

Sunday, July 29, 2018

Tenth 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

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INTRODUCTION

In the second act of this play, Ruth goes out to glean barley to sustain herself and Naomi, and “as it happened, she came to the part of the field belonging to Boaz”. Boaz is a pillar of the community who just happens to be related to Naomi’s dead husband. God does not speak from burning bushes in this book; nor does God divide the sea. Instead, God acts through circumstance, and through the faithfulness of ordinary human beings. God’s hesed (loyal or love) is embodied in human action. Boaz praises Ruth for her loyalty to her mother-in-law and then enacts through his generosity the blessings of God that he calls down upon her: “May the LORD reward you for your deeds, and may you have a full reward from the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN:

“Here I am Lord”

#574 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

Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Please be seated

READING: Ruth 2:1-23

¹Now Naomi had a kinsman on her husband's side, a prominent rich man, of the family of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz. ²And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, "Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain, behind someone in whose sight I may find favor." She said to her, "Go, my daughter." ³So she went. She came and gleaned in the field behind the reapers. As it happened, she came to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the family of Elimelech. ⁴Just then Boaz came from Bethlehem. He said to the reapers, "The LORD be with you." They answered, "The LORD bless you." ⁵Then Boaz said to his servant who was in charge of the reapers, "To whom does this young woman belong?" ⁶The servant who was in charge of the reapers answered, "She is the Moabite who came back with Naomi from the country of Moab." ⁷She said, 'Please, let me glean and gather among the sheaves behind the reapers.' So she came, and she has been on her feet from early this morning until now, without resting even for a moment."

⁸Then Boaz said to Ruth, "Now listen, my daughter, do not go to glean in another field or leave this one, but keep close to my young women. ⁹Keep your eyes on the field that is being reaped, and follow behind them. I have ordered the young men not to bother you. If you get thirsty, go to the vessels and drink from what the young men have drawn." ¹⁰Then she fell prostrate, with her face to the ground, and said to him, "Why have I found favor in your sight, that you should take notice of me, when I am a foreigner?" ¹¹But Boaz answered her, "All that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told me, and how you left your father and mother and your native land and came to a people that you did not know before. ¹²May the LORD reward you for your deeds, and may you have a full reward from the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge!" ¹³Then she said, "May I continue to find favor in your sight, my lord, for you have comforted me and spoken kindly to your servant, even though I am not one of your servants."

¹⁴At mealtime Boaz said to her, "Come here, and eat some of this bread, and dip your morsel in the sour wine." So she sat beside the reapers, and he heaped up for her some parched grain. She ate until she was satisfied, and she had some left over.

¹⁵When she got up to glean, Boaz instructed his young men, "Let her glean even among the standing sheaves, and do not reproach her. ¹⁶You must also pull out some handfuls for her from the bundles, and leave them for her to glean, and do not rebuke her."

¹⁷So she gleaned in the field until evening. Then she beat out what she had gleaned, and it was about an ephah of barley. ¹⁸She picked it up and came into the town, and her mother-in-law saw how much she had gleaned. Then she took out and gave her what was left over after she herself had been satisfied. ¹⁹Her mother-in-law said to her, "Where did you glean today? And where have you worked? Blessed be the man who took notice of you." So she told her mother-in-law with whom she had worked, and said, "The name of the man with whom I worked today is Boaz." ²⁰Then Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, "Blessed be he by the LORD, whose kindness has not forsaken the living or the dead!" Naomi also said to her, "The man is a relative of ours, one of our nearest kin." ²¹Then Ruth the Moabite said, "He even said to me, 'Stay close by my servants, until they have finished all my harvest.' " ²²Naomi said to Ruth, her daughter-in-law, "It is better, my daughter, that you go out with his young women, otherwise you might be bothered in another field." ²³So she stayed close to the young women of Boaz, gleaning until the end of the barley and wheat harvests; and she lived with her mother-in-law.

Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Please stand for the Gospel

GOSPEL Luke 6:36-38

Glory to you, O Lord

³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, O Christ

Please be seated

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: “O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts” #658 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

Trusting in our loving and almighty God who abundantly provides the bread of life to all who hunger, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Loving God, we pray for all those who gather to celebrate the holy feast of Christ’s body and blood. Strengthen every member of your church in love, faith, and service. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Almighty God, we praise you for the beauty and abundance of your creation. Send sunshine and rain to nourish crops. Teach us to produce and distribute food with justice and generosity. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Loving God, you know every nation, every culture, and every people. Teach us to work together for peace and to love each other even when we cannot understand our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Almighty God, you hear the cries of the hungry, the sick, and the downcast. Send food, healing, and comfort to all who are in need (*especially*). Satisfy the desire of every living thing. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Loving God, we thank and praise you for this congregation. Teach us to be a holy family, Christ’s body to and for one another. Unite us in love and faith. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Almighty God, we thank and praise you for the beloved dead who taught and fed us in Christian faith (*especially Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of Bethany; and the martyr Olaf, king of Norway*). Hasten the feast that will reunite us. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Almighty and loving God, we look to you in hope and trust, knowing that you will do far more than we can ask or imagine, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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:

“All of My Life”

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: Digital Hymnal

Greeters: Denny & Lynne Meidlinger

Ushers: 8:30am George & Patti Smith

10:00am Jerry & Carolyn Morris

Thank you for your service!

Response to God’s Word Last Week

Attendance: Sun, July 22nd: 8:30 am 84 10:00 am 24

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda

July 30 – August 5, 2018

Sunday	7/29	9:30 am	Table Talk-Recycling-In Fellowship Hall
Monday	7/30	1:00 pm	Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	7/31	12 – 2 pm	Pastor’s Text Study
Wednesday	8/1	9:00 am	Bible Study
		10:00 am	Stitchers
		6:00 pm	Choir Practice
		7:00 pm	Praise Team
Thursday	8/2	8:00 am	ROMEO’s
		10:30 am	Worship & Music Meeting
		12:00 pm	Funtimers (12:00 Potluck, 12:30 cards)
		6:00 pm	Bell Choir Practice
Friday	8/3	10:00am	Bone builders
Saturday	8/4	7:30am	Veggie Stand
Sunday	8/5	8:30 am	Worship
		10:00 am	Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

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.*

WOMEN'S RETREAT Faith Lutheran Church in Isle is having a retreat titled "Fill Your Cup" on Saturday, August 4, 2018, 9 a.m. to 12 Noon. In our busy lives, we tend to do more and be more to the people around us and often forget that we need God's help to get us through the day. Women of Faith Lutheran invite us to join in their retreat. Call Ellory @ 763-442-9133 or Judy @ 320-492-5439. Signup sheet on WELCA board in Fellowship Hall.

COFFEE DAY we haven't had a coffee day in a long time because we had a big surplus in the pantry. We now need coffee, so bring a big can of Folgers (or your favorite coffee) to church with you in the month of August. Then come for coffee & fellowship on Sundays. Offer to host. Invite a friend! Thanks for your participation!

ALL OF MY LIFE

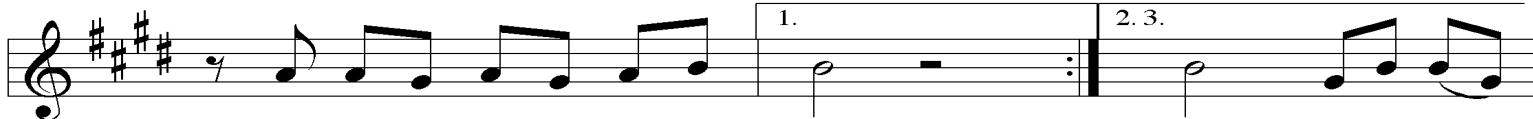
Larry Olson



My heart is hop-in' and my eyes are op - en. There is a hun-ger in -
Some say I've got to have all of the an - swers. Some say I need all this
Help out my neighbor, wel - come a strang - er. Of - fer my shirt to an



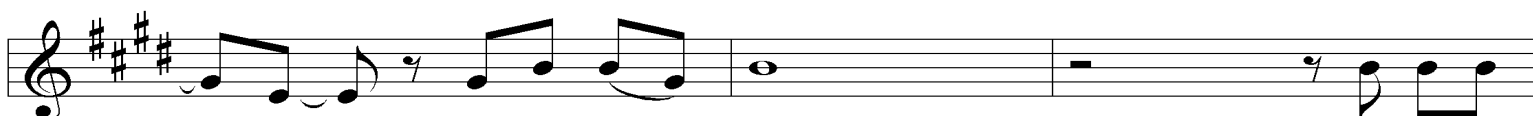
side me. I want to do right, walk in the ho - ly light,
mon - ey. I hear the world is just mine for the tak - ing,
en - e - my. Dance in the moon - light, cry by the fire - light,



to live my days a - bun-dant - ly. All of my
oh how I long to be re - leased.
to live my days a - bun-dant - ly.



life, I want to lose my - self and be faith -



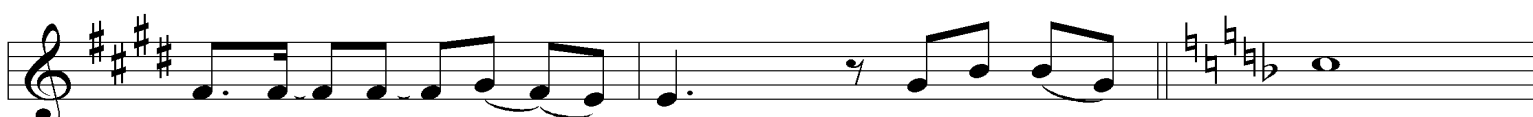
ful. All of my life, I want to



live for - giv - en and grate - ful, all of my life.



Oh God you know me, my ev - 'ry heart - beat is a



word of grace from you. All of my life,



I want to lose my - self and be faith - ful. All of my



life, I want to live for - giv - en and grate -



ful, all of my life.