Sunday, September 16, 2018

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

21590 State Highway 47, Isle, MN 56342

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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

Even after the destruction of the flood, the people responded to their second chance by falling into the same old sinful patterns. God decided that if punishing all the earth was an ineffective means of dealing with sin, perhaps establishing a relationship with one individual would work. That is exactly what God does when he chooses Abram and promises to make his name great, thereby dealing with the people's fear but redirecting the action so that the emphasis falls upon God's gift rather than human accomplishment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN:

"The God of Abraham Praise"

#831 ELW

(Verses 1, 2 & 4)

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, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Source of all life,

we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation.

Amen.

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, + God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of covenant, you promised Abraham land, descendants, and blessing so that he might be a blessing for all. Show us how to honor the covenant, so that we might be a blessing to others. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Please be seated

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Amazing Grace/My Chains are Gone"

FIRST READING: Genesis 12: 1-9

¹Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, ⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then the LORD appeared to Abram, and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the LORD and invoked the name of the LORD. ⁹And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, O Christ

Please stand for the Gospel

GOSPEL Matthew 28:19-20 Glory to you, O Lord

¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: * "Come thou Font of Every Blessing" #807 ELW

* Parishioner Request

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

Freed by God in Christ to live and love and serve, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's beloved creation.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, we pray for all those who labor to bear your word into the world by welcoming the stranger, healing the sick, and caring for the orphan. Embolden your church to take up the cross against the powers of oppression and death. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Creative God, we pray for the earth. Keep watch over those who rescue endangered species and repair scorched landscapes. Make us good stewards of creation. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Sovereign God, we pray for the nations of the world, for governments, leaders, and citizens. Watch over refugees and immigrants. Inspire us to welcome them with glad hearts when they arrive on our shores and in our neighborhoods. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Loving God, you call us to serve our neighbors. Bless our vocations as we fill the cups of the thirsty, the plates of the hungry, and the hearts of the lonely. Make our presence your presence for all who sorrow (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Welcoming God, at tables around the world, through story and meal, strangers become guests and guests become friends. Embolden this congregation to always extend the wide-armed welcome you extend to us. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

In every time and in every place, you have raised up examples of loving service (*including Cyprian*, *bishop and martyr*). Make us all good and loving witnesses to your extravagant compassion. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Into your wide embrace, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your boundless mercy through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.

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 and Blessing Box.

Please stand as the ushers bring the offering to the altar.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of life,

you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Invitation to Communion

Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, and make us one with you. All are welcome. (Communion by intinction - red wine; white apple juice)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

BLESSING

God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being; Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead; Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: "Travelers on the Journey" page 8

Hans Peterson & Larry Olson

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Sound the good news.

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: Paula Spetz & Bev Wedig

Ushers: 8:30am Ron & Joanie Mehlhop 10:00am Marilyn Andrews

Hospitality: Jack & Paula Spetz

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sun, September 9th: 8:30 am <u>86</u> 10:00 am <u>25</u>

THIS WEEK	AT Bethes	sda Septe	ember 17 th thru September 23 rd , 2018
Monday	9/17	1:00 pm	Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	9/18	12 - 2 pm	Pastor's Text Study
Wednesday	9/19	8:00-Noon	WIC
		9:00 am	Bible Study
		10:00 am	Stitchers
		12:30 pm	Stewardship Meeting
		5:30 pm	Choir Practice
		7:00 pm	Praise Team
Thursday	9/20	8:00 am	ROMEO's
		12:00 pm	Funtimers (12:00 Potluck, 12:30 cards)
		6:00 pm	Bell Choir Practice

Friday	9/21	10:00 am 7:00 pm	Bone builders Jamboree
Saturday	9/22	11:00 am	Malmo Area Lions Classic/Custom Car~Tractor~Motorcycle Show
Sunday	9/23	9:00 am 10:00 am	Worship Annual Meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER & CARE LIST: Ron & Carol Hass

SAVE THE DATE: The Jamboree this year will be one performance only, Friday, September 21, 2018 at 7:00pm

<u>ANNUAL MEETING</u> Our Annual Meeting will be held on September 23rd at 10:00am. We will only have one service that day at 9:00am. Annual Reports and <u>revised Proposed Budget worksheets</u> are available in the Fellowship Hall.

<u>PHOTOS FOR DIRECTORY</u> If you were unable to get your picture taken from Lifetouch for the directory, contact Melody Lackner (218 232-7424 or mlackner912@gmail.com). For \$10 she will professional take your picture, give you an 8x10 color photo and submit your photo to the directory. Deadline for Melody to submit photos for the directory is September 30, 2018.

<u>COUNCIL MEMBERS WANTED</u> Please consider serving on your church council for the upcoming fiscal year. We will need 2 new council members beginning in October and we'd ask you to consider this opportunity. Please contact any of the current council members with questions, or to let them know of your interest to serve.

Join the Church Council; see what a difference you can make.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH in Milaca will be celebrating their 125th Anniversary with a special presentation, "The Immigrants and Their Faith" by Mark Granquist on September 20, 2018 at 6:30pm. More information can be found on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

<u>MALMO AREA LIONS CLASSIC/CUSTOM CAR SHOW</u> – Saturday, September 22, 2018. See poster on bulletin board for more info.

<u>LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE</u> Please give to Lutheran Disaster Response today for the effects of Hurricane Florence. Checks or money orders can be sent to: Lutheran Disaster Response, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009. Write "Hurricane Response" on your check memo line. Give by phone at 800-638-3522 or online at https://community.elca.org/hurricane-relief

TRAVELERS ON THE JOURNEY

