

Sunday, November 19, 2017

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost



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

Church Web Site: blcmalmo.org

Pastor James Muske

(Welcome!)

Parish Nurses: Darlene Christensen, RN 320-839-8193

Kathy Berland RN ANP 218-838-6181

Prayer Chain Contacts: Char Berg 320-684-2102 or Darlene Christensen 320-839-8193

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:

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM: “To the God Who Reigns”

First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week’s first reading) presents the day of the Lord as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the Lord.

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. ¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, “The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm.” ¹³Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. ¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. ¹⁵That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, ¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. ¹⁷I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung.

¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD’s wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12

So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. (Ps. 90:12)

¹Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.

²Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, from age to age you are God.

³You turn us back to the dust and say, “Turn back, O children of earth.”

⁴For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past and like a watch in the night;

⁵you sweep them away like a dream, they fade away suddenly like the grass:
⁶**in the morning it is green and flourishes; in the evening it is dried up and withered.**
⁷For we are consumed by your anger; we are afraid because of your wrath.
⁸**Our iniquities you have set before you, and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**
⁹When you are angry, all our days are gone; we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
¹⁰**The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty; yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and we are gone.**
¹¹Who regards the power of your wrath? Who rightly fears your indignation?
¹²**So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

Glory to you, O Lord

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more

talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' ²¹His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' ²³His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ”

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to You, O Christ

SERMON:

HYMN OF THE DAY:

“Shout to the Lord”

#821 ELW

(repeat)

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

Welcoming God's reign of righteousness and mercy, let us pray with people of every time and place.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church. Enliven its witness in ecumenical ministries, feeding programs, and new ventures. Open our hearts to friendships that share faith, and open our mouths to share your good news. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for parks and open spaces, for clean air and clear water. Help us protect places where we are reminded of God's work in creation and find renewal. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for those who have been and are still today enslaved, trafficked, or oppressed. Make clear the needs of those who are silenced by suffering, that we may listen and bring an end to exploitation. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for those who cry out for healing, hope, or help, and for those for whom we have promised to pray (*especially*). Bring relief to caregivers and surround those who are lonely with your powerful presence. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for this congregation and the talents and treasures each person brings. Bring new talents to blossom among us, as we encourage and build up one another. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Lord, our dwelling place in all generations, we remember with thanksgiving all who have died in you (*especially*). Teach us to count our days as gifts from you. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Receive these prayers and the hopes and concerns of our hearts, O God, as we entrust into your loving care all for whom we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Creator God, you made everything, and you provide for every need. The bread we break and the wine we pour come from you. As we eat and drink with thanksgiving, fill us with your love; let that love flow through us to others; and join us to the saints before us in a holy and boundless communion; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sovereign God, in this meal you give us a foretaste of the great feast to come. Keep us faithful to you, that we, with all your saints, may at length celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

The love of God surround you; the grace of \oplus Christ release you; and the Holy Spirit be your guide and strength, now and forevermore.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: “Go, My Children, With My Blessing” #543ELW

DISMISSAL

Led on by the saints before us, go in peace to serve the Lord.

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 Hymnal

Greeters: Bruce G & Carol S

Ushers: 8:30 – Skip & Lynn Hansen

10:00 – Marilyn Andrews

Lectors: 8:30 Lynn Hansen

10:00 – Myra Honl

Hospitality Hosts: Gene & Shari Whipple, Dick & Sue Stebbins, George & Kathy Larson

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, November 12, 2017: 8:30am 75 10:00 am 30

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda**November 19, - November 25, 2017**

Monday	11/20	1:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	11/21		
Wednesday	11/22	8:00 am	NO Women's Bible Study
		9:30 am	Stitchers
		5:30 pm	Potluck
		6:30 pm	Thanksgiving Service
Thursday	11/23	HAPPY THANKSGIVING!	
Friday	11/24	10:00 am	Bone Builders
		1:00 pm	Aitkin Fish house Parade-downtown!!
Sunday	11/26	8:30 am	Worship
		10:00 am	Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENDANCE REGISTRY Please sign and pass the attendance registry which you will find in the pew. This information is gathered for annual reports to the Synod.

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.

BETHESDA QUILTERS need donations of clean mattress pads, blankets, and bed spreads to make Lutheran World Relief quilts.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Doris Reinhard has a birthday Nov. 27. Her family and Marge Garbo will be serving coffee and cake on Sun., Nov 26th between services.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS – The tree is up in the Narthex ready for donations for Aitkin County youth, ages 0-18 years. Help trim the tree with hats, mittens, scarves, or any other unwrapped gifts that are age appropriate. Dead line for donations is Sunday, December 10th.

THANK YOU BETHESDA for allowing the Malmo Lions to host their first pancake breakfast here on November 11th!

CHRISTINGLE Aitkin United Methodist Church is putting on a Christmas Christingle program for children on Saturday, December 2, 2017 @4:30pm. Admission is free but a free will offering will be received to benefit the Aitkin Area Food Shelf. See the announcement on the bulletin board to see what a Christingle is and the history of it.

AMAZON Smile donations from purchase made during the 3rd quarter amounted to \$15.05. If you want to contribute, go to the website www.smile.amazon.com on your computer or mobile device. If you already have an account with Amazon you can use the same one for AmazonSmile, if not simply register for a new account and then select **Bethesda Lutheran of Isle, MN** as your charitable organization. The site will remember your Bethesda selection automatically for every future eligible purchase and will result in a donation to our church. There is also a listing for Bethesda Lutheran Church of Aitkin, so choose the one with the **Isle, MN** address. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of each eligible purchase price, which equates to \$1.00 per every \$200 purchased.