

ORDER OF WORSHIP

June 21st, 2020

“Church is not a place; it is who we are. Once we realize this, we can be the church anywhere.”

We gather to worship together, at this time, in different places. Bottom line, we are worshipping God, **TOGETHER!** This worship service has been pre-recorded. If you are able, please watch the service via the website (www.blcmalmo.org) or the Bethesda Lutheran Church Facebook page, or the Youtube link that was emailed to you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

How blessed we are that God forgives us and loves us!

For all those times when we have fallen short of what God would have us be, we have been forgiven.

God makes us new in God’s Spirit!

Now is the time to joyfully accept the newness of life which God offers to us.

Come, let us worship and be thankful.

Let us open our hearts to the peace and joy of God. AMEN.

SONG - We Bow Down CCLI Song # 20003 Twila Paris

You are Lord of creation And Lord of my life
Lord of the land and the sea You were Lord of the heavens
Before there was time And Lord of all lords You will be

We bow down And we worship You Lord
We bow down And we worship You Lord
We bow down And we worship You Lord
Lord of all lords You will be

You are King of creation And King of my life
King of the land and the sea You were King of the heavens
Before there was time And King of all kings You will be

We bow down And we crown You the King
We bow down And we crown You the King
We bow down And we crown You the King
King of all kings You will be

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

Amen.

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Reconciling God,

we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

Beloved of God,

by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through † Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Be with us this day, O Lord. Guide our hearts and guard our steps as we gather to praise your Holy Name and celebrate your love for us. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer

in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” ³So he told them this parable: “There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’” ²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²²But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate. ²⁵“Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He

called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ ³¹Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE- Pastor Bill & Pastor Kate

SONG - Hallelujah (Your Love Makes Me Sing) CCLI Song # 3091812
Brenton Brown | Brian Doerksen

Hallelujah hallelujah hallelujah
Your love makes me sing
Hallelujah hallelujah hallelujah
Your love makes me sing

Your love is amazing Steady and unchanging
Your love is a mountain Firm beneath my feet
Your love is a myst'ry How You gently lift me
When I am surrounded Your love carries me
(chorus)

Your love is surprising I can feel it rising
All the joy that's growing Deep inside of me
Ev'ry time I see You All Your goodness shines through
I can feel this God song Rising up in me
(chorus x2)

THE APOSTLES' 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 THE CHURCH

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

Expansive God, you bring diverse voices together to form your church. Open our hearts and unstop our ears to learn from one another, that differences might not overshadow our baptismal unity. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Providing God, your creation shows us that life comes from death. Renew the places where our land, air, and waterways have been ill for too long. Direct the work of all who care for birds and their habitats. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Protecting God, sustain and keep safe all who work to defend others across the world. Revive and strengthen organizations dedicated to caring for refugees and migrants while their homelands struggle for peace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Holy One, you care for those who are harassed and helpless. Protect and defend those who are abused. Heal those who are sick. Feed all who hunger. Empower all whose voices go unheard, and help us respond to the pressing needs of our neighbors. We lift up any prayers of our hearts, spoken or unspoken. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Compassionate God, you are with us and we are never alone. Bless all fathers and father figures who strive to love and nurture as you do. Comfort all who long to be

fathers and all for whom this day is difficult. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Reigning God, you bless us with guides and caretakers in the faith. As we give thanks for those who have died, increase our care for one another until we walk with them in newness of life. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Friends of Jesus, come to the table. Receive nourishment for your journey.

You may now partake of the bread and wine in your own home.

Speak the words "The body of Christ, given for you"

and "The blood of Christ, shed for you."

You may then respond "Amen."

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God of the welcome table, in this meal we have feasted on your goodness and have been united by your presence among us. Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts so that we may share your neighborly love with all, through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.

Amen.

BLESSING

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator, + Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love. **Amen.**

SONG - Hold Us Together CCLI Song # 5553657 Matt Maher | Steve Wilson

It don't have a job, It don't pay your bills
Won't buy you a home in Beverly Hills
Won't fix your life, In five easy steps
Ain't the law of the land or the government, But it's all you need

CHORUS: And love will hold us together, Make us a shelter to weather the storm.
And I'll be my brother's keeper, So the whole world will know that we're not alone

It's waiting for you, Knocking at your door.
In the moment of truth, When your heart hits the floor
And you're on your knees (*Chorus*)

This is the first day of the rest of your life
This is the first day of the rest of your life
'Cause even in the dark you can still see the light
It's gonna be alright it's gonna be alright
(Repeat)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

Response to God's Word Last Week

June 14th, 2020 - Virtual Attendance*: 108

**Virtual attendance is based on a matrix from the NEMN Synod. We determine the number of unique views per week and multiply by 2 – assuming there are two people per household watching the youtube video service.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU for your continued financial support during this time during this time of social distancing. You can submit your weekly offerings by mail to: 21590 State



Hwy 47, Isle, MN 56342. Or, online from our Facebook page. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/BLCMalmö/> and click on the donate button below the cover photo. Click and donate online. Stay Home – Stay Safe – Watch Services online. Thank you.

LAWN MOWERS NEEDED If you would like to help in the mowing, please contact Mary at the church (320-684-2123) to get on the signup sheet. We can use your help. The tractors and equipment will be ready each week (serviced, sanitized, and gassed) for your enjoyment. Please do not mow if not needed. If you have any questions call Lee Forrester at 651-271-2186.



CANCELLED ACTIVITIES

- **Veggie Stand** - until further notice.
- **Glen 4th of July Parade**