups that we have, but it will be less than \$30 including cart. If there are over 30 players, there will be a shotgun start. It will be foursomes. If you do not have four people for a team, you may still submit an entry, and we will combine those individuals with others to make a team. For more information or to enter, contact Mike Schierenbeck at mike.schierenbeck@gmail.com or 920-344-9580. Deadline for entry is September 26.

CLC Call News – Pastor Andrew Schaller of Luther Memorial Church, Fond du Lac, WI, has **received and accepted** the vacancy call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI <> Pastor Drew Naumann of Trinity Ev. Lutheran, Spokane, WA has **received** the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI. <> Pastor Ben Libby of Redeemer Ev. Lutheran Church, Cheyenne, WY, has **received** the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI. <> Pastor Emeritus Jim Albrecht has **received** the vacancy call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI, to serve through December 31st. <> Pastor Paul Tiefel of Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI has announced his **retirement** as of September 6-7, 2025.

Ushers	8/31	Phil S, Nathan V, Anthony F, Daniel R.
	9/7	Trevor B, Tim Z, Josh E, Christian K, David R.
	9/14	Kendall B, Larry B.
Cleaning	This Week – Fogelman, Ahrens, Sullivan (wk. 2)	
	Up Next – The Voits	

Prayer Opportunities

Minneapolis – This past week, a shooting took place at Assumption Catholic Church in Minneapolis, taking the lives of an 8-year-old boy and a 10-year-old girl. **Ask** the Lord to be with the families of these children and all the other victims. **Pray** that the Lord would use these terrible events to bring these families closer to Him. **Ask** that the Lord would continue to use His Word to turn hearts from hatred to love.

Tanzania – Missionary Naumann has identified several essential improvements needed for the seminary facilities. These include replacing the seminary door, which has deteriorated due to rainfall, and installing an overhanging roof to safeguard the new door and prevent water from entering classrooms, completing two small instructor offices, and office furniture. Completion of these projects is dependent upon sufficient support from MDF offerings. Following Pastor Lengutai's retirement, the TZCLC has appointed Pastor Tobias Mbise as his successor on the seminary faculty. **Pray** for the seminary students as they continue to prepare for service in our Savior's kingdom as faithful preachers and teachers of God's saving Word. **Ask** for the Lord's continued blessings and provision for the instructors, Missionary Naumann, Pastor Loskira, Pastor Issangya, and the newly appointed Pastor Mbise.

India – Seventeen students graduated and were ordained as CLCI pastors in late June. These men successfully completed three years of full-time theological studies at the CLCI seminary and will now be assigned to new and established CLCI congregations. A joint pastoral conference of the CLCI and BELC is tentatively being planned for October to coincide with Missionary Ohlmann's planned visit. Please **pray** that the Lord will protect, support, and strengthen the faith of His children in India, especially amid the increasing persecution against Christians. Also, **ask** the Lord to bless the new pastors of CLCI and the preparations for the upcoming pastoral conference in October.

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

September 1st – 6th, 2025

Mon John 5:30-36 Jesus does not operate on His own, nor does He testify about Himself. Besides the Father who sent Him, John the Baptizer testified about Jesus, and so do the works that Jesus carries out.

Tues Acts 8:9-13 Simon the magician had a following in Samaria until they believed the Good News about Jesus. Then even Simon himself believes, and is amazed by the signs and great miracles among the believers.

Wed Acts 8:14-17 The apostles hear about the Samaritans believing and send Peter and John. Peter and John pray and lay on hands, and the Samaritan believers receive the special gift of the Holy Spirit.

Thurs Acts 8:18-25 Simon offers money for the power to give the Holy Spirit to others. Peter rebukes him and calls upon him to repent and to pray for forgiveness. Simon asks Peter to pray for him also.

Fri 2 Samuel 7:1-16 David wants to build a house for the Lord, but the Lord says “no.” You are the Lord’s warrior. My house will be built by a man of peace. Looking ahead, we also see the Prince of Peace!

Sat Ezekiel 8:9-16 The prophet declares disaster and destruction for the temple which is being desecrated by all sorts of abominations that do not bring the peace of God for which His house was intended.



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.