

Sunday, February 23, 2020

Last 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 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

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Transfiguration

INTRODUCTION

On a high mountain Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem. We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN:

“Beautiful Savior”

#838 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, the eternal voice from heaven, the anointed and beloved one, the Spirit moving over the waters.

Amen.

As we approach the mystery of God, let us come in confession, trusting the love of Christ crucified and risen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God who searches us and knows us,
you have shown us what is good, but we have looked to other lights to find our way. We have not been just in our dealings with others. We have chosen revenge over mercy. We have promoted ourselves instead of walking humbly with you. With what shall we come before you? Forgive us our sin, and show us your salvation in the face of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Beloved of God,
you have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, poured out for you in the faithfulness of Jesus Christ. Receive the promise of baptism: You are God's child; † your sins are forgiven. Rejoice and be glad, for yours is the reign of heaven.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Lord of light,
as you were transfigured on the mountain, your followers were given a glimpse of your glory. Shine your light in our lives so that we will know how truly marvelous you are. Amen.

Please be seated

PSALM RESPONSE Psalm 27:1-4

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

²When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh — my adversaries and foes — they shall stumble and fall.

³Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.

⁴One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.

Please Stand for the Gospel

GOSPEL READING: Mark 8:27 – 9:8

Glory to you, O Lord

8:²⁷ Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" ²⁸ And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." ²⁹ He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." ³⁰ And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. ³¹ Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." ³⁴ He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶ For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷ Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸ Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

9:¹ And he said to them, "Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see that the kingdom of God has come with power."

² Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³ and

his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them.
⁴ And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus.
⁵ Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶ He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷ Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" ⁸ Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to You, O Christ

Please be seated

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" #815 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.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

Trusting that God hears us, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, your loving power is at work among us. Rouse and embolden your church, that we too might be transfigured, set alight in the world for the sake of the gospel. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Awesome God, you speak and the earth trembles. You display your majesty in the mountains and your mystery in the clouds. Grant that we discover your magnificence in all of your created world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Ruler of nations, your reign extends across all human borders. Guide world leaders (*especially*) in justice and righteousness, that they may work for equity for all people and protect the world that you have made. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Gracious God, you are a refuge for all who are neglected and abused. Bring freedom to those who are oppressed and give comfort to those experiencing pain of any kind (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of Moses and Elijah, you made your dwelling place at the top of a mountain with Jesus and his disciples. Dwell also in this congregation, that all who enter this community might be transformed by your dazzling brilliance. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Everlasting God, you offer eternal life to all your children. Thank you for the witness of those who lived and died in the faith (*especially Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, whose martyrdom in the early church we remember this day*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Confident that you are able to accomplish more than we even dare to ask, we bring these prayers before you, believing in your saving grace revealed in 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 of wonder,

you formed us in our mother's womb, and from mother earth you bring forth this bread and wine. We place them on your table, together with our lives and all that you have made. Open the heavens to us and pour out your

Spirit. We wait for your mercy; we long for your peace; we hunger and thirst for Jesus Christ, our banquet of life. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Invitation to Communion

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Come to the table of mercy and joy. (Communion by intinction – red wine; white apple juice; gluten free available)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Faithful God,

you have kept your promise to us in this meal, nourishing us with the gift of salvation. Now send your servants forth in peace, that we may testify to your goodness and share the hope that is ours in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

May Christ, the wisdom and power of God, and the source of our life together, keep you united in mind and purpose. And the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you always. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN: “Jesu Jesu Fill us with your Love” #708 ELW

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Let your light shine.

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: Paula Spetz & Bev Wedig

Ushers: Wally & Bev Swenson

Hospitality Hosts:

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, February 16, 2020: 9:00am 79

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda**Feb. 24 through March 1, 2020**

Monday	2/24	11:30 pm	Double Deck Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	2/25	9:00 am	Quilters
		12 – 2 pm	Pastor’s Text Study
Wednesday	2/26	9:00 am	Bible Study
		10:00 am	Stitchers
		5:30 pm	Pot Luck
		6:30 pm	Ash Wednesday Worship
Thursday	2/27	8:00 am	ROMEOS
		11:30 pm	Funtimers
Friday	2/28	10:00 am	Bone Builders
Sunday	3/1	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.

BIBLE & BREW Camp Onomia is hosting “Faith Conversations with Bishop Tom” on Friday March 20 – March 21. One-night lodging, 3 meals with program and bible study led by Bishop Tom Aitken and Pastor Dean Olfke. See flyer on bulletin board in the Narthex if interested.

BISHOP ELECTION NOMINEE BIOS: If you want to read the bios on the four Bishop nominees go to: <http://www.nemnsynod.org/bishop-election-nominees.html> to read about them. A hard copy is printed and on the table in the Narthex.

ISLE COMMUNITY LENTEN CANTATA Singers are cordially invited to participate in the performance of “**SACRED PLACES: A Pilgrimage of Promise**”. Rehearsals start today! See the below schedule.

REHEARSALS: Sunday afternoons in Lent held at Faith Lutheran

Feb. 23, 3:00-4:30 pm 2:45-3:15 Registration, Get books/ CDs
3:15-4:15 Warm Ups, Sing through cantata
4:15-4:30 Announcements & wrap-up
4:30 Fellowship time

REHEARSALS: Sunday afternoons in Lent held at Faith Lutheran (continued)

- March 1, 3:00-4:30 pm** 3:00-4:00 Sectionals
4:00-4:30 Full Choir /Followed by fellowship time
- March 8, 3:00-4:30 pm** 3:00-3:40 Sectionals
3:45-4:30 Full Choir /Followed by fellowship time
- March 15, 3:00-4:30 pm** 3:00-3:50 Full Choir Rehearsal
3:50-4:30 Sectionals / fellowship time
- March 22, 3:00-4:30 pm** Full Choir Rehearsal / fellowship time
- March 29, 3:00-4:30 pm** Full Choir Rehearsal, Tech Run – with narrators and mics, sound system
- April 5, 3:00-4:30 pm** “Dress Rehearsal” Run with risers, narrators, tech with mics, lighting & other performance details. Singers might consider wearing their performance shoes.

PERFORMANCE: 7:30 pm Good Friday, April 10, 2020,
at Faith Lutheran. Singers meet to warm up at 6:30 pm

Heartland
Conference

SPRING
gathering



Our Savior's Lutheran Church
30985 Front St. - Pequot Lakes, MN

Saturday, April 4, 2020

Coffee & Registration
8:30 a.m. — 9:30 a.m.

\$8 Fee

Speaker: Dee Dee Frahm, Salem West

Theme:

all you need is
love 
John 13:34-35

Dear Heartland sisters in Christ

The Spring Gathering will be on April 4th at Our Savior's Lutheran Church at 30985 Front Street in Pequot Lakes. Registration begins at 8:30 with coffee served by Maple Hill Lutheran. The cost is \$8.00 which includes lunch. Put the date in your calendar and plan to attend. It will be a good day.

MARCH PIZZA & MOVIE NIGHT Worship & Music committee will be hosting a “Pizza & Movie Night” in March. Watch for the details!

DIGITAL SCREENS If anyone is interested in assisting with the running of the digital screens during our Sunday worship services, contact Jim Christensen or Pastor James. We would love to train you in!

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP Riverwood Healthcare Center is running a Grief Support series of meetings on Thursdays from 4:30pm-6:00pm starting April 16-May 21, 2020. For more information or to register contact Val Thompson (218) 927-5524. Flyer is on the bulletin board in the Narthex.