

Sunday, February 9, 2020

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

21590 State Highway 47, Isle, MN 56342

Phone: 320-684-2123 (1-877-684-2123) Fax: 320-684-2836

E-mail address: blcmalmo@gmail.com

Church Web Site: blcmalmo.org

Pastor James Muske

320-583-5796

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

Kathy Berland RN ANP 218-838-6181

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, February 9, 2020

Death of John the Baptist

INTRODUCTION

The report of John's death, Jesus' mentor, was the end of innocence for Jesus' mission. The relationship between John and Jesus demonstrates one thing is certain: agents of God who challenge those in power usually suffer significant consequences. Today's gospel tells the story of John and Herod as a foreshadowing of Jesus' own death by the hands of a political, though sympathetic, figure.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: **“Eternal Father, Strong to Save”** **#756 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:

Holy Jesus,

You sent many into the world to proclaim your kingdom on earth. Sustain us, equip us, and walk with us so that everyone can learn of your abundant love. Amen.

Please be seated

PSALM RESPONSE Psalm 122

¹I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!"

²**Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

³Jerusalem — built as a city that is bound firmly together.

⁴**To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD.**

⁵For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David.

⁶**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.**

⁷Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers."

⁸**For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be within you."**

⁹For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good.

Please Stand for the Gospel

GOSPEL READING: Mark 6:1-29

Glory to you, O Lord

¹He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ²On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! ³Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. ⁴Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." ⁵And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust

that is on your feet as a testimony against them." ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

¹⁴King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." ¹⁵But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

¹⁷For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. ¹⁸For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, ²⁰for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. ²¹But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. ²²When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." ²³And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." ²⁴She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." ²⁵Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." ²⁶The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. ²⁷Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, O Christ

Please be seated

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Take My Life, That I May Be" #583 ELW
(Verses 1-4 Repeat verse 4 or view on screen)

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, it is your desire that all people might come to know you intimately. Lead our communities into deeper relationship with you. May your church radiate your righteousness to all whom we encounter. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of creation, you quench the dry ground, bringing water that sustains life. Satisfy the needs of all the earth, so that all living things bear witness to your verdant grace and continue to shout your praise. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of glory, during your time here on earth you were crucified by powerful rulers who did not understand you. Grant leaders in our day wisdom and discernment, that they may recognize you in the lives of the people they serve. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of justice, you free us from the oppression that binds us and exhort us to serve one another. Liberate us from all fear, bigotry, and greed, and set our hearts and minds on love, equality, and justice. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of life, you reveal your saving love to us through the power of your Spirit. Bless those among us who are preparing to encounter your invigorating will in a new way, especially those preparing for or affirming baptism (*name/s*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Holy God, it is your desire that all people might come to know you intimately. Lead our communities into deeper relationship with you. May your church radiate your righteousness to all whom we encounter. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of creation, you quench the dry ground, bringing water that sustains life. Satisfy the needs of all the earth, so that all living things bear witness to your verdant grace and continue to shout your praise. Hear us, O God.

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Your mercy is great.

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:

“God are you Tired”

Dakota Road

(on screen)

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: Darrell Kelly & Kathy Larson

Ushers: Wayne & Janice Olson

Hospitality Hosts:

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, February 2, 2020: 9:00am 82

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda**Feb. 10 through Feb. 16, 2020**

Monday	2/10	9:00 am	Women's Devotion-Pat Becker's Home
		1:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	2/11	9:00 am	Quilters
		12 – 2 pm	Pastor's Text Study
Wednesday	2/12	9:00 am	Bible Study
		10:00 am	Stitchers
		12:00 noon	Homemakers Meeting
Thursday	2/13	8:00 am	ROMEOS
		11:30 pm	Pot Luck & Funtimers
Friday	2/14	10:00 am	Bone Builders
Saturday	2/15	3:30- ?	Lion's Sweetheart Dinner
Sunday	2/16	9:00 am	Worship
		10:15 am	Sunday School

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOMEMAKERS MEETING Join the Homemaker's club for a Valentine's party on Wednesday 2/12 at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a gift (weighing 1 lb.) and wrapped in newspaper. Pizza will be served. Come for the fun.

BLESSING BOX We received \$127 last week in the Blessing Box. What a Blessing!

90TH BIRTHDAY! Please join us next Sunday during fellowship after our 9:00am service to celebrate Bev Wedig's 90th birthday!

ISLE COMMUNITY LENTEN CANTATA Singers are cordially invited to participate in the performance of "**SACRED PLACES: A Pilgrimage of Promise**". Rehearsals: Sundays in Lent from 3:00-4:30pm on Feb. 23, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5 at Faith Lutheran Church, Isle, with performance on Good Friday, April 10, 7:30 pm.

SWEETHEART DINNER Malmo Area Lions would like to invite you to a "Sweetheart Dinner" on Saturday, Feb. 15th. 2020 to be held at Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo. Doors open at 3:30pm with dinner at 4:00pm. Cost \$15. Reservations can be called into the church office, deadline is Feb. 10th

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.

GOD ARE YOU TIRED

Larry Olson



Oh God, are you tired of our emp - ty days, our
Oh God, are you tired of our bombs and guns, the
Oh God, are you tired of our end - less greed, our



cal - loused hearts, our bro - ken ways? How
rea - sons we give to kill some - one? How
mind - less chase of lux - u - ry? How



long till we wake up and heed your call? How
long till we stand up and stop this race? How
long till we cry out that some - thing's wrong? How



long till we see that we don't know it all?
long till we see you in ev - er - y face? May we
long till our praise is more than a song?



lose our - selves for you. May we lose our - selves for



you. For the least and the lost, may we



take up our cross and hum - bly fol - low you.