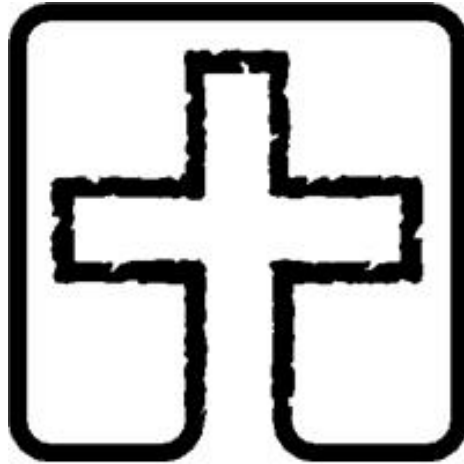


**Sunday, December 2, 2018**

First Sunday of Advent



**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](mailto:blcmalmo@frontiernet.net) Church Web Site: [blcmalmo.org](http://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, December 2, 2018

## First Sunday of Advent

### INTRODUCTION

*In today's readings the Prophet has poured out complaints and requests before God. Then, like a watchman, he waits for an answer from Heaven to his plea. God will not disappoint the expectations of those who wait to hear what he will say unto them; Faith as a Way of Life.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OPENING HYMN:**                    **“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”**                    **#759 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, the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free, the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy, the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace.

**Amen.**

Let us come before God in confession.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

To you, O God,

**we lift up our souls. You know us through and through; we confess our sins to you. Remember not our sins; remember us with your steadfast love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Children of God, come with joy and draw water from the well of salvation.

Remember the gift of baptism: your sin is washed away in the name of ✠ Jesus; you belong to Christ; you are anointed to serve. Stand up and raise your heads!

The reign of God is near.

**Amen.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Faithful God, you proved your faithfulness to your people when they cried out to you in distress. Be present in our distress, and show us how to be faithful to you in the midst of suffering. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

*Please be seated*

## **CHOIR ANTHEM:            “He is Here”**

### **FIRST READING: Habakkuk 1:1-7; 2:1-4; 3:[3b-6], 17-19**

#### **Chapter 1**

<sup>1</sup>The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw. <sup>2</sup>O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save?

<sup>3</sup>Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. <sup>4</sup>So the law becomes slack and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous — therefore judgment comes forth perverted. <sup>5</sup>Look at the nations, and see! Be astonished! Be astounded! For a work is being done in your days that you would not believe if you were told. <sup>6</sup>For I am rousing the Chaldeans, that fierce and impetuous nation, who march through the breadth of the earth to seize dwellings not their own.

<sup>7</sup>Dread and fearsome are they; their justice and dignity proceed from themselves.

#### **Chapter 2**

<sup>1</sup>I will stand at my watchpost, and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint.

<sup>2</sup>Then the LORD answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. <sup>3</sup>For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay. <sup>4</sup>Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith.

#### **Chapter 3**

<sup>3</sup>God came from Teman, the Holy One from Mount Paran. Selah His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise. <sup>4</sup>The brightness was like the sun; rays came forth from his hand, where his power lay hidden. <sup>5</sup>Before him went pestilence, and plague followed close behind. <sup>6</sup>He stopped and shook the earth; he looked and made the nations tremble. The eternal mountains were shattered; along his ancient pathways the everlasting hills sank low. <sup>17</sup>Though the fig tree does not blossom, and no fruit is on the vines; though the produce of the olive fails, and the fields yield no food; though the flock is cut off from the fold, and there is no herd in the stalls, <sup>18</sup>yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will exult in the God of my salvation. <sup>19</sup>God, the LORD, is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, and makes me tread upon the heights. To the leader: with stringed instruments.

Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

*Please stand for the Gospel*

## **GOSPEL Matthew 26:36-38**

### **Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>36</sup>Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." <sup>37</sup>He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. <sup>38</sup>Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me."

Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## **SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" #490 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**

*The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.*

As we await the coming of Christ, we pray in hope for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

Equip your church, merciful God. Secure our roots in the soil of your eternal word. Ease our worries and remove our shame. Grow our faithfulness and let your steadfast love blossom among us. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Sustain your creation, holy God. Water the parched soil. Restore depleted fields. Send farmers, forest rangers, and gardeners to care for fig trees and wheat fields, gardens and arboretums. Increase our love for the land. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Grow peace within us, abundant God. Raise up leaders in every community

grounded in your justice and mercy. Increase their love for all people. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Feed the hungry, living God. Gather our harvest into a feast for our neighbors. Move us to nurture those who are bereaved and lonely. Empower those living with HIV/AIDS and all who are sick (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Increase our joy, wondrous God. Plant thanksgiving in our hearts and multiply the good fruit of our outreach ministries and creation care programs (*especially*).

Guide us in our service to local and global neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

In thanksgiving, we remember all who have died and now rest in your glory. Hold all who mourn in the comfort of your eternal light, and bring us to delight in the new life you promise. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we bring to you these prayers and those unspoken, in the name of 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 and Blessing Box.*

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

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

God of abundance,

**we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Invitation to Communion**

God fills the hungry with good things. Taste and see that the Lord is good. All are welcome! (Communion by intinction - red wine; white apple juice)

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy One,

**we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives, that we may be messengers to prepare your way, harvesters of justice and righteousness, and bearers of your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## BLESSING

May God direct your ways in peace, make you abound in love for one another and for all, and strengthen your hearts until the coming of our Lord Jesus. Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN:

**“Bring Forth the Kingdom”**

Page 8

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**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: Wayne & Janice Olson

Ushers: 8:30am Judy Wozney, Diane Sandberg      10:00am Darrel Kelly

Hospitality: Pat & Jerry Becker

*Thank you for your service!*

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sun, November 25<sup>th</sup>: 8:30 am 68 10:00 am 22

## THIS WEEK AT Bethesda

## December 3 thru December 9, 2018

Monday	12/3	1:00 pm	Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	12/4	12 – 2 pm	Pastor's Text Study
Wednesday	12/5	9:00 am	Bible Study
		10:00 am	Centennial Meeting
		10:00 am	Stitchers
		5:30 pm	Choir Practice
		7:00 pm	Praise Team

**THIS WEEK AT Bethesda (continued)      December 3 thru December 9, 2018**

Thursday	12/6	8:00 am	ROMEOS
		10:30 am	Worship & Music Mtg
		12:30 pm	Funtimers-Card Players
Friday	12/7	10:00 am	Bone builders
Saturday	12/8	11am-1pm	Christmas in Malmo
Sunday	12/9	8:30 am	Worship
		10:00 am	Worship

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRAYER & CARE** Cleo O'Brien

**BETHESDA QUILTERS** need donations of clean used mattress pads and blankets to make Lutheran World Relief quilts. Please leave in the Fellowship Hall by the Quilter's Door. Many Thanks.

**2018 OPERATION CHRISTMAS** the giving tree is up in the Narthex and ready for donations of hats, mittens, scarves etc. for distribution to local area children whom might not otherwise get a gift this year. Please have all donations here by December 9<sup>th</sup> as the items will be delivered on December 10<sup>th</sup>.

**CHRISTMAS in MALMO** Sponsored by Mille Lacs Trails. Sat. Dec 8 • 11AM-1PM. FREE FAMILY FUN! Gifts for all kids 12 and under! Free Lunch Served! SPECIAL GUEST: SANTA AND HIS ELF! Free Vision Testing (sponsored by Malmo Lions) (½ mile North of Malmo on Hwy 47)

**CHRISTMAS OUTREACH PROGRAMS** 1. Purchase gifts from ELCA's Giving Program or from Heifer International. It is an opportunity to honor a loved one by purchasing livestock needed in poor countries. The information will be available in the fellowship hall during the holiday season. **AND 2.** We need names of local families that could use food or gas gift cards during the holiday season. The suggestion box will be in the Narthex. Please complete the suggestion form if you know someone who could use help this Holiday Season.

**SANTA LUCIA LUNCHEON** Zion Lutheran church in Milaca will host a traditional Swedish meal and music on Friday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> from 11am-1pm. See the poster on the bulletin board in the Narthex for more information.

**BLESSING BOX** The first Sunday of every month we pass the "Blessing Box". If you feel blessed, please contribute to the Blessing Box today to help others. All donations will go to local area benevolences. Thank you! What a Blessing!

**BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE** First Lutheran Church in Aitkin will be having a Blue Christmas Service on Thursday, December 20, 2018 at 11:00am. See posting in Narthex for more information.

**THANK YOU!** To Ron & Arty Heins for the donation of the lighted Christmas tree in the Sanctuary.

## Bring Forth the Kingdom

## VERSES

## CANTOR



1. You are salt for the earth, O peo - ple:  
 2. You are a light on the hill, O peo - ple:  
 3. You are a seed of the Word, O peo - ple:  
 4. We are a blest and a pil - grim peo - ple:

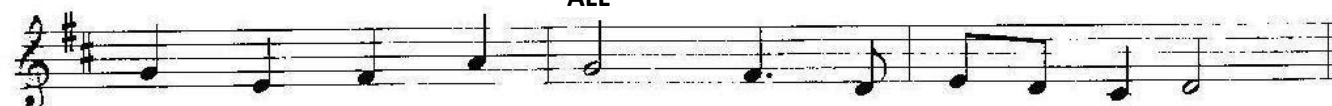
## ALL

## CANTOR



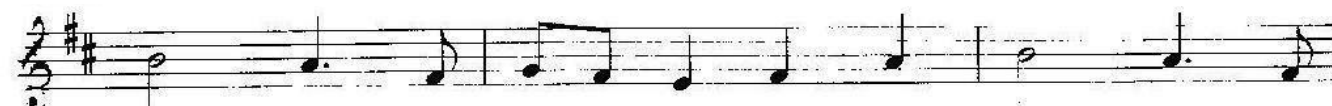
Salt for the King - dom of God! Share the fla - vor of  
 Light for the Cit - y of God! Shine so ho - ly and  
 Bring forth the King - dom of God! Seeds of mer - cy and  
 Bound for the King - dom of God! Love our jour - ny and

## ALL



life, O peo - ple: Life in the King - dom of God!  
 bright, O peo - ple: Shine for the King - dom of God!  
 seeds of jus - tice, Grow in the King - dom of God!  
 love our home - land: Love is the King - dom of God!

## REFRAIN



Bring forth the King - dom of mer - cy, Bring forth the



King - dom of peace; Bring forth the King - dom of jus - tice,



Bring forth the Cit - y of God!