

**Sunday, July 28, 2019**  
**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**



**BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO**

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Guest Pastor

**Rev. Rebecca Hinz**  
**Bethlehem Lutheran, Aitkin**

Parish Nurses: Darlene Christensen, RN 320-279-0097

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Prayer Chain Contacts: Char Berg 320-684-2102 or Darlene Christensen 320-279-0097

Church Secretary: Mary Braun

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, July 28, 2019

## Creation Sunday-Forest

### INTRODUCTION

*In today's Gospel, God does not ask the world if it wishes to be the recipient of God's love. God just goes ahead and loves, and not only does he love, but gives the world his only beloved Son, over to death. God's love is all encompassing, unasked for and undeserved and is also given unconditionally. God loves us, that is, whether we like it or not.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OPENING HYMN:**            **“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”**            **#836 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, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Seeking reconciliation with God and neighbor, let us remember the gift of baptism and confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of mercy,

**we confess that we have sinned against you, against one another, and against the earth entrusted to our care. We are worried and distracted by many things, and we fail to love you above all else. We store up treasures for ourselves and turn away from our neighbors in need. Forgive us, that we may live in the freedom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

When we were laid low by sin and guilt, God made us alive together with Christ, forgiving us ✚ all our trespasses by taking our sins to the cross. For freedom Christ has set us free: Rejoice in this good news!

**Amen.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God,

**you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## **BELL ANTHEM: "Open Our Eyes"**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 2:4b-22**

<sup>4</sup>These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created. In the day that the Lord GOD made the earth and the heavens, <sup>5</sup>when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up — for the Lord GOD had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; <sup>6</sup>but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground — <sup>7</sup>then the Lord GOD formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. <sup>8</sup>And the Lord GOD planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. <sup>9</sup>Out of the ground the Lord GOD made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

<sup>10</sup>A river flows out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it divides and becomes four branches. <sup>11</sup>The name of the first is Pishon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; <sup>12</sup>and the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there. <sup>13</sup>The name of the second river is Gihon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Cush. <sup>14</sup>The name of the third river is Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

<sup>15</sup>The Lord GOD took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. <sup>16</sup>And the Lord GOD commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; <sup>17</sup>but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

<sup>18</sup>Then the Lord GOD said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." <sup>19</sup>So out of the ground the Lord GOD formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup>The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. <sup>21</sup>So the Lord GOD caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. <sup>22</sup>And the rib that the Lord GOD had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.

### **PSALM: Psalm 139:13-16**

<sup>13</sup>For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

**<sup>14</sup>I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.**

<sup>15</sup>My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

**<sup>16</sup>Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.**

**SECOND READING: Acts 17:22-28**

<sup>22</sup>Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. <sup>23</sup>For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup>The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, <sup>25</sup>nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup>From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup>so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him — though indeed he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup>For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.'

*Please Stand for the Gospel*

**GOSPEL John 3:1-16**  
**Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher

of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

The Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to You, O Christ**

*Please be seated*

## **SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY:                    “How Great Thou Art”                    #856 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.*

Treasuring your promise to hear us when we call, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of your creation.

*A brief silence.*

Merciful God, you know your church. Guard and keep the whole body of Christ. Increase in us strength, love, and peace so that we are a blessing to the world.

Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Merciful Creator, you know the work of your hands. Guard and keep your creation. Bless the work of those who tend the earth's resources and who seek to provide abundantly for all. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Merciful King, you know the nations, and you are the head of every ruler and authority. Guard and keep the world in justice and mercy, and let the words of your mouth bring peace on earth. Your kingdom come. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Merciful Lord, you know our needs. Guard and keep those who are hungry, those who are victims of violence or oppression, and those who are weary from illness (*especially*). Give us today our daily bread. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, you know our congregation. Guard and keep those who enrich us with the gift of music in this place, proclaiming the gospel in song (*as did Johann Sebastian Bach, Heinrich Schütz, and George Frederick Handel whom we commemorate today*). Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Merciful Lord, you know your saints. Guard and keep those faithful departed (*especially*). Inspire our confidence in you until that day when we are all raised in the power and glory of Christ. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

All these things and more we ask in the name of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ, by the power of your Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **SPECIAL MUSIC VBS Children Sing**

*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**

Blessed are you, O God,

**for the greening earth given for all, for the talents we are given to share, and for this bread and wine. Transform us to be the body of Christ, that, feasting on this food and drink, our lives may reflect your generosity; through Christ**

our Lord. Amen.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

### Invitation to Communion

God invites you to this table of bounty. Come, the banquet is ready.

(Communion by intinction – red wine; white apple juice; gluten free available)

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## BLESSING

Live your lives in Christ, rooted and built up in him, and abound in thanksgiving; and the blessing of the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, be upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN:

**“Right by the Water”**

**Insert**

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is sending you.

**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: Nicole Dzubay, Bev Wedig

Ushers: 8:30am: Skip & Lynn Hansen

10:00am: Marilyn Andrews

Hospitality: Chuck & Elsa Carlson, Lee & Barb Forrester

*Thank you for your service!*

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, July 21, 2019: 8:30 am 64 10:00 am 29

**THIS WEEK AT Bethesda****July 29, 2019 – August 4, 2019**

Monday	7/29	11:30 pm	Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	7/30	12:-2:00 pm	Pastor Text Study
Wednesday	7/31	9:00 am	Bible Study
		10:00 am	Stitchers
		6:00 pm	Choir Practice
		7:00 pm	Praise Team
Thursday	8/1	8:00 am	ROMEOS
		11:30 pm	Funtimers-Card Players
		6:00 pm	Bells
Friday	8/2	10:00 am	Bone builders
Saturday	8/3	7:30-11am	Veggie Stand
Sunday	8/4	8:30 am	Worship
		10:00 am	Worship



Celebrating 70 years  
of Christ, Creation &  
Community

**Join us on Sunday, August 4th for our  
70th Anniversary Celebration!**

**Celebration Schedule**

- 4:00 Registration**
- 4:30 Camp-style worship**
- 5:30 Smoked Chicken Supper  
and S'mores at the fire circle**
- 6:30 Campfire sing-a-long**

**Camp Onomia**

14202 Shakopee Lake Road  
Onamia, MN 56359  
320 532-3767  
camponomia@gmail.com

RSVP to their Facebook page event: Camp Onomia's 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**JOIN IN THE FUN!** Support our Centennial activities in 2019. Our theme for July is “Make a Joyful Noise. Purchase a \$1 raffle ticket and win a **\$100 Visa Gift Card and Musical items** from the Choir. The winner will be drawn today during Fellowship hour between services. Thank you for your support.

**USHERS NEEDED** if you are interested in becoming an usher, please contact Skip or Lynn Hansen 320 684-2842 or hansenlynn@yahoo.com

**ANNUAL MEETING** The date and time for our Annual Congregational Meeting will be Sunday, September 22, 2019. We will have one service that day starting at 9:00am with meeting follow service. All committee chairpersons are requested to have their annual reports in to Judie Birk by August 31, 2019.

**WORSHIP WITH THE BISHOP** Bishop Tom Aitken will be leading our worship services on Sunday, August 18, 2019. He is unable to attend our Centennial Service on the 11<sup>th</sup>, so he will join us the following Sunday. Let’s make a good showing to welcome him that day!

**SURVEY** Included in today’s bulletin is a survey regarding our Mission Statement. Your thoughts and feedback are requested. There is a basket in the Narthex to deposit your completed survey. Thank you.

**CRAFT SALE** at Castaways, August 3<sup>rd</sup>. 9:00am-3:00pm; free concert after 4:00pm.

**THANK YOU** to Keith Munding for cutting out wooden crosses for the Centennial celebration.

# RIGHT BY THE WATER

Hans Peterson



You are a tree right by the wa-ter with roots that came



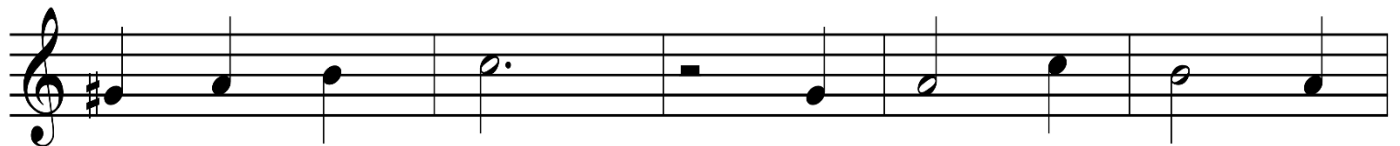
from a small seed. Drink deep from the source, sons and daugh-ters.



Bear fruit, reach for who you can be.



Come one and all, lost, lone - ly, poor. Blest are you;  
Christ stands be - side, calls out your name: "I am with  
The riv - er brings a proph - et's dream: "Let jus - tice



God's realm is yours. All hun - gry souls you  
you in your pain." May liv - ing wa - ters  
flow like a stream." Love has come so



will be fed. All you who weep will laugh in - stead.  
make you whole. May you find peace for your soul.  
all may live. In - spir - ed we joy - ful - ly give.

to Refrain