

# Sunday, May 7, 2017

## Fourth Sunday of Easter



### **BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO**

21590 State Highway 47, Isle, MN 56342

Phone: 320-684-2123 (1-877-684-2123) Fax: 320-684-2836

E-mail address: [blcmalmo@frontiernet.net](mailto:blcmalmo@frontiernet.net)

NEW Church Web Site: [blcmalmo.org](http://blcmalmo.org)

### **Pastor Terry Frovik, Interim**

(Cell) 507-213-9961

(Home) 218-963-6140

Parish Nurses: Darlene Christensen, RN 320-684-2846

Patti Honnold, RN CNP 320-676-8421

Kathy Berland RN ANP 218-838-6181

Prayer Chain Contacts Char Berg 320-684-2102 or Judy Forester 218-678-2667

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**

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### INTRODUCTION

*Today is sometimes called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Jesus is called the “gate” of the sheep in today’s gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us in the midst of the world’s violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God’s tender care to all creation.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN:**      **“All People that on Earth Do Dwell”**      #883 ELW  
*(Please rise for the singing of the last verse)*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

**Amen.**

Let us come into the light, the revealing and healing light of God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of grace and glory,

**you have brought us through the night of sin into the light of Jesus’ resurrection. Yet our lives are still shadowed by sin. Make us alive in Christ, O God. Make us new as you make all things new. Rescue us from evil and the gloom of sin, renew us in grace, and restore us to living in your holiness, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.**

**Amen.**

Rejoice with all creation around God’s throne! The light of the risen Christ puts to flight all evil deeds, washes away sin, restores innocence to the fallen, casts out hate, brings peace, and humbles earthly pride. Jesus Christ loves you and ✙ frees you from your sins by his blood. To him be glory and dominion forever and ever!

**Amen.**

### APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ...

**And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

**CHOIR ANTHEM: “Draw Me Nearer”**

### **First Reading: Acts 2:42-47**

*Today’s reading is a description of life in the community following Peter’s sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was outpoured on God’s people. This new community is founded on the teachings of the apostles and sustained in the breaking of the bread.*

<sup>42</sup>[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

<sup>43</sup>Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. <sup>44</sup>All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup>they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup>Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup>praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved. The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks Be to God**

### **Psalm: Psalm 23**

*The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)*

**<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.**

**<sup>2</sup>The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

**<sup>3</sup>You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.**

**<sup>4</sup>Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

**<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.**

**<sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

## **Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25**

*Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardships, rejection, or even suffering. Here Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly in the midst of adversity.*

<sup>19</sup>It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup>If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. <sup>21</sup>For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

<sup>22</sup>“He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

<sup>23</sup>When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. <sup>24</sup>He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup>For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

### **Thanks Be to God**

*Please rise for the Reading of the Gospel*

## **Gospel: John 10:1-10**

### **Glory to you, O Lord**

*Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Good shepherds bring people to life through Jesus, but those who avoid Jesus are dangerous to the flock.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” <sup>6</sup>Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup>So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

The Gospel of the Lord

### **Praise to you, O Christ**

*Please be Seated*

## SERMON

## Shepherds!

*Please Stand for the Hymn of the Day*

**HYMN OF THE DAY: “Thy King of Low My Shepherd Is” #502 ELW**

**Affirmation of Baptism (10:00)** for Dale Petersen and Joseph Simonson p.234 ELW

**APOSTLE’S CREED (8:30)**

**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. Strengthen ministers of word, sacrament, and service who are called to shepherd your people. Renew your church and unite us through your Spirit. Send us out to serve our neighbors and to receive their care with gratitude. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For the earth. For pastures and prairies, rivers and streams, oceans and mountains. For those who care for livestock and pets. For all animals, wild and domestic, with whom we share this world. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For the nations. Guide leaders into the path of peace. Uphold all who govern. Bring an end to injustice, warfare, and violence. Protect those who risk their lives to shield others from danger. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For those in need. For those who lack safe housing and adequate food. For workers whose pay is insufficient to meet their daily needs. Comfort the grieving and heal the sick (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For this assembly. For ushers, acolytes, and greeters. For those who clean and prepare this space for worship. Give wisdom to our councils, committees, and all who guide this congregation's ministry. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

With thanksgiving, we remember those who have died in faith (*especially*). In your goodness and mercy, bring us to the fulfillment of your promise to dwell in your house 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.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**COMMUNION** - *Distribution by intinction.*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**

## **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.**

**RECESSIONAL HYMN: "I Know that My Redeemer Lives" #723 ELW**

**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.**

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

**THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK**

Music: Choir

Digital Organ: Paula Spetz

Greeters: George & Kathy Larson

Ushers 8:30am: Wayne & Janice Olson  
10:00am: Barry & Donna Ansell

Lectors: 8:30am: Carolyn Morris  
10:00: Laury Nyberg

Hospitality Hosts: Ron & Joni Mehlhop, Rich & Marge Nelson, Neil & Myra Honl

*Thank you for your service!*

Response to God's Word Last Week: Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>: 8:30am: 75 10:00pm 25

**THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA**

May 8 - May 14

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Monday	5/8	8:00 am	Jelly Making
		1:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	5/9	10-noon	Pastor Text Study
		9:00 am	Quilters
		1:30 pm	4H
		7:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
Wednesday	5/10	8:30 am	Bible Study
		9:30 am	Stitchers
		6:00 pm	Catechism
		6:00 pm	Choir Practice
		7:00 pm	Praise Team practice
Thursday	5/11	8:00 am	Romeos
		12:00 noon	Stewardship Meeting
		12:30 pm	Funtimers
Friday	5/12	10:00 am	Bones
Sunday	5/14	8:30 am	Worship
		10:00 am	Worship - New Members & Baptism

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

This morning at the 10:00am worship, Dale Petersen and Joey Simonson will be confirmed in their Christian faith. We welcome them and their families as we, together, celebrate this milestone in their growth in grace!

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

**PRAYER AND CARE CONCERNS** Arlene Westerlun, Dale Siems

**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 MEMBERS** We will be receiving new members on May 14<sup>th</sup>. If you wish to join at this time, please contact Pastor Terry.

**NEW BIBLE STUDY BEGINS!** Men & Women on Tuesday evening at 7 pm. 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. Each session will cover about seven chapters from May 2 – June 14. Be good to your spiritual curiosities and allow the Word to grow deeper in your daily walk of faith. We will read some and talk a lot! This class meets Tuesday evening at 7 pm and Wednesday morning at 8:30 am. Come when you can! You are welcome! Pastor Terry

**MALMO AREA LIONS** are having a Brat/Hotdog Sale May 13<sup>th</sup> 8am-4pm in Westerlund's parking lot – Corner of Hwy 47/18. Proceeds go to Kids Against Hunger Brainerd Lakes Area.

**ISLE & MALMO LIONS** presents “Return of the Snow Birds Dinner & Dance” Wednesday, May 31<sup>st</sup> 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.

**SYNOD ASSEMBLY OF ELCA** A very special Thank You to Bethesda for the opportunity to attend the Synod Assembly of the ELCA. It was wonderful to hear about everything the ELCA is doing. Also, a big Thank You to Darlene Christensen for the many gift baskets she made for the Marketplace and the quilters for supplying the quilt which was bought for \$100.00. The quilts and the Marketplace brought in a total of over \$24,000.00. Bethesda placed third in the “Holy Cow” category for giving to World Hunger. Way to go Bethesda! We are so proud to be part of Bethesda's congregation. Chuck and Elsa Carlson

**SPRING CLEANING** Please join the Property Committee for a church cleaning session on Wednesday, May 24th, starting at 10:00 a.m. We will be cleaning the garage, washing windows, and light yard work. If you can help, please sign up in the Narthex.

**MILLE LACS LAKE AREA OPERATION COMMUNITY CONNECT (OCC)** is a one-day event to help community members receive needed services. Bethesda is collecting hygiene items for free giveaways. We need laundry, dish and bar soap, toilet paper, shampoo and socks. Please drop these items off in the Fellowship Hall by June 1<sup>st</sup>.