

Sunday, September 1, 2019

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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Pastor James Muske

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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

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INTRODUCTION

Christ's baptism was his first public appearance, after he had long lived unknown. When he submitted to John's baptism, he saw the Spirit descending upon him like a dove. We may see heaven opened to us, when we recognize the Spirit descending and working upon us.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: **“All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly”** **#379 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 strength of our ancestors, the host of this meal, the builder of the city that is to come.

Amen.

If we have died with Christ, we will also live with Christ. Let us confess our sin to the one who is faithful.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God our helper,

we confess the many ways we have failed to live as your disciples. We have not finished what we began. We have feasted with friends but ignored strangers. We have been captivated by our possessions. Lift our burdens, gracious God. Refresh our hearts and forgive our sin. Raise us to the new life you have chosen for us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

There is rejoicing in heaven when sinners repent. Put your trust in these promises: God will never leave you or forsake you. You who were lost have been found. For the sake of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Rejoice with the angels at this good news.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God,

you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING: Job 38:1-7, 34-41; 40:15-24; 42:1-6

Then the LORD answered Job from the whirlwind: Who is this darkening counsel with words lacking knowledge? Prepare yourself like a man; I will interrogate you, and you will respond to me. Where were you when I laid the earth's foundations? Tell me if you know. Who set its measurements? Surely you know. Who stretched a measuring tape on it? On what were its footings sunk; who laid its cornerstone, while the morning stars sang in unison and all the divine beings shouted?

Can you issue an order to the clouds so their abundant waters cover you? Can you send lightning so that it goes and then says to you, "I'm here"? Who put wisdom in remote places, or who gave understanding to a rooster? Who is wise enough to count the clouds, and who can tilt heaven's water containers so that dust becomes mud and clods of dirt adhere? Can you hunt prey for the lion or fill the cravings of lion cubs? They lie in their den, lie in ambush in their lair. Who provides food for the raven when its young cry to God, move about without food?

¹⁵ Look at Behemoth whom I made along with you; he eats grass like cattle. ¹⁶ Look, his strength is in his thighs, his power in stomach muscles. ¹⁷ He stiffens his tail like a cedar; the tendons in his thighs are tightly woven. ¹⁸ His bones are like bronze tubes, his limbs like iron bars. ¹⁹ He is the first of God's acts; only his maker can come near him with a sword. ²⁰ Indeed, the hills bring him tribute, places where all the wild animals play. ²¹ He lies under the lotuses, under the cover of reed and marsh. ²² The lotuses screen him with shade; poplars of the stream surround him. ²³ If the river surges, he doesn't hurry; he is confident even though the Jordan gushes into his mouth. ²⁴ Can he be seized by his eyes? Can anyone pierce his nose by hooks?

¹ Job answered the Lord: ² I know you can do anything; no plan of yours can be opposed successfully. ³ You said, "Who is this darkening counsel without knowledge?" I have indeed spoken about things I didn't understand, wonders beyond my comprehension. ⁴ You said, "Listen and I will speak; I will question you and you will inform me." ⁵ My ears had heard about you, but now my eyes have seen you. ⁶ Therefore, I relent and find comfort on dust and ashes.

GOSPEL

Mark 1:9-13

Glory to you, O Lord

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, O Christ

Please be seated

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY:

“This is my Father’s World”

#824 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.

Sustained and nurtured by our generous God, we gather as one to pray for the church, the world, and all of God’s creation.

A brief silence.

God of peace, we pray for the leaders, teachers, and preachers who fearlessly share your word and who reveal you through humble sacrifice. Uphold and sustain all who seek to live in a way that is pleasing to you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of generosity, we pray for crops growing ripe in the fields and fruit becoming ready to harvest. Grant safety to workers who will gather this bounty, and bless the yield to come. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of power, we pray for humility, kindness, and generosity to be instilled in the leaders of all nations. Inspire them to become models of servanthood, and to work for worldwide peace and prosperity. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of love, we pray for all those who are forgotten or pushed aside; for those who are suffering from poverty, neglect, physical or emotional trauma; and those who are homeless or are without a homeland (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of grace, we pray for students of all ages and disciplines, teachers and professors, teaching assistants and aids, substitute teachers, and administrators. Provide safety in travel and in the classroom, so that a spirit of learning is fostered for all. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of mercy, we remember those you love who now rest from their labors. Grant all your beloved saints a place at your eternal banquet table. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Assured by your promise to hear us, we lay our prayers before your throne of grace; through Jesus Christ our 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 our provider,

we bring nothing into this world and we can take nothing out of it. Accept the gifts you have first given us, which we bring to your table, and with them the offering of our lives. Nourish us now with the life that really is life, revealed to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Invitation to Communion

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come, take your place at the feast.
(Communion by intinction – red wine; white apple juice; gluten free available)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of blessing, at this table we have seen you face to face, and in the gift of Christ's body and blood, our hearts have been refreshed. Send us now to shine with your goodness and bear witness to the one we have received: Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us. Almighty God ✝ bless you with grace, mercy, and peace, now and forever.
Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: "Light Dawns on a Weary World" #726 ELW

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in love as Christ loved us.
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: Wayne & Janice Olson

Ushers: 8:30am: George & Kathy Larson

10:00am: Darrell Kelly

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, August 25, 2019: 8:30 am 67 10:00 am 18

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda

Sept. 2, 2019 – Sept. 8, 2019

Monday	9/2	LABOR DAY	
		11:30 am	Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	9/3	9:00 am	Crafters
		12:-2:00 pm	Pastor Text Study
Wednesday	9/4	9:00 am	Bible Study
		10:00 am	Stitchers
		2:00 pm	Stewardship Meeting
		5:30 pm	Jamboree Practice
		6:00 pm	Choir Practice
		7:00 pm	Praise Team
Thursday	9/5	8:00 am	ROMEOs
		11:30 pm	Funtimers-Card Players
		6:00 pm	Bells
Friday	9/6	10:00 am	Bone builders
Saturday	9/7	10:00 am	Reddy Creek Beach Clean Up
Sunday	9/8	8:30 am	Worship
		10:00 am	Worship

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.

PRAYER & CARE LIST Frank Dressley

JOIN IN THE FUN! Support our fund-raising activities in 2019-2020. Our theme for September is "Local Harvest Basket" which includes a Silent Walker donated by Pat Becker and a basket of locally produced items. Purchase a \$1 raffle ticket to win. The winner will be drawn the last Sunday of the month during Fellowship hour between services. Need not be present to win.

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 the meeting to follow service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

CARE GIVER SUPPORT GROUP Aitkin County CARE is offering a support group for anyone who is caring for a loved one who may feel overwhelmed or stressed and would like to meet others who are dealing with the same issues. The first meeting is Wednesday, September 11th at 2 pm at Bethesda and will be held the second Wednesday of each month. CARE is also looking for volunteer respite workers (or paid) for the Malmo/McGrath area. Contact Terri Mathis at 218-927-1383 for more information or if you would like to participate in either of these programs.

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!

THANK YOU!!!! A big shout out to the garden growers and excellent bakers who faithfully brought baked goods or produce to the Veggie Stand this summer. They shared their time, talents and the expense of sugar and flour every week. Our mission would not exist without them. Thank You! (you can give your oven a rest until next season).

GOD’S WORK OUR HANDS Members of Bethesda are invited to meet on Saturday, September 7th at 10:00am to clean the Reddy Creek Beach on the North Shore of beautiful Lake Mille Lacs.



COFFEE SERVERS NEEDED Please sign up so we may continue to have coffee in between the services, the signup sheet is now on a board mounted in fellowship hall. We hope everyone serves at least once a year if not twice.

SAVE THE DATE Bethesda's Annual Jamboree will be presented Friday, September 20th, 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. The show will mark each decade of Bethesda's existence in skit or song! Admission is \$5 for adults; children 12 & under get in free. Refreshments available.

CONFIRMATION If any members have young adults/children that they would like to enroll in Confirmation classes please contact Pastor James.