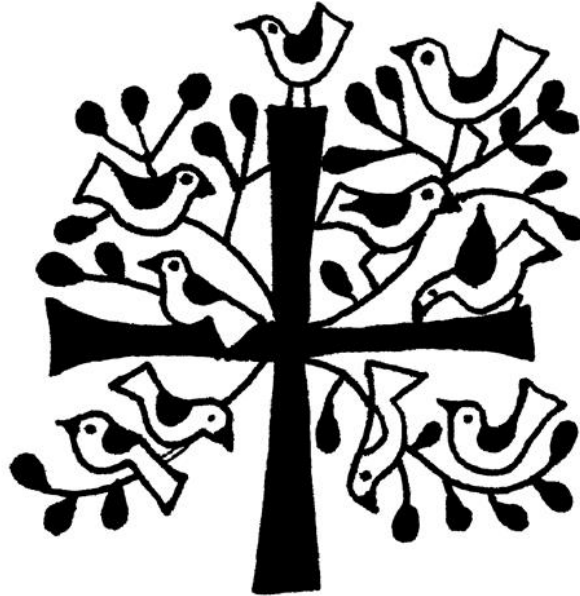


Sunday, June 17, 2018

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

320-583-5796

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

Sunday, June 17, 2018

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

INTRODUCTION

The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK

OPENING HYMN: "Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling" # 608 ELW
Please Stand on 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, 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 for reflection and self-examination.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

CHOIR ANTHEM: “I Saw the Light”

READING: Exodus 20:17

¹⁷ You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female servant, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Please stand for the Gospel

GOSPEL Matthew 22:34-40

Glory to you, O Lord

³⁴When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest? ³⁷He said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' ³⁸This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, O Christ

Please be seated

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: “Praise and Thanksgiving”

#689 ELW

Please stand if able

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 to the dead. 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

Filled with the Holy Spirit, we join with the church in every place, praying for the world that God so loves.

A brief silence.

O Most High, your divine realm is like a noble tree whose boughs and branches give shade and rest to the peoples of the earth. Make your church a nesting place for all who need your peace and healing. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

O Most High, all the world is a garden for your creativity. Refresh places of drought with abundant rains. Strengthen and keep safe those who fight fires in your forests. Help us tend your mountains and plains, oceans and rivers with loving care. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

O Most High, you speak and your word is accomplished. Speak to the leaders of the nations so they might end cycles of violence, giving people everywhere tranquility and peace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

O Most High, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. Bring the abundant healing blessings of the new creation into the lives of those who suffer illness or deprivation of any kind (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

O Most High, your steadfast love and faithfulness sustain your people. Bless fathers and all father figures with such love and faithfulness that children flourish and grow in uprightness and joy. Bless those who long to be fathers and those for whom this day is difficult. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

O Most High, just as the earth produces of itself and the harvest comes, you gather up your people from all times and places. Bring us along with those who have died (*especially*) into the lasting harvest of your kingdom. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

By the sure guidance of your Holy Spirit, O God, we lift up our prayers in trust and thanksgiving; 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 stand as the ushers bring the offering to the altar.

OFFERTORY 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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:**“God, are You Tired”***Insert***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 Hymnal Greeters: Dick & Sandy Pullen

Ushers: 8:30am George & Kathy Larson 10:00am Dick & Sue Stebbins

Hospitality Hosts: Dianne & Del Jones; Lynne & Denny Meidlinger

Thank you for your service!

Response to God’s Word Last Week

Attendance: Sun, June 10th: 8:30 am 89 10:00 am 36**THIS WEEK AT Bethesda****June 18 – June 24, 2018**

| | | | |
|-----------|------|------------|--|
| Sunday | 6/17 | 9:30 am | Group Pictures |
| | | 9:45 am | Help Set Up for VBS |
| Monday | 6/18 | 9:00am | VBS |
| | | 1:00 pm | Pinochle at Sharon Robert’s home |
| | | 7:00 pm | AA/Alanon |
| Tuesday | 6/19 | 9:00am | VBS |
| | | 12 – 2 pm | Pastor’s Text Study |
| Wednesday | 6/20 | 9:00 am | VBS |
| | | 5:00 pm | Community Picnic at Lakeside Park |
| | | | Newsline articles due |
| Thursday | 6/21 | 9:00 am | VBS |
| | | 12:00 pm | Funtimers-12:00 (potluck)12:30 (cards) @ Kathy Bauer’s |
| | | 6:00 pm | Bell Choir Practice |
| Friday | 6/22 | 9:00am | VBS |
| | | 1:00pm | Take down after Bible School |
| Saturday | 6/23 | 12:00 noon | Funeral for Rose Pedersen |
| Sunday | 6/24 | 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.

PRAYERS AND CARE CONCERNS: Marlys Beavers undergoing surgery June 28th for breast cancer involving lymph nodes. Family of Rose Pedersen – funeral Saturday, June 23rd here at Bethesda.

LAWN MOWERS NEEDED: If you enjoy the outdoors, we have an opportunity for you. Please sign up to help mow the church lawn. A sign-up sheet is located in the Narthex. Training on use of mowers is available if needed. Contact Lee Forrester.

“NO BAKE” BAKE SALE Will continue through the month of June. Instead of baking anything, just figure out how much it would cost you to bake something, then put that amount in an envelope marked “No Bake” Bake Sale. We will give the money raised to local food shelves so that they can supply food to needy families. Oftentimes when the holidays are over, the donations to food shelves decreases and they don’t have the resources to take care of everyone in need. We want to make sure that doesn’t happen. Checks can be made to *“Bethesda or WELCA”* and placed in the “No Bake” Bake Sale envelopes and dropped into the offering plate this month. Extra envelopes are available in the Narthex.

LIFETOUCH PHOTOGRAPHY will be here August 15-18 to take pictures for our new church directory. Schedules will be available as we come near to those dates.

GROUP PHOTO – We will be taking a group photo of our congregation today, *Sunday, June 17th, 2018* for our new picture directories that will be out by the end of the year. The picture will be taken outside, in between services.

ELCA - All Ages Retreat at Camp Hiawatha August 24-26. Rates include bunkhouse lodging, dinner Friday through breakfast Sunday, full access to Camp Hiawatha (36944 Camp Hiawatha Rd, Deer River, MN 56636) and endless activities (or rest and relaxation!) Adults • \$100; Kids 4-11 • \$75; Kids under 4 • FREE; Maximum Family Cost = \$400. Registrations due by August 6. Questions? Contact First Lutheran Church 218-927-2028 or office@flc-aitkin.com or see the information on the table in the Narthex.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY will be starting the New Testament in their study of the *Genesis to Revelation* course by Dr. Craig Koester of Luther Seminary. We meet at 9 am in the Fellowship Hall restarting June 27th.

COMMUNITY PICNIC will be held at the Lakeside Park on June 20 starting at 5:00pm. Put on by the Malmo Area Lions. All are welcome to enjoy free food, games & entertainment.

GOD ARE YOU TIRED

Larry Olson



Oh God, are you tired of our emp - ty days, our
Oh God, are you tired of our bombs and guns, the
Oh God, are you tired of our end - less greed, our



cal - loused hearts, our bro - ken ways? How
rea - sons we give to kill some - one? How
mind - less chase of lux - u - ry? How



long till we wake up and heed your call? How
long till we stand up and stop this race? How
long till we cry out that some - thing's wrong? How



long till we see that we don't know it all?
long till we see you in ev - er - y face? May we
long till our praise is more than a song?



lose our - selves for you. May we lose our - selves for



you. For the least and the lost, may we



take up our cross and hum - bly fol - low you.