

Sunday, February 10, 2019
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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Pastor James Muske

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Prayer Chain Contacts: Char Berg 320-684-2102 or Darlene Christensen 218-839-8193

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, February 10, 2019

The Golden Rule

INTRODUCTION

Treating others as one would wish to be treated summarizes the human interactions envisioned throughout today's gospel. Those interactions are apparent by mutuality, love and justice, not domination and enforced reverence typical of many interactions in a hierarchical, competitive society. This verse provides a general direction to guide our actions in particular situations. It is a well-known guideline for human interaction.

CALL TO WORSHIP: **“Dance with Me”**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: **“Jesus Loves Me”** **#595 ELW**
Please rise 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, who creates us and forms us, who redeems us and calls us, who unites us and sends us.

Amen.

Gathered in God's presence, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty and loving God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We seek our own way. We divide the body of Christ. In your mercy, cleanse us and heal us. Let the words of our mouths, the thoughts of our hearts, and everything that we do be filled with faith, hope, and love.

Amen.

Hear the voice of Jesus:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to proclaim release to the captives.” In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, I proclaim to you that your sins are forgiven and you are released. The joy of the Lord is your strength, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit are yours forever.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

God of wisdom and groundedness,

you have encouraged us to live our lives grounded in faith, patience, and

love. Help us to love others without judgment, but with a solid foundation of acceptance, for the sake of Jesus

Christ. Amen.

Please be seated

PRAISE TEAM ANTHEM: “My Savior, My God” by Aaron Shust

SCRIPTURE ACCLAMATION: “Thy Word”

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 7:1-14, 24-29

Glory to you, O Lord

¹"Do not judge, so that you may not be judged. ²For with the judgment you make you will be judged, and the measure you give will be the measure you get. ³Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye? ⁴Or how can you say to your neighbor, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' while the log is in your own eye? ⁵You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor's eye.

⁶"Do not give what is holy to dogs; and do not throw your pearls before swine, or they will trample them under foot and turn and maul you.

⁷"Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ⁸For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ⁹Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for bread, will give a stone? ¹⁰Or if the child asks for a fish, will give a snake? ¹¹If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

¹²"In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets.

¹³"Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it. ¹⁴For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

²⁴"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. ²⁵The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. ²⁶And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. ²⁷The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell — and great was its fall!"

²⁸Now when Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were astounded at his teaching, ²⁹for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

PSALM RESPONSE Psalm 37:16-18

¹⁶Better is a little that the righteous person has than the abundance of many wicked.

¹⁷**For the arms of the wicked shall be broken, but the LORD upholds the righteous.**

¹⁸The LORD knows the days of the blameless, and their heritage will abide forever;

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY:

“Seek Ye First”

#783 WOV

Please Stand

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We are not alone; we live in God’s world.

We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God’s presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

United as one body in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church. Give us courage to answer your call and keep us faithful to your life-giving word. Send us out to be the good news of your love for all people. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For the earth. For tundra and forests, grasslands and deserts; for those who fish and those who farm. For ranchers, gardeners, and all whose work brings food to our tables. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For the nations. Grant wisdom to those in authority. Strengthen peacekeepers, ambassadors, military personnel, and disaster relief workers. Protect families who have to leave their homes because of war, natural disasters, or rejection by their communities. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For those in need. For those whose lives are in turmoil; for those who wrestle with addiction; for those burdened by anxiety and self-doubt. For those who grieve, and those who are ill (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For this assembly. For those who prepare this space for worship and those who mentor others in the faith; for those who nurture fellowship within this congregation and those who reach out in service to our community. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With thanksgiving, we remember those who have died and now rest in your presence (*especially*). Sustain us in hope of the resurrection and bring us into the joy of unending life in you. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Receive our prayers and fill us with the radiance of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

OFFERTORY HYMN

“Change My Heart”

#801 ELW

Ushers will begin passing the offering plate.

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

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of all creation,

all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD’S PRAYER – LED BY THE PRAISE TEAM

Invitation to Communion

Come to the table. Feast on God’s abundant life for you.

All are welcome. (Communion by intinction - red wine; white apple juice)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, O God,

that you have fed us at your banqueting table with bread and wine beyond compare, the very life of Christ for us. Send your Spirit with us now, that we may set the captive free, use your gifts to build one another up, and in everything reflect your glory revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

The God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is your light.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN: “Love the Lord/Jesus is the Rock” Page 8

**Visitors! It has been great having you join us for worship!
Please come again.**

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Music: The Praise Team Greeters: Chuck & Elsa Carlson

Ushers: Dennis & Audrey Bistodeau

Hospitality Hosts: Praise Team

Thank you for your service!

Response to God’s Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, February 3, 2019: 9:00am 75

Wednesday, February 6, 2019: 6:30pm 8

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda

Feb. 11 through Feb. 17, 2019

Monday	2/11	1:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle
		1:00 pm	Stewardship Meeting
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	2/12	9:00 am	Quilters
		12 – 2 pm	Pastor’s Text Study
Wednesday	2/13	9:00 am	Bible Study
		10:00 am	Stitchers

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda (continued)**Feb. 11 through Feb. 17, 2019**

Thursday	2/14	8:00 am	ROMEOS
		12:30 pm	Funtimers
Friday	2/15	10:00 am	Bone Builders
Saturday	2/16	4:30 pm	Malmo Area Lions Sweetheart Dance-Here
Sunday	2/17	9:00 am	Worship
		10:30 am	Praise Team

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.

BLESSING BOX We received \$152.85 in the Blessing Box last Sunday. Donations will go to Local Benevolence. Thank you! What a Blessing!

JOIN IN THE FUN! Support our Centennial activities in 2019. For the month of February you have the opportunity to win a fabulous prize by purchasing a “Heart” for \$1.00 that we will use to decorate the fellowship hall. The winner will be drawn the last Sunday of the month after first service. The prize for February is donated by WELCA. Buy tickets after Sunday service or find the can on the secretaries’ desk during the week. All funds raised will be used for our Centennial Celebration on August 11, 2019.

2019 BETHESDA CENTENNIAL FUNDRAISER CALENDARS are here! These will make memorial items with the beautiful pictures each month! Only \$10 and available in the Fellowship Hall after service today and for weeks to come.

OFFERING ENVELOPES Please pick your 2019 offering envelopes in the Fellowship Hall.

CROSS COUNTRY SKIS Judie Birk is looking for old cross country skis that she plans to paint/decorate for this year’s bazaar. You can leave them at the church office.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX MINISTRY During February, hygiene items will be collected to be packed in shoeboxes by VBS kids in June. Items needed include: toothbrushes, bars of soap, washcloths, combs/small brushes, necklaces, bracelets, hair ties/barrettes. These individual items can be brought to the church or put together in a packet. To make a packet, wrap a bar of soap in a washcloth and put it in a ziplock bag with a comb and toothbrush so it will be ready to be packed in a shoebox.

Love the Lord/Jesus is the Rock

Love the Lord your God,
with all your heart and all your
soul and all your mind
And love all humankind as
you would love yourself and....

Love the Lord your God,
with all your heart and all your
soul and mind
and love all humankind...

We've got Christian lives to live,
we've got Jesus love to give,

We've got nothing to hide
because in Him we all have love... Repeat

(Chorus)
Jesus is the rock 'n' He rolls my blues away
(Bop-Shoo-Bop-Shoo-Bop-Woo)
Jesus is the rock 'n' He rolls my blues away
(Bop-Shoo-Bop-Shoo-Bop-Woo)
Jesus is the rock 'n' He rolls my blues away.

When you're out on the street
and you really feel down and low.
When you're out on the street
and there's really no place to go
When you're out on the street
Well, Jesus gonna' save your soul 'cause
(Chorus)

When you wake up in the mornin'
and the sky ain't bright 'n' blue
When you wake up in the mornin'
and the big world's after you
When you wake up in the mornin'a
Jesus gonna' pull you through 'cause
(Chorus)

When you look in the mirror
and your face causes it to crack
When you're through with your day
and you feel like you've been attacked
Well, Jesus gonna' love you
and baby, now that' a fact 'cause.....
(Chorus)