

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

July 13th - 18th, 2026

Mon Matthew 5:20-26 Appearing holy to other people was the specialty of the Pharisees and theologians of Jesus' day, but God looks on the heart. If anger or accusation are there, it needs to be settled quickly (v25).

Tues Romans 6:3-11 The death of Christ not only reconciles us to God and thereby gives us new life; it also affects our walk in this new life. We now consider ourselves dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ (v11).

Wed Ephesians 2:4-10 The surpassing riches of His grace – this is what God demonstrated when He gave us life in Christ for the death that our sins deserved! We are God's workmanship, created to glorify Him.

Thurs Exodus 20:1-17 These are the commandments of the Lord who delivered His people from slavery, not because He wanted to enslave them, but because He wants to continue blessing them!

Fri Psalm 114 This psalm sings of the Red Sea parting, the Jordan River stopping, and the mountains trembling in the presence of the Lord. He blessed His people also with water from the rock, springs of water!

Sat Psalm 119:41-48 The mercies of God bring salvation according to His Word. The words of God give answer to enemies, lead us to speak before others – even kings – and bring delight in His commandments.

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6th Sunday after Trinity

July 12th, 2026

Liturgy: WS p. 12

Organist: Lana Strike



A sower
went out to sow



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 #5

"Lord, Open Thou My Heart to Hear"

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.

Have mercy
on me, *God,*
according to your
steadfast *love.*

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: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

Budget Committee Meeting will be held immediately following this morning's worship service. Each Board should plan on sending at least one member to join the Chairman and Treasurer in order to draft the proposed 2026-2027 budget. Please reach out to Treasurer Nathan Albrecht or Chairman Phil Strike if you have any questions.

VBS will be held this week from 9-11:30 am, Monday through Friday. If you are able and willing, please take a look at the snacks list in the entry to see if there are any other snacks that you might be able to donate. Thank you!

The Sunday School Picnic will be held next Sunday after the voters' meeting. Please be sure to plan on staying after church for this fellowship meal. Congregation members are asked to bring side dishes and desserts. Thank you!

VBS Teachers please meet with Pastor today after the service so that we can sit down and discuss this week's lessons.

July Quarterly Meeting – The voting members of St. John's are invited and encouraged to attend our July Quarterly Meeting on Sunday, July 19, in the auditorium after church. Besides regular Board reports, the agenda will include: St. John's Budget for the next fiscal year (July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027), Reformation Service schedule, Mission Festival schedule / speaker, School Board to call prospective Sunday School teachers, October Quarterly Meeting date. Additional agenda items should be given to Chairman Phil Strike as soon as possible.

Ushers	7/12	Phil S, Nathan V, Daniel R.
	7/19	Tim Z, Josh E, Christian K, David R.
	7/5	Kendall B, Larry B, Caleb E.
Cleaning	This Week – Ferguson, Dronen, Baumann, Olmanson (wk. 3)	
	Up Next – The Boernsens	

some thirty. ⁹ He who has ears, let him hear." ... ¹⁸ "Hear then the parable of the sower: ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. ²³ As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Where is the "Good Dirt"? (In Unexpected Places)

The Offertory

- 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 #781

"Preach You the Word"

✠ 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 #46

"On What has Now been Sown"

Collect Prayer of the Day

- P** Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



Isaiah 55:10-13

"For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but

water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹² "For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of

the field shall clap their hands. ¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the LORD, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."



Romans 8:12-17

So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³

For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs-- heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

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: LSB #830 (Next Page)

"Spread the Reign of God"

1 Spread the reign of God the Lord, Spo - ken, writ - ten, might-y Word;
2 Tell how God the Fa - ther's will Made the world, up - holds it still,
3 Tell of our Re-deem - er's grace, Who, to save our hu - man race
4 Tell of God the Spir - it giv'n Now to guide us on to heav'n,

Ev - 'ry-where His crea-tures call To His heav'n-ly ban-quet hall.
How His own dear Son He gave Us from sin and death to save.
And to pay re - bel-lion's price, Gave Him - self as sac - ri - fice.
Strong and ho - ly, just and true, Work-ing both to will and do.

5 Enter, mighty Word, the field;
Ripe the promise of its yield.
But the reapers, oh, how few
For the work there is to do!

6 Lord of harvest, great and kind,
Rouse to action heart and mind;
Let the gath'ring nations all
See Your light and heed Your call.



Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² And great crowds

gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, ⁶ but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty,