

Sunday, May 14, 2017

Fifth Sunday of Easter



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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Church Secretary: Mary Braun & Jenny Schuett

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

MISSION STATEMENT

We will LIVE and SERVE through FAITH

we will ACT with LOVE and KINDNESS

we will GIVE hope and SUPPORT to all.

Hearing Assistance is available during the service.

Please notify usher if you would like assistance

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



BAPTISM

Today a new brother in Christ will join us in baptism.
Charles Vernon Follmer.

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RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS:

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Today at the 10:00am service we will receive

Ian & Nicole Dzubay, Charles Follmer, and Jackie Follmer as members of Bethesda.
Welcome!

PRAISE TEAM ANTHEM:

“Who Am I”

First Reading: Acts 7:55-60

Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God’s word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.

⁵⁵Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶“Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God

Psalm: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

Into your hands, O LORD, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)

¹In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

²**Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.**

³Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

⁴Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.

⁵Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.

¹⁵My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

¹⁶Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.”

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Christ is the cornerstone of God’s saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God’s chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” ⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,” ⁸and “A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God

Please rise for the Reading of the Gospel

GOSPEL: John 14:1-14

On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him,

“Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

Glory to you, O Lord

SERMON:

“A Place for You!”

HYMN OF THE DAY:

“Lord, I Lift Your Name on High”

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APOSTLE’S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Rejoicing in the risen life of Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church. Show us your ways. Teach us your truth. Enliven us in mission. Keep us from discord. Lead us to unity for the sake of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the earth. Turn us away from impulses to pollute this world. Protect fragile habitats. Nurture our planet to be a life-sustaining home for generations yet to be born. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For the nations. Fill all leaders with a spirit of compassion for the poor and oppressed. Give courage to those who work for justice and equality. Bring an end to conflict and violence. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For those in need. Draw near to those who struggle with depression. Comfort those for whom this day evokes heartache or sorrow. Console those who grieve, and heal those who are ill (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For this assembly. Bless mothers and all who offer motherly care. Strengthen child care workers, nursery attendants, and those who teach our youth. Uphold our elders and those who care for aging parents. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With thanksgiving, we remember those who have died in faith and those who have borne witness to your love (*especially the apostle Matthias*). Bring us with them to dwell with you forever. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Joining our voices with your faithful ones in every time and place, we offer our prayers in the name of the Risen One, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated

Ushers will begin passing the offering plate. Please rise as the ushers bring the offering to the altar.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as you were made known to the disciples. Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER – LED BY THE PRAISE TEAM

BLESSING

May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy. Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN: "All the People Said Amen"

Visitors! It has been great having you join us for worship! Please come again.

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Music: Praise Choir

Greeters: Bev Wedig, Marilyn Andrews

Ushers 8:30am: Wayne & Janice Olson

Lectors: 8:30am: Val Benton

10:00am: Barry & Donna Ansell

10:00: Darlene Christensen

Hospitality Hosts: Lee & Barb Forrester, Chuck & Elsa Carlson

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week: Sunday, May 7th: 8:30am: 85 10:00pm 74

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda

May 15 through May 21, 2017

Monday	5/15	9:00 am	Women's Devotion at Pat Beckers
		1:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	5/16	10-12 noon	Pastor's Text Study
		9:00 am	Crafters
		5:30 pm	Council Meeting
		7:00pm	Adult Bible Study
Wednesday	5/17	8:00-noon	WIC
		8:30 am	Bible Study
		9:30 am	WELCA
		9:30 am	Stitchers
		6:00 pm	Catechism
		6:00 pm	Choir Practice
7:00 pm	Praise Team		

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda (continued) May 15 through May 21, 2017

Thursday	5/18	8:00am	ROMEOS
		12:30 pm	Fun Timers
Friday	5/19	10:00 am	Bone Builders
Sunday	5/21	8:30 am	Worship
		10:00 am	Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENDANCE REGISTRY Please sign and pass the new attendance registry folders which you will find in the pew.

PRAYER AND CARE CONCERNS Family & Friends of Arlene Westerlund

NEW WEBSITE – the new website is up and running. You can listen to the gospel and the sermon for each week, preview the Sunday bulletins, find forms for prayer requests, recent events and more! Go check it out today and bookmark this site to your favorites!

<http://www.blcmalmo.org>

NEW BIBLE STUDY BEGINS! Men & Women on Tuesday afternoons at 3:30pm. Also Women only Wednesday morning at 8:30 am. Come and share your questions and convictions as we explore the dynamic New Testament Scriptures of the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles. Come when you can! You are welcome! Pastor Terry

ISLE & MALMO LIONS presents “Return of the Snow Birds Dinner & Dance” Wednesday, May 31st 6pm-10pm at Appledoorn’s Sunset Bay Resort. \$20 per person.

LAWN MOWING the list is in the Narthex – Please pick a week to mow. Thank you.

MUSIC MINISTRY Our church would like to experience the talents of your family and friends. Our hope would be to incorporate a one piece selection of special music into our Sunday worship services. Please contact the church for complete details.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to all the wonderful jelly making ladies. You did an awesome job! We made 435 jars of jelly in 4 hours. They are for sale in the fellowship hall after the service for \$4.00 a jar.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST Mother’s Day, Sunday May 14 at Wealthwood Rod & Gun Club, 8 AM – 1 PM. Half the proceeds will support Garrison Fire & Rescue.

BUDGET Committees, please return your budget worksheets to the Stewardship in box by June 5th.

THANK YOU to the 4H group who helped with ditch clean up. Their names are posted on the Thank You-News-Coming Events bulletin board.

In light of President Trump's Exec. Order on Religious Freedom, a response from Presiding Bishop Elisabeth Eaton is helpful information. Please pick up a copy in the narthex. Thanks!

“A Place in the Choir”

(Chorus) All God’s critters got a place in the choir
Some sing low, some sing higher
Some sing out loud on the telephone wire
And some just clap their hands-or paws-or anything they got now.

1. Listen to the bass it’s the one on the bottom
Where the bull frog croaks
And the hippopotamus moans and groans with a big t’do
And the old cow just goes “moo”.
2. The dogs and the cats they take up the middle
While the honeybee hums and the cricket fiddles
The donkey brays and the pony neighs
And the old coyote howls. **(Chorus)**
3. Listen to the top where the little bird sing
On the melodies with the high notes ringing
The hoot owl hollers over everything
And the jaybird disagrees.
4. Singing in the night time, singing in the day
The little duck quacks, then he’s on his way
And the ‘possum ain’t got much to say
And the porcupine talks to himself. **(Chorus)**
5. It’s a simple song of living sung everywhere
By the ox and the fox and the grizzly bear
The grumpy alligator and the hawk above
The sly raccoon and the turtle dove. **(Chorus)**