

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

October 13th – 18th, 2025

Mon Matthew 13:44-46 Jesus encourages disciples who have given up much to follow Him. They have a treasure that is far greater than anything they have given up. The kingdom of heaven is theirs in Him!

Tues Acts 17:15-18 Paul leaves persecution behind when he is brought to Athens, home of some famous philosophers. But neither persecution nor the worldly wise can stop him from preaching about Jesus!

Wed Acts 17:19-31 When brought before the leading philosophers, Paul tells of the God who made the world, gives all people life, and who will judge the world by the One who was raised from the dead!

Thurs Acts 17:32-34 The resurrection from the dead proved to be a dividing point among the Athenians gathered, but some became followers of Paul and believed the message of the kingdom of Christ.

Fri 2 Chronicles 13:3-18 The army of the rebels under Jeroboam is twice as large as the army led by Abijah. But God plus one of His own is a majority and the rebels' superior numbers and strategy are defeated!

Sat Leviticus 19:9-18 The gift of God's kingdom brings forgiveness from the selfish acts that humans do to one another. The fruit of the Spirit is love, which reveals itself in helping rather than exploiting our neighbor.

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.

17th Sunday after Trinity

October 12th, 2025

Liturgy: WS p. 1

Organist: Lana Strike



Clothe yourselves



with humility
toward one another.



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 #175

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

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 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"



St. John's Choir – We will begin choir practices on Sunday, October 12, at 8:30 AM. They will continue Sunday mornings before Bible Class for the fall season through the end of 2025. New members are always welcome, so if you like to sing and are interested in giving it a try, please join us!

October Quarterly Meeting – The voting members of St. John's are invited and encouraged to attend our third quarterly meeting on Sunday, October 19, 2025, after a noon potluck meal. Besides regular Board reports, Agenda items will include: Transfer of Stephanie (Kazemba) Lau to Messiah, Eau Claire; Auditing of the Church, School, and Cemetery accounts; Setting the Fall Worship Schedule; Details about hosting the Joint Mission Festival Service on November 9; Election Meeting date and installation date for elected (re-elected) officers; Annual Meeting date. Any other agenda items should be given to Chairman Phil Strike as soon as possible.

Ladies' Aid will be meeting Tuesday, October 14th at 6:30 pm.

CLC Call News – Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Rapid City, SD, has **received** the call to Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA. <> Pastor Stefan Sonnenfeld of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sister Lakes, MI, has **received** the call to Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church, Middleton, WI. <> Pastor Nathan Pfeiffer of Berea Lutheran Church, Inver Grove Heights, MN, has **returned** the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI. <> Pastor David Pfeiffer of Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, West Columbia, SC, has **received** the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI.

Ushers	10/12	Phil S, Nathan V, Anthony F, Daniel R.
	10/19	Trevor B, Tim Z, Josh E, Christian K, David R.
	10/26	Kendall B, Larry B.
Cleaning	This Week - Ferguson, Dronen, Baumann, Olmanson (wk. 4)	
	Up Next – The Boernsens	

astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. ⁴ But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Living Among “Liars, Evil Beasts, and Lazy Gluttons”

- I. By nature, you're no better than *they* are
- II. By Baptism, you're now better than *you* were!



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. 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: WS #752

“Baptized in Water”

✠ The General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer ✠

The Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The blessing given by God for His people.

- ✪** 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.

✪ Amen!

Hymn: WS #776

“Lord, 'Tis Not that I Did Choose You”

(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

P Lord, we implore You, grant Your people grace to withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds to follow You, the only God; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.



Proverbs 25:6-14

Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great, ⁷ for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble. What your eyes have seen ⁸ do not hastily bring into court, for what will you do in the end, when your neighbor puts you to shame? ⁹ Argue your case with your neighbor himself, and do not reveal another's secret, ¹⁰ lest he who hears you bring shame upon you, and your ill repute have no end. ¹¹ A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver. ¹² Like a gold ring or an ornament of gold is a wise reprover to a listening ear. ¹³ Like the cold of snow in the time of harvest is a faithful messenger to those who send him; he refreshes the soul of his masters. ¹⁴ Like clouds and wind without rain is a man who boasts of a gift he does not give.



Luke 14:1-11

One Sabbath, when he went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. ² And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. ³ And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?" ⁴ But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. ⁵ And he said to them, "Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?" ⁶ And they could not reply to these things. ⁷ Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, ⁸ "When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of

honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, ⁹ and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give your place to this person,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. ¹¹ For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

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 Apostles' Creed

G 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 #411:1,2,6,7

"From Eternity, O God"



Titus 3:1-7

Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, ² to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people. ³ For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led