

5th Sunday after Epiphany

February 8, 2026

Liturgy: WS p. 22

Organist: Kathy Lueck



LET YOUR  
LIGHT  
—so—  
SHINE



**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](mailto:sam.rodebaugh@gmail.com)

— [www.okabenalutheran.org](http://www.okabenalutheran.org) —

## † Opening Prayer †

**Hymn: TLH #20**

"God of Mercy, God of Grace"

**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 daily need His forgiveness.

**P** God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.  
**C** If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.  
**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
**C** If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.  
**P** Let us pray.  
**C** Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. 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** Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**The Gloria Patri**

TLH #39:5

**C** ♫ Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before  
Him! Let the Amen Sound from His people again;  
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

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

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**P** Blessèd are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes!

**C** **How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word.**

**P** With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments!

**C** **I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.**

**P** Blessèd are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes!

**C** **With my lips I declare all the just decrees of your mouth.**

**P** In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches.

**C** **I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways.**

**P** I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.

**C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## Collect Prayer of the Day

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

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**P** O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**



### Matthew 5:13-20

"You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored?

It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. <sup>14</sup> "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. <sup>17</sup> "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.<sup>18</sup> 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.<sup>19</sup> 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.<sup>20</sup> For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

you  
are the  
=LIGHT=  
of the  
WORLD



## 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom.<sup>2</sup> For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.<sup>3</sup> And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling,<sup>4</sup> and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,<sup>5</sup> so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.<sup>6</sup> Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away.<sup>7</sup> But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory.<sup>8</sup> None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.<sup>9</sup> But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him"--<sup>10</sup> these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.<sup>11</sup> For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.<sup>12</sup> Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God.

**C 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: WS #769****"Life High the Cross"****Isaiah 58:3-9a**

'Why have we fasted, and you see it not? Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?' Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure, and oppress all your workers. <sup>4</sup> Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to hit with a wicked fist. Fasting like yours this day will not make your voice to be heard on high. <sup>5</sup> Is such the fast that I choose, a day for a person to humble himself? Is it to bow down his head like a reed, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? Will you call this a fast, and a day acceptable to the LORD? <sup>6</sup> "Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? <sup>7</sup> Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? <sup>8</sup> Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. <sup>9</sup> Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, 'Here I am.'

**Fasting ~~For~~ BECAUSE of God**

**C** *>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: WS #767**

“Church of God, Elect and Glorious”

### † 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 #412**

“May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill”



**Card Shower** – A card shower for Lydia Moore will be held on February 14<sup>th</sup> at 11 am here in the fellowship hall. Please RSVP to Mara Boernsen; more information is in the entryway.

**Thank you!** – This morning, Larry Boernsen and Troyal Mayhew gave a presentation for Bible Class on their 2025 Mission Helper trip to Nepal. We thank them for their presentation, and we thank the Lord for blessing the trip last summer.

**Children Singing** – The Sunday School children will be singing next Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup> during the worship service.

**Call for CLC Nominations** – The deadline is March 31 for nominations to CLC offices at our upcoming synod convention, June 25-28, 2026. Pastors, professors, male teachers, and voters of congregations within the Church of the Lutheran Confession are invited to nominate individuals for the following synodical offices: CLC President, CLC Vice-

President, CLC Moderator, CLC Secretary, Called Servants for the Board of Trustees, Regents, Missions, and Education, Lay Members for the Board of Trustees, Regents, Missions, and Education. An online nomination form and accompanying information is available at [clclutheran.net/nominations](http://clclutheran.net/nominations).

**Ron and Karen Strike's** 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary reception has been postponed to a later date, as Karen is hospitalized in SF.

**Leonard and Norma Eigenberg** will be celebrating their 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary next week. In the front of church, the blue and white flower arrangement was placed in honor of the anniversary, thanking the Lord for 65 years of His blessings.

**CLC Call News** – Pastor Jonah Albrecht of Redemption Ev. Lutheran Church, Lynnwood, WA, and Ascension Lutheran Church, Tacoma, WA, has **returned** the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI. <> Pastor Timothy Daub of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Hecla, SD, Zion Ev. Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD, and Redeemer Lutheran Church, Bowdle, SD, has **received and returned** the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI. <> Pastor Paul Agenten of Calvary Lutheran Church, Marquette, MI, and St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Iron River, MI, has **returned** the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI. <> Pastor Johnathan Schnose of Bethel Ev. Lutheran Church, Morris, MN, has **returned** the call to Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA. <> Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Rapid City, SD, has **received** the call to Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ.

<b>Ushers</b>	2/8	Kendall B, Larry B.
	2/15	Phil S, Nathan V, Anthony F, Daniel R.
	2/22	Trevor B, Tim Z, Josh E, Christian K, David R.
<b>Cleaning</b>	This Week – Ling, Sumey, Rovere (wk. 1)	
	Up Next – The Albrechts	

## Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

February 9<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026

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**Mon Matthew 13:3-23** Even where heaven's King rules, the harvest is not always the same. The seed and Sower are the same, but still have opposition in many different forms, pictured by weeds, rocks, birds, etc.

**Tues Matthew 13:24-30** Why does not heaven's King simply wipe out the weeds sown by His enemy? Because He cares so much for the wheat which He has planted. But the day of harvest is coming.

**Wed Colossians 3:12-17** May all the love of our glorious Savior be reflected in our compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, forgiveness, and love toward one another, whether in word or deed.

**Thurs Jeremiah 17:5-10** Evil proceeds from misplaced trust, such as trusting in human strength. Following such a heart leads to disaster, but blessed is anyone who trusts in the Lord.

**Fri Psalm 86** "Blessed are the poor in spirit" (Mt5:3). In this Psalm we have the chance to pray with David, who was poor and needy. With him we look to the Lord who is good and forgiving, full of mercy.

**Sat Psalm 20** As we worshiped the Lord in the day of peace and plenty, may we also look to Him in the day of distress. Some rely on earthly strength, but we will rely on the name of the Lord, our God (v7).

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