

Sunday, July 22, 2018

Ninth 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

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INTRODUCTION

Themes of emptiness and fullness abound in this little book of Ruth: famine turning to abundant food, loss turning to love, bitterness turning to joy, barrenness giving way to birth. And the improbable catalyst for all this is Ruth, neither king nor prophet, but only a widow and a foreigner. This little domestic tale is a story of God's faithfulness, God's covenant love, lived out in the lives of everyday, ordinary human beings, much like you and me.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN:

“Jesus, Still Lead On”
Please Stand on the Last Verse

#624 ELW

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, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

BELL CHOIR ANTHEM: “This is the Day”

READING: Ruth 1:1-22

¹In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. ²The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. ³But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. ⁴These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years, ⁵both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

⁶Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the LORD had considered his people and given them food. ⁷So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. ⁸But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. ⁹The LORD grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. ¹⁰They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." ¹¹But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? ¹²Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, ¹³would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the LORD has turned against me." ¹⁴Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

¹⁵So she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law."

¹⁶But Ruth said, "Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge, your people shall be my people, and your God my God.

¹⁷Where you die, I will die — there will I be buried. May the LORD do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!"

¹⁸When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

¹⁹So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem. When they came to Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them; and the women said, "Is this Naomi?" ²⁰She said to them, "Call me no longer Naomi, call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt bitterly with me.

²¹I went away full, but the LORD has brought me back empty; why call me Naomi when the LORD has dealt harshly with me, and the Almighty has brought calamity upon me?"

²²So Naomi returned together with Ruth the Moabite, her daughter-in-law, who came back with her from the country of Moab. They came to Bethlehem at the beginning of the barley harvest.

Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Please stand for the Gospel

GOSPEL Matthew 5:3-9

Glory to you, O Lord

³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, O Christ

Please be seated

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

#656 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

Growing in faith and discipleship, we give thanks for God's merciful compassion as we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

God, you are our cornerstone, giving your people a strong foundation of faith. Help us to seek meaningful change in the world, and lead us to places of rest where you renew us for mission. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God, you are our shepherd, leading us to green pastures and still waters for our use and pleasure. Renew the face of the earth. Guard the land and seas, the mountains and valleys, cultivated farmland and untamed wilderness. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God, you are our righteousness, proclaiming peace to those who are far off and to those who are near. Remove hostility that divides nations. Make us no longer strangers or aliens but fellow citizens with all your saints. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God, you are our compassion, bringing rest to all who seek treatments and diagnoses and are left without answers or energy. Restore the aching souls and bodies of those who seek comfort (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God, you are our creativity, creating joy and purpose through all artists in the church: composers, writers, visual artists, musicians, poets, and dancers. Open our hearts to experience your truth in new and beautiful ways through their work.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God, you are our future, leading us through the valley of the shadow of death and preparing a table for us with all of your saints (*especially Mary Magdalene*). Let your goodness and mercy follow us until we dwell in your house forever. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Gracious God, we lift to you these prayers and the prayers of our hearts, trusting in your everlasting love and mercy, 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:

“How Can It Be”

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: Bell Choir & Digital Hymnal Greeters: Pat & Jerry Becker
Ushers: 8:30am Chuck & Elsa Carlson 10:00am Barry & Donna Ansell
Hospitality Hosts: George & Patti Smith, Mary Braun, Jenny Schuett

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sun, July 15th: 8:30 am 94 10:00 am 15

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda

July 23 – July 29, 2018

Monday	7/23	1:00 pm	Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	7/24	9:00 am	Quilters
		12 – 2 pm	Pastor's Text Study
Wednesday	7/25	9:00 am	Bible Study
		10:00 am	Stitchers
		10:00 am	Property Committee mtg
		6:00 pm	Choir Practice
		7:00 pm	Praise Team
Thursday	7/26	8:00 am	ROMEO's
		12:00 pm	Funtimers (12:00 Potluck, 12:30 cards)
		6:00 pm	Bell Choir Practice
Friday	7/27	10:00am	Bone builders
Saturday	7/28	7:30am	Veggie Stand
		8:00am	Husk Corn for Beef & Corn Feed
		4:30-7:00pm	Beef & Corn Feed
Sunday	7/29	8:30 am	Worship
		10:00 am	Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER AND CARE CONCERNS Landon Morris, great grandson of Jerry & Carolyn Morris recently born with heart condition needing multiple surgeries.

LIFETOUCH PHOTOGRAPHY will be here on August 15-18 to take pictures for our new church directory. Everyone will be getting automated phone calls and emails about scheduling your photo shoot. To schedule an appointments go to our web site (blcmalmo.org) and find the link to schedule your appointment time. You may also call one of the secretaries during normal working hours (M-F 11:00am -3:00pm). If you have your photo taken by Lifetouch, you will receive a single complementary photo and 1 picture directory per family that will be free. If you miss the scheduled times with Lifetouch, you can still be in the directory, but the cost of the directory to you maybe \$10. **So be sure to schedule your appointment with Lifetouch!** No purchases are required; just get your photo taken for the directory. There are special discount coupons available in the Narthex that you can use if you wish to purchase additional photos from Lifetouch.

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.

VEGGIE STAND is now open every Saturday from 7:30-11:00am. Donations from your garden or kitchen will be welcomed. Deliver to the church by 3 pm Friday, or bring to the stand on Saturday morning. If you don't bake, you can help those that do by purchasing items listed on slips on bulletin board in narthex. Mark items "Veggie Stand" and place on back counter under the window in the kitchen.

HOSPICE KITS The women of Bethesda will be assembling Hospice Kits at their August meeting for Global Health Ministries because there is a great need for the kits. Please see the Women of the ELCA bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for items that are needed for the kits. All are welcome to join us to assemble these kits.

BEEF & CORN FEED Our annual corn feed is set for next Saturday, July 28th; 4:30-7:00pm. There are signup sheets in the Narthex to help with the event. Also, signup sheet for corn husking Saturday morning the 28th at 8:00 am is in the narthex.

BETHESDA OUTREACH PROGRAM The Faith, Health and Wellness Committee is looking for individuals to be part of an outreach team that will call and visit members who are homebound, in a nursing home or those with a chronic illness. This would be done either as an individual or as part of a team. A home communion program is also being started. An orientation/training meeting will be scheduled for interested individuals. Contact Pastor or one of the Parish Nurses if you would like to be part of either of these programs to help our homebound members stay connected with Bethesda. ***An informational meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 7th at 3:30 pm for anyone interested in being a part of this program.***

Judy Wuorio has adopted the white dog that was running loose in the church parking lot. If anyone would like to donate to the Daisy Beth (Bethesda) fund, there is a bucket in the Narthex to help Judy with vet and food bills. Thank you to all dog lovers.

How Can It Be

Lauren Daigle

I am guilty
Ashamed of what I've done,
What I've become
These hands are dirty
I dare not lift them up to the Holy one
You plead my cause
You right my wrongs
You break my chains
You overcome
You gave Your life
To give me mine
You say that I am free
How can it be
How can it be

I've been hiding
Afraid I've let you down,
Inside I doubt
That You still love me
But in Your eyes there's only grace now
You plead my cause
You right my wrongs
You break my chains
You overcome
You gave Your life
To give me mine
You say that I am free
How can it be
How can it be

Though I fall,
You can make me new
From this death I will rise with You
Oh the grace reaching out for me
How can it be
How can it be

You plead my cause
You right my wrongs
You break my chains
You overcome
You gave Your life
To give me mine
You say that I am free
You plead my cause
You right my wrongs
You break my chains
You overcome
You gave Your life
To give me mine
You say that I am free

How can it be
How can it be