Sunday, August 2, 2020



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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

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. Worship materials have been published online at blcmalmo.org. If you are able, please watch the service via Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo's youtube.com page, find the link on Facebook, or visit our website to find the link.

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.



give help as though to you.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, alt. Music: JUST AS I AM, Joseph Barnby, 1838-1896

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **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

NEW TESTAMENT READING: 2 Corinthians 1:1-11

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the church of God that is in Corinth, including all the saints throughout Achaia: ² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, ⁴ who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God.

⁵ For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ.

⁶ If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering.

⁷ Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

⁸ We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, of the affliction we experienced in Asia; for we were so utterly, unbearably crushed that we despaired of life itself.

⁹ Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death so that we would rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead.

¹⁰ He who rescued us from so deadly a peril will continue to rescue us; on him we have set our hope that he will rescue us again, ¹¹ as you also join in helping us by your prayers, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many.

Gospel: John 14:25-27

²⁵I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

Word of God, Word of Life. Thanks be to God

MESSAGE



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 INTERCESSION

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

We pray for everyone worshipping today, that your Living Word, and Spirit, and your love have touched us and changed us. Help us to always follow You. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer

Your bountiful creation offers sustenance and life for all creatures. Protect this abundance for the well-being of all. Reverse the damage we have caused your creation. Replenish ground water supplies, provide needed rains in places of drought, and protect forests from wildfires. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer

You offer yourself to all the nations and peoples of the earth, inviting everyone to abundant life. Bring the prophetic vision to fullness, that all nations will run to you and that nations who do not know you will find their joy in you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

You open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. Hear the anguish of tender hearts who cry to you in suffering and satisfy their deepest needs. Bring wholeness and healing to those who suffer in body, heart, soul, and mind especially all those we name our loud or in the silence of our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer

You offer freely the fullness of salvation. Give our congregations such a welcoming heart, that our words and actions may extend your free and abundant hospitality to all whom we encounter. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer

You gather your saints as one, united in the body of Jesus. Bring us with all your saints to the heavenly banquet. We remember with love and thanksgiving the saints we have known. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

Please share a sign of God's peace by honking, waving, or giving the "peace sign" to others.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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."

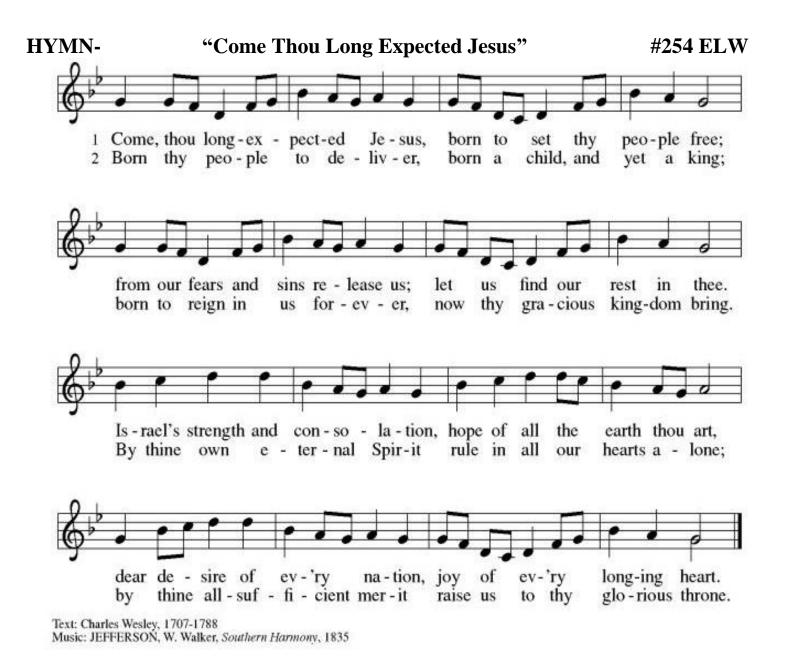
PRAYER after COMMUNION

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.**



DISMISSAL

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

Response to God's Word Last Week July 26th, 2020 - Virtual Attendance *: 90

*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

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. If you have any questions call Lee Forrester at 651-271-2186.

CANCELLED ACTIVITIES

• Veggie Stand - until further notice.

• October Bazaar – stay tuned for other fund-raising ideas to fund WELCA's many worthy missions. WELCA will have a fund-raising strategy meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 19th at 9:30am. Bring your good ideas! If you can't make the meeting, email your ideas to the church office at: <u>blcmalmo@gmail.com</u>

FACEMASKS With the new mask requirements, the citizens of Aitkin County will be in need of masks. Not everyone has the skill to make their own. Aitkin county has asked our congregation's sewers to make some for their neighbors. Also, Isle School has requested children size masks. We have elastic cord available in the church office if you need it. If you don't have a pattern, it will be available **HERE** on our website: blcmalmo.org. You can drop

off completed masks at the church office and we will deliver them to Aitkin County.

FACEMASKS we have homemade cloth facemasks available in the church entry way if you need them. They are machine washable and dryable.

BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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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

MISSION STATEMENT

We will **LIVE** and **SERVE** through **FAITH** we will **ACT** with **LOVE** and **KINDNESS** we will **GIVE** hope and **SUPPORT** to all.



