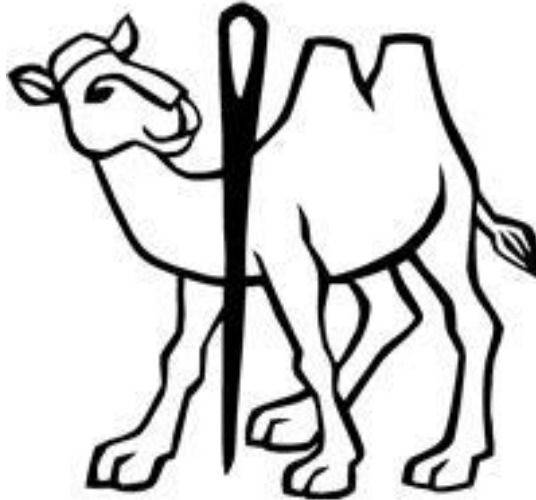


Sunday, March 1, 2020
First Sunday in Lent



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, March 1, 2020

First Last and Last First

INTRODUCTION

Jesus calls us to a radical discipleship. Money is an object of desire in our wealthy society, and so this passage challenges us to give up to follow Jesus. The advice in this passage is not to give up out of a martyr complex, but to give up to follow Jesus, in service to others for the sake of the gospel.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: **“Jesus Calls Us o’er the Tumult”** **#696 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, who is present, who gives life, who calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Amen.

If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand? Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you, knowingly and unknowingly. We have wandered from your resurrection life. We have strayed from your love for all people. Turn us back to you, O God. Give us new hearts and right spirits, that we may find what is pleasing to you and dwell in your house forever. Amen.

Receive good news: God turns to you in love. “I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live,” says our God. All your sin is forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ, who is the free and abounding gift of God’s grace for you.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Lord of abundant riches,

when asked to give everything to follow Jesus, a rich man faltered. Give us the courage to give everything that we have to you, knowing that what you offer is more valuable than all the riches in the world. Amen.

Please be seated

PSALM RESPONSE Psalm 19:7-10

⁷The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;

⁸the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;

⁹the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

GOSPEL READING: Mark 10:17-31

Glory to you, O Lord

¹⁷As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ¹⁸Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. ¹⁹You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'" ²⁰He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." ²¹Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." ²²When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

²³Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" ²⁴And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." ²⁶They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" ²⁷Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

²⁸Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." ²⁹Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, ³⁰who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age — houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions — and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to You, O Christ

Please be seated

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: “The Glory of These 40 Days” #320 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

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

God of the wilderness, we pray for the church. Lead us in showing grace and hospitality to all who struggle with doubt or shame. Make your church holy ground where all people can be seen and loved for who you have created them to be. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for creation. Show your glory in deserts and on mountaintops. Nourish gardens and orchards and bless those who tend them. Forgive us for our desire to dominate creation instead of serving as faithful stewards and caretakers. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for the nations. Liberate leaders and governments from the temptation to exercise unjust dominion over those whom they are called to lead and serve. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for those in need. Sustain those who are hungry and alone, those who are anxious, those facing difficult decisions, and those facing a recent diagnosis or new grief. (*We pray especially for . . .*) Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We thank you for putting new songs on our lips and in our hearts. Hear our voices as we join in songs of lament and praise. We give thanks for musicians, composers, and poets (*especially George Herbert; other musicians or music ministries of the local congregation may be named*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We praise you for bringing us through the desert into the promised land of your kingdom. We give thanks for saints who have guided us in times of trial and joy (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through 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

Holy and generous host,
you set a table where we feast as friends. Prepare us to witness to your goodness with every gift you have given us to share, that all people may know your peace through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Invitation to Communion

God's love is poured out in Christ for you. Open yourselves to receive it.
(Communion by intinction – red wine; white apple juice; gluten free available)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, living God,
for the body and blood of your Son, which sustains us in the wilderness and the garden alike. As Christ has loved us in this feast, so send us to love Christ in our neighbors. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

BLESSING

Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation. Holy God, speaking, spoken, and inspiring, ✚ bless you, unbind you, and send you in love and in peace.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN:

“Follow Me”

On Screen

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

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: Nancy Hansen & Dianne Sandberg

Hospitality Hosts: 😞

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, February 23, 2020: 9:00am 76

Wednesday, February 26, 2020: 6:30pm 35

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda**March 2 through March 8, 2020**

Monday	3/2	11:30 pm	Double Deck Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	3/3	9:00 am	Quilters
		12 – 2 pm	Pastor’s Text Study
Wednesday	3/4	9:00 am	Bible Study
		10:00 am	Stitchers
		5:30 pm	Pot Luck
		6:30 pm	Wednesday Lenten Service
Thursday	3/5	8:00 am	ROMEOS
		11:30 pm	Funtimers
Friday	3/6	10:00 am	Bone Builders
Sunday	3/8	DAY LIGHT SAVINGS TIME STARTS	
		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. Hard copies are printed and a table in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP 6 week series on Thursday evenings starting on April 16 thru May 21, 2020. From 4:30 – 6:00pm at Riverwood Healthcare Center, 200 Bunker Hill Drive, Aitkin. See poster on bulletin board in the Narthex for more information.

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

COFFEE SERVERS NEEDED Please take your turn and sign up! There will always be someone to help you with running the coffee pots & dishwasher.

5 Positive Things You Can Do This Lent

1. Read Scripture. Even ten minutes a day can lead you to a deepening of faith and a greater understanding of our heritage as the People of God.
2. Resolve to perform one random act of kindness. Hold a door open, let someone get in line first, refrain from cutting off the guy driving like a jerk in the car next to you, or do somebody's else's chore for them (and don't ask for payback).
3. You may be fasting, but others are hungry. Donate to a local food shelf so others may know the joy of enough to eat. How about a dollar a day? 40 Days = \$40 donation to local food shelf.
4. Enlighten someone's day. Send an uplifting card, email, or phone a family member, friend, or acquaintance that shows you're thinking about, and praying for, him/her.
5. Don't pray *more*, pray *better*. For most of us, it's difficult to add more into our day. How about putting more into the prayer times you've already got in place? Light a candle, sit in a more attentive position, or change to a more secluded atmosphere so that you can really be alone and focused on God.

