

# Sunday, August 9, 2020

*Forgiveness*



*“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](http://blcmalmo.org). If you are able, please watch the service via Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo’s [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) page, find the link on Facebook, or visit our website to find the link.

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

God is in our midst, forming us to be God’s own people.  
**Though the way may be difficult, God will be with us.**

We need not fear.

**In the Lord we will take our refuge, for God is our strength.**

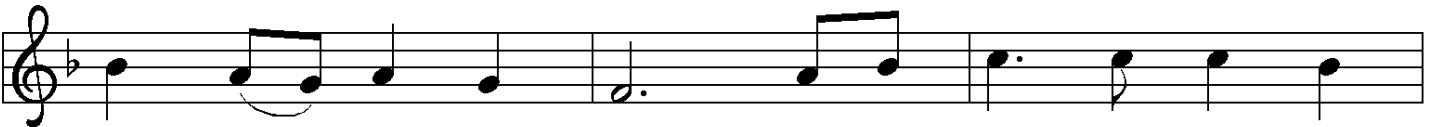
Come to the Lord who will surround you with God’s own righteousness.  
**Lord, open our hearts and our spirits so that we may faithfully follow you.**  
**Amen!**



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly  
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and  
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and  
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how  
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to  
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where  
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and  
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as  
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through  
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of  
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we  
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in  
 strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:  
 claim the faith of Je - sus:  
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,  
 end to fear and dan - ger:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

## **CONFESSION and 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**

O Lord,

**we come to you this day in the midst of our summer months. For many this is a time of relaxation; but for others, the burdens, worries, and cares continue to weigh them down. Be with each of us as we open our ears to hear your words, our hearts to feel your presence, and our spirits to receive your healing touch. In Jesus 'Name, we pray. Amen.**

## **SCRIPTURE**

**NEW TESTAMENT READING: 2 Corinthians 2:1-10** (Tree of Life Version)

Paul writes: <sup>1</sup>So I made up my mind that I would not come to you again causing sorrow. <sup>2</sup>For if I cause you sorrow, then who is there cheering me on but the one I have made sorrowful? <sup>3</sup>And I wrote this very thing to you, so that when I came I wouldn't have sorrow from those who ought to make me rejoice—having confidence in you all that my joy is yours. <sup>4</sup>For out of much distress and anguish of heart I wrote

to you with many tears—not to make you sorrowful, but to let you know the love that I have especially for you.

<sup>5</sup>But if anyone has caused sorrow, he has caused sorrow not to me, but to some extent—not to exaggerate—to all of you. <sup>6</sup>For such a person, this punishment by the majority is enough. <sup>7</sup>So instead you should forgive him and encourage him. Otherwise such a person might be swallowed up by excessive sorrow. <sup>8</sup>Therefore I urge you to reaffirm your love for him. <sup>9</sup>For to this end I also wrote that I might know your character, whether you are obedient in all things. <sup>10</sup>Now anyone you forgive, I also forgive. For indeed, what I have forgiven (if I have forgiven anything), I did it for you in the presence of Messiah, <sup>11</sup>so that we might not be outwitted by satan—for we are not ignorant of his schemes.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God**

### **Gospel: Matthew 18:21-22**

<sup>21</sup>Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God**

### **MESSAGE Colleen Bernu**

*Mission Developer for Together Here Ministries working with the NEMN Synod and the ELCA Domestic Mission Unit and an approved candidate for the ministry of Word and Service assigned to NEMN Synod*

### **HYMN –**

### **“Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive”**

**#605 ELW**



1 “For - give our sins as we for - give,” you taught us, Lord, to pray;  
2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart  
3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:  
4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.  
that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?  
how tri - fling oth - ers' debts to us; how great our debt to you!  
then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

## 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.

For your whole church throughout the world. Give courage in the midst of storms, so that we see and hear Jesus calling: "Take heart, it is I: do not be afraid." May we follow Christ wherever he leads. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For the well-being of your creation. Protect waterways, forests, lands, and wildlife from exploitation and abuse. Help the human family endeavor to sustain and be sustained by the resources of your hand. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For the nations and their leaders. In you, steadfast love and faithfulness meet, and righteousness and peace kiss. May nations in conflict know the peace that is the fruit of justice, and the justice that is the path to peace. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For those in need. Everyone who calls upon your name will be saved. Accompany all who are lonely, hear the voices of those who cry out in anguish, and support those who are frustrated in their search for an affordable place to live. We pray for those suffering this day. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For our congregation. You have gathered us here today as your people and we thank you for this gift. We pray for those who are new to this community, for students and teachers preparing for a new school year, and for those struggling with unexpected hardship. Supply us generously with your grace for our life together. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks, O God, for the saints of the whole church from all times and places, and for the saints in our lives and in our community whom you have gathered to yourself. 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.**

## **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.**

*Refrain*  
Leader All



Ne - no, ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la - ku - i - ta we - we,  
Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing, through the Word in - vit - ing,



ne - no la wo - ko - vu, te - na je - ma. ma.  
of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort, and joy. joy.

Leader All



Ye - su a - li - se - ma, Mka - hu - bi - ri.  
1 Je - sus gave his man - date: share the good news  
2 Let none be for - got - ten through - out the world.  
3 Help us to be faith - ful, stand - ing stead - fast,

Leader All *Refrain*



Ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la wo - ko - vu.  
that he came to save us and set us free.  
In the tri - une name of God go and bap - tize.  
walk - ing in your pre - cepts, led by your Word.

Text: Tanzanian traditional; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922

Music: NENO LAKE MUNGU, Tanzanian tune

Text © 1968 Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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## Response to God's Word Last Week

August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 – Actual Joint Parking Lot Attendance: 30

August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 - Virtual Attendance \*: 36

\*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. 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am. Bring your good ideas! If you can’t make the meeting, email your ideas to the church office at: [blcmalmo@gmail.com](mailto:blcmalmo@gmail.com)

**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 cotton material, elastic cord, and nose bridges 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](http://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.

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### **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.*