

19th Sunday after Trinity

October 26th, 2025

Liturgy: WS p. 12

Organist: Lana Strike

A blue-toned background illustration depicting two figures, possibly Jesus and a companion, standing in a landscape with a large, dark, pointed structure in the background. The figures are wearing long robes and are looking towards the right. The overall style is reminiscent of a woodcut or a religious painting.

*Surely the Lord
is in this place!*



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.

Confession of Our Sins

P Pastor

C Congregation

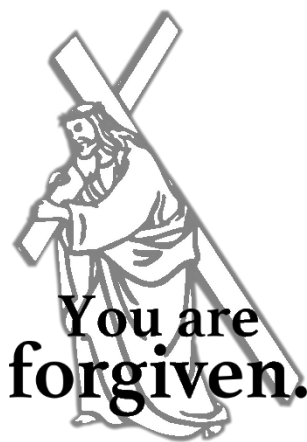
We come before God recognizing that we are sinful & need His forgiveness.

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 Almighty and merciful God, of Your bountiful goodness keep from us all things that may hurt us that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish whatever You would have us do; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.



Matthew 9:1-8

And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city. ² And behold, some people brought to him a paralytic, lying on a bed. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven." ³ And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." ⁴ But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? ⁵ For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? ⁶ But that you may know that the Son

of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"-- he then said to the paralytic-- "Rise, pick up your bed and go home." ⁷ And he rose and went home. ⁸ When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men.



Ephesians 4:22-28

...to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt

through deceitful desires, ²³ and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness. ²⁵ Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. ²⁶ Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and give no opportunity to the devil. ²⁸ Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.

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.



Genesis 28:10-17

Jacob left Beersheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹ And he came to a certain place and

stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to sleep. ¹² And he dreamed, and behold, there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it! ¹³ And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring. ¹⁴ Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed. ¹⁵ Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." ¹⁶ Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it." ¹⁷ And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

How Awesome is This Place!

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 ✠

✠ 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



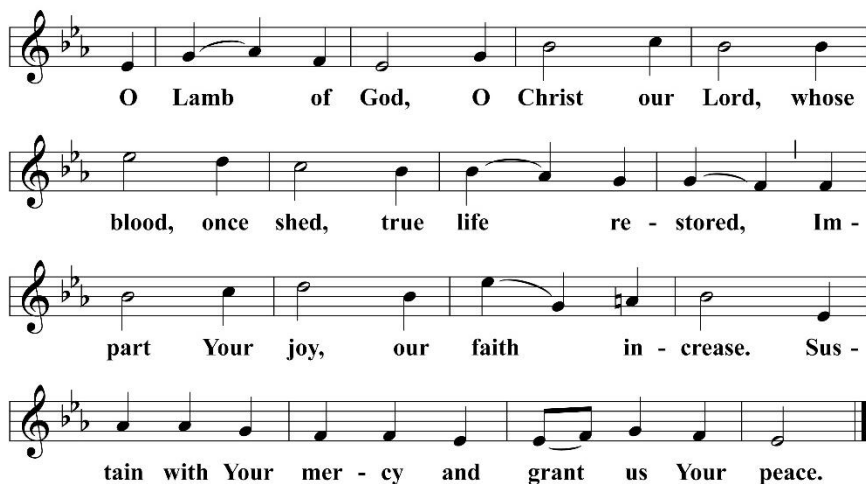
C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of Sa - ba-oth, a-dored; Heav'n and
earth with full ac-claim shout the glo - ry of Your name. Sing ho -
san - na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord; Tru - ly
blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

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 #638

"In Loud, Exalted Strains"

November 9th Worship Schedule – We will be hosting the MN Joint Mission Fest on November 9th at 4:00 pm. The Voters of St. John's have decided to have only one service that day, the Joint Mission Fest. As such, there will be no Bible Class/Sunday School or 10:30 am worship on Sunday, November 9th.

St. John's Veterans Day Program – St. John's School is putting on a Veterans Day program, presented by the school children, on November 11th at 10:30 am here at St. John's. There will be songs, recitations, recognition of veterans, and refreshments. All are welcome, and please feel free to invite guests!

Free for the Taking – A number of boxes of items were donated to the church and are free for the taking. Everything is in the hallway downstairs. Feel free to take a look and see if there is anything you can use! Thank you!

Immanuel Lutheran College Visitors' Day is coming up on Friday, November 14th on the ILC campus in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Activities will begin with chapel at 10:05 A.M. in the Field House, followed by presentations and classroom visits until 2:50 p.m. Come and learn more about your church's college, and consider continuing your education in a solidly Christian setting! Visitors will be our guests for lunch and supper in the cafeteria, and in the evening are invited to join us for ILC's fall theatrical production, *Enchanted Sleeping Beauty*. Speak with your pastor if you're interested in attending. For questions, contact Academic Dean Paul Naumann. Office: 715-836-6636, cell: 253-228-8736, e-mail: paul.naumann@ilc.edu

2026 CLC Mission Helper Trip – The CLC Mission Helper Program is making preparations for another Mission Trip to Africa for the summer of 2026. The main focus of this trip will be presenting the Gospel, through a series of child evangelism lessons, to member and non-member children in village congregations. Possible areas of evangelism include the CLC–Tanzania, CLC–Kenya, CLC–Zambia, and CLC–Uganda. CLC members are welcome and encouraged to apply. For more information and to apply, visit www.mht.lutheranmissions.org.

CLC Call News – Pastor Emeritus Paul Tiefel, Jr. has **received** the vacancy call to Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA. <> Pastor David Pfeiffer of Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, West Columbia, SC, has **returned** the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI. <> Pastor Stefan Sonnenfeld of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sister Lakes, MI, has **returned** the call to Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church, Middleton, WI. <> Pastor Michael Gurath of Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ, has **received** the call to Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church, Middleton, WI. <> Professor Mark Weis

has **returned** the part-time call to Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, Red Wing, MN. <> Pastor Matthew Ude of Faith Lutheran Church, Markesan, WI, has **received** the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI. <> Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Rapid City, SD, has **received** the call to Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA.

10/19 Voters' Meeting Summary – Jacob Olmanson was transferred at his request to Immanuel Lutheran Church in Man-kato. <> Stephanie Lau (Kazemba) was transferred at her request to Messiah Lutheran Church in Eau Claire, WI. <> Pastor has four ongoing adult instruction classes. <> The School Board has appointed a committee to look into the feasibility of offering pre-school at St. John's. <> The trustees will be purchasing an additional over-the-ear microphone in preparation for the Joint Mission Festival. <> The Finance Board will be finding an individual to audit the church finances. <> The Joint Mission Festival will be Sunday, November 9th at 4 pm. The Sunday morning worship and Sunday School/Bible class hours were cancelled for that Sunday. <> Thanksgiving Day worship will be held Thursday, November 27th at 9:30 am. <> The mid-week Advent services will be moved up a half hour from the usual 7 pm time. The three midweek services (Dec. 3rd, 10th, 17th) will be held at 6:30 pm. <> The Christmas Eve service is scheduled for December 24th at 6:30 pm. <> The Christmas Day service will be held on December 25th at 9:30 am. <> The New Year's Eve service will be held on December 31st at 7 pm.

Ushers	10/26	Kendall B, Larry B.
	11/2	Phil S, Nathan V, Anthony F, Daniel R.
	11/9	Trevor B, Tim Z, Josh E, Christian K, David R.
Cleaning		This Week – The Luecks, Liepolds (wk. 2)
		Up Next – The Strikes

Prayer Opportunities

St. John's Members – Mary D. has been in the hospital this week, dealing with complications of her heart failure. She should be getting released from the hospital soon, although it remains to be seen where she will go next. She is hoping to go to a swing bed for a time before returning home, and the hospital is working on finding an opening for her. <> Judy M. has been rehabilitating in Windom after her hip surgery. She is to be released on Tuesday. Rather than return home, Judy will be moving to Valley View Assisted Living in Lakefield. **Thank** the Lord for blessing both of these ladies through their time in the hospital; **ask** that the Lord would provide a location rather than her apartment for Mary to continue recovering; **pray** that the Lord would bless Judy's move and help settle her into her new home.

Missionary Ohlmann – The visitation to India did not go as hoped. After Missionary Ohlmann had been denied visas to visit India for the past five years, he was awarded a five-year visa once more a few months ago. After visiting Nepal for several weeks, he flew into India with CLC Mission Board member Joel Krafft this past week. However, Missionary Ohlmann was detained for a time by the authorities and kicked out of the country together with Mr. Krafft. Both are now safely home. You can read more on his travel blog: <https://missionaryohlmann.blogspot.com/>. **Pray** for Missionary Ohlmann as he deals with this very frustrating setback; **pray** for the saints in India who continue to face increasing persecution for their Christian witness; **ask** that the Lord would work in the hearts of their government that we might enter the land again; **thank** the Lord that there are many faithful pastors in India right now spreading His Word.

DR Congo-ECLSAFA – Pastor Jacques Pondi Lumiangu in Kinshasa has scheduled a number of outreach seminars in the coming months. The congregation is also facing challenges with renting their church building and is unable to fully support Pastor Pondi Lumiangu, so he is facing financial challenges as well. **Pray** for outreach work of the ECLSAFA Congo and that God would abundantly provide for their needs.

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

October 27th - November 1st, 2025

Mon Luke 15:11-24 The younger of two sons went to a far country and wasted his birthright. When he returns repentant, his father rejoices because he “was dead and is alive again. He was lost and is found” (v24).

Tues Acts 28:16-31 Paul is under arrest in Rome, but speaks of Jesus to the leaders of the Jews there. Some were convinced, but others continued in unbelief. Nevertheless Paul's ministry continued for two years.

Wed 1 Kings 19:4-18 Elijah is discouraged when opposition continues after the triumph on Mt. Carmel. God tells him there is more work for him to do, and he is definitely not the only believer left in the land.

Thurs Deuteronomy 24:17-22 The Lord instructs Israel to make provision for the non-Israelites, the fatherless, and widows in the land, remembering that they were all once strangers in the land of Egypt.

Fri John 2:3-17 This day Luther posted the 95 Theses to glorify Jesus Christ. After Jesus revealed his glory at the wedding of Cana, He went on to reform some of the current temple practices in Jerusalem.

Sat 2 Corinthians 3:12-18 When Moses received the law from God, his face glowed for a while. But there is a greater glory, and those who reflect the Lord's glory (v18), revealed in the gospel, still shine!



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