

**Sunday, July 2, 2017**  
**Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**



**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**

# Sunday, July 2, 2017

## Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

### INTRODUCTION

*The welcome of baptism is for all God's children. This baptismal gift sets us free from the power of sin and death. In today's gospel, Christ promises that the disciple who gives a cup of cold water to the little ones serves Christ himself. From worship we are sent on our baptismal mission: to serve the little ones of this world and to be a sign of God's merciful welcome.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 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, full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love.

**Amen.**

Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection*

Eternal God our creator,

**in you we live and move and have our being. Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands. Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us. In the mercy of almighty God, Christ died for us while we still were sinners; and for his sake, God ✙ forgives you all your sins.

**Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN: "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life" #719 ELW**

### GREETING:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

**CHOIR ANTHEM: “America – Land of Liberty”**

**First Reading: Jeremiah 28:5-9**

*Through a symbolic action, Jeremiah insisted that Judah and all the surrounding nations should submit to the king of Babylon. Hananiah contradicted Jeremiah, who in reply insisted that Hananiah’s rosy prediction should not be believed until it came true. God confirmed the word of Jeremiah and sentenced the false prophet Hananiah to death (vv. 16-17).*

<sup>5</sup>The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD; <sup>6</sup>and the prophet Jeremiah said, “Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. <sup>7</sup>But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. <sup>8</sup>The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. <sup>9</sup>As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet.”

The word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**PSALM: Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18**

<sup>1</sup>Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing; from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

<sup>2</sup>**For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever; you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**

<sup>3</sup>“I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

<sup>4</sup>**‘I will establish your line forever, and preserve your throne for all generations.’”**

<sup>15</sup>Happy are the people who know the festal shout! They walk, O LORD, in the

light of your presence.

**<sup>16</sup>They rejoice daily in your name; they are jubilant in your righteousness.**

<sup>17</sup>For you are the glory of their strength, and by your favor our might is exalted.

**<sup>18</sup>Truly, our shield belongs to the LORD; our king to the Holy One of Israel.**

### **Second Reading: Romans 6:12-23**

*Sin is an enslaving power that motivates us to live self-serving, disobedient lives. Sin's final payoff is death. We, however, have been set free from sin's slavery to live obediently under God's grace, whose end is the free gift of eternal life.*

<sup>12</sup>Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. <sup>13</sup>No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. <sup>14</sup>For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

<sup>15</sup>What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! <sup>16</sup>Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? <sup>17</sup>But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, <sup>18</sup>and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. <sup>19</sup>I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

<sup>20</sup>When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. <sup>21</sup>So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. <sup>22</sup>But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. <sup>23</sup>For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

### **GOSPEL: Matthew 10:40-42**

**Glory to you, O Lord**

*When Jesus sends his disciples out as missionaries, he warns them of persecution and hardships they will face. He also promises to reward any who aid his followers and support their ministry.*

[Jesus said to the twelve:] <sup>40</sup>“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. <sup>41</sup>Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; <sup>42</sup>and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

The Gospel of the Lord

## **Praise to You, O Christ**

**SERMON: “Big Ones, Little Ones and the Haves and Have Nots”**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: “Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling” #608 ELW**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

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

Called together in the Spirit’s embrace, let us pray for the mending of God’s world.

*A brief silence.*

We pray for the church. For exiled Christians, oppressed churches, and all who suffer persecution because of faith in you: deliver freedom, courage, and partners in peacemaking. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the earth and its creatures. For sage grouse, wolverines, and all vulnerable species; for humans and the choices we face: sustain life and guide our stewardship of all that you have made. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the United States and Canada as we celebrate the founding of our nations. For the president and prime minister (*these leaders may be prayed for by name*); for the congress and parliament: grant wisdom and hearts for justice, that all our people flourish. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for those in need. For those who seek jobs, shelter, food, health, and love; for dear ones known to us (*especially*): meet their need by your bountiful compassion and our community’s action. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all who worship you today. For wise elders and curious seekers, joyful spirits and burdened souls: give holy welcome, share tender mercies, and deepen trust in your goodness. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We give thanks for all who have died in the faith and received the reward of the righteous (*especially*). Bless their memory among us and their life with you. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

All these things, and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your care through 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.*

**Offering Prayer**

Merciful God,

**you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing.**

**You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this through Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

**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.**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

## TABLE BLESSING

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore.

**Amen.**

### A PRAYER FOR OUR NATION

Holy Trinity, on God, you show us the splendor of diversity and the beauty of unity in your own divine life. Make us, who came from many nations with many languages, a united people that delights in our many different gifts. Defend our liberties, and give those whom we have entrusted with authority the spirit of wisdom, that there might be justice and peace in our land. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our sovereign and our Savior. Amen

### BLESSING

May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

### CLOSING HYMN:

“This is My Song”

#887 ELW

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

### THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Music: Adult Choir & Digital Organ

Greeters: Maynard & Kathy Berland

Ushers: 8:30am Rich & Marge Nelson

10:00am Darrell Kelly

Lectors: 8:30am Winnie Zahradka

10:00am Kathy Carlson

Hospitality Hosts: Shirley Gosselin, Del & Dianne Jones

*Thank you for your service!*

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: June 25, 2017: 8:30am: 79 10:00am: 48

**THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA****July 3 through July 9, 2017**

Monday	7/3	1:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	7/4	10:30 am	Meet at Church for Glen 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Parade @ Noon
Wednesday	7/5	8:30 am	Women's bible study
		9:30 am	Stitchers
		6:00 pm	Choir
		7:00 pm	Praise Team
Thursday	7/6	8:00am	ROMEOS
		10:30 am	Worship & Music Meeting
		12:30pm	Funtimers
		6:00 pm	Bells
Friday	7/7	10:00 am	Bone Builders
Saturday	7/8	7:30 am	Veggie Stand
		1:00-4:00pm	Foot Care
Sunday	7/9	8:30 am	Worship
		10:00 am	Worship
		11:30 am	Holden Village Meeting

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ATTENDANCE REGISTRY** Please sign and pass the attendance registry which you will find in the pew. Information will be gathered for Evangelism.

**PRAYER AND CARE CONCERNS** • Maria Burman, Aicota

**COFFEE SERVERS NEEDED** Signup sheets are to the left of the serving window by the kitchen. Please check it out and take your turn. There will always be someone to help you with making coffee and running the dishwasher.

**BLESSING BOX** For the months of June, July & August the contributions to the Blessing box will be used for local benevolence. These funds will be going to: Camp Onomia, BLCM Emergency Fund, Christmas Joy, Aitkin Social Services, and True Friends Camp in McGregor. If you have somehow been blessed this past month, please consider giving to the Blessing Box today to help out your neighbors who may not be as fortunate as you.

**HOLDEN VILLAGE TRIP** Information and planning meeting, Sunday July 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am. All are welcome! The week at Holden Village is August 27-September 1. (Special Update Today) Holden's website: <http://www.holdenvillage.org>

**NEED PARTICIPANTS** for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade in Glen. Ride on the float, hand out candy and post cards, meet new friends and neighbors. See Jerry Morris for details.

**VEGGIE STAND** is now open every Saturday morning at 7:30am. Donations of baked goods: pies, cookies, bars, breads, etc. are always welcome. Drop off your donations that morning or leave at the church on Friday. All proceeds go to the Benevolence fund. Let's make this a wonderful year. Any questions please contact Elsa Carlson: home 218-678-3408 cell 218-251-4551