

Sunday, December 29, 2019

First Sunday of Christmas



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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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

Sunday, December 29, 2019

Beginning of Good News

PRELUDE MUSIC

INTRODUCTION

On the first Sunday of Christmas we have returned to the house of God “to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God,” who has gifted us with a savior. As the festival continues, “let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.” It is Christmas, still.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: **“Angels from the Realms of Glory”** **#275 ELW**
(Please Stand on the Last Verse)

Dialogue

Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.

By day and night he shines for all to see.

Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty

that the world may see the justice and richness of God.

God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,

so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.

Jesus is the light of the world.

Jesus is the light of our lives.

Sing to God a new song!

A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world.

Please be seated

ANTHEM: **“Immanuel”** by: Michael Card
Soloist: Sherri Lohmann

First Reading: Psalm: Psalm 91:9-12

⁹Because you have made the LORD your refuge, the Most High your dwelling place,

¹⁰**no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent.**

¹¹For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

¹²**On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.**

** Hymn Request*

OPENING PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Heavenly God,

When Jesus was baptized by John in the wilderness, you claimed him as your son. Claim us as your children, inheritors of your glorious kingdom.

Amen.

LESSONS and CAROLS

** Hymn Request*

Second Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined. ³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

** Hymn Request*

Bishop's Christmas Message

** Hymn Request*

Third Reading: Mark 1:1-8

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; ³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'"

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

** Hymn Request*

Christmas Around the World

** Hymn Request*

Fourth Reading: Mark 1:9-20

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.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near, repent, and believe in the good news."

¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea — for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

** Hymn Request*

Please Stand

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

It is you, loving God, who lights our path with truth.

Your Word, Jesus, is truth.

In his light, draw all to the manger
to gather in wonder with the shepherds.

In his light, draw all to the manger
to kneel in reverence with the wise ones.

In his light, draw all to the manger
to sing for joy with the angels.

In the brightness of his life
cast away the darkness of injustice, poverty, and hunger in the world.

It is you, loving God, who meets us on our way.

In the light of Jesus, show the world the way of life.

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.

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

SPECIAL MUSIC:

“The Star Carol”

by: Alfred Burt

Flute & Vocals: Sherri Lohmann

OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God,

you have given us life, this community, and these gifts of the earth that become the meal of your grace. Move in our hearts, that we might use your gifts to bring hope and blessing wherever we go, through Christ our Lord.

Amen

** Hymn Request*

THE LORD’S PRAYER

BLESSING

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

Praise God, all creatures here below!

You are the shepherds telling the story.

We tell it in the streets and across the land.

You are the wise ones worshiping with thanksgiving.

We worship with gifts of song and service, talents and treasures.

You are the angels announcing peace.

We live with joy and go now in peace.

Almighty God, Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

** Hymn Request*

DISMISSAL

Christ is born! Go tell it on the mountain and everywhere.

Thanks be to God.

SENDING MUSIC

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

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Music: John Kozial & Sherri Lohmann Greeters: Paula Spetz & Char Berg

Ushers: Chuck & Elsa Carlson

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sun, December 22nd: 9:00 am 86

Tuesday, December 24th: 3:30 pm 112 5:00 pm 95

Wednesday, December 25th: 10:00 am 26

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda December 30 thru January 5, 2020

Monday	12/30	11:30 pm	Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	12/31	12:00-2:00	Pastor Text Study
Wednesday	1/1	HAPPY NEW YEAR	
Thursday	1/2	8:00 am	ROMEOS
		10:00 am	Tree Take Down
		11:30 pm	Funtimers-Card Players
Friday	1/3	10:00 am	Bone builders
Sunday	1/5	9:00 am	Worship
		10:15 am	Sunday School

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 The brother of Elsa Carlson who passed away. Coy, grandson of Jim & Vicki Magedanz.

FIND OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING at Bethesda - like us on Facebook and visit our website online at: www.blcmalmo.org

TREE TAKE DOWN will be Thursday, January 2, 2020 at 10:00 am. People can take their poinsettias home today. Thanks, Elsa

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

RMD Donate your annual RMD to charity and avoid the taxes. If you donate your RMD to a "qualified charitable distributions" (QCDs) it will not be added to your taxable income for the year. They must go directly to a charity designated as qualified by the IRS. Making a QCD as opposed to a normal charitable gift has two main advantages. First, a QCD counts toward satisfying the individual's required minimum distribution for that year. Second, the distribution is excluded from the taxpayer's income. Bethesda Lutheran Church is a QCD because it is a 501(c)(3) organization.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2020 are here! Please pick up your envelopes from the table in the Narthex.

MONTHLY TITHING With the loss of one service this month due to bad weather, our donations are down. We have direct deposit applications in the office. You can sign up indefinitely or sign up for a few months if you're going south for the winter.

MILLE LACS HOMEMAKERS If you're looking for fun, fellowship and an opportunity to make a difference in our community, please consider joining. Beginning in September the club regularly meets the second Wednesday of the month from fall to spring. Much of the club's focus is on donations to area nursing homes, but we also support many community organizations. Please contact Shirley Gosselin at 320-676-8356 for more information.

WOMEN'S DEVOTION on Monday, January 6th at 9:00am, at Pat Becker's home.

THANK YOU to John Kozial & Sherri Lohmann for today's beautiful music.

First Sunday of Christmas

