

Sunday, October 11, 2020

Native American Sunday



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

BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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Response to God’s Word Last Week

October 4th, 2020 – Virtual Attendance *: 86

**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

PRAYER & CARE LIST: The Family of Jody Knudsen

TRUNK or TREAT! Get your ‘Boo’ on! Join us for the 3rd annual Trunk or Treat at Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo on Saturday, October 31st, from 3-6 p.m.

Since ‘Masks’ are required, make it elaborate, scary, unique! We will be outside this year in the parking lot. Looking for portable fire pits to borrow (we have one at church). So start thinking of ways to decorate your trunk or car. We will have a contest for best Halloween Trunk and Costume.



FLU SHOT CLINIC will be held at the church on Monday, October 19th, 2020 8:30-10:30am. Bring Insurance Card & Wear a Facemask. Social distancing will be enforced.

IN PERSON WORSHIP We are planning a worship service in the Fellowship Hall on **October 25 at 9:30am**. All MN Department of Health guidelines will be followed including, but not limited to: Health Screening Assessment upon entry, 6' physical distancing, wear a mask the entire time you are in the building, prayers will be whispered from behind your mask, no singing, no hand shaking, etc. Watch for more details. We reserve the right to cancel if needed.

WOMEN'S DEVOTIONS RESUMES The Women's Devotional Bible study will resume on two Monday's - October 5 and 12 at 9:00am. We will meet in the church fellowship hall. Everyone must wear a mask and social distance. More details in the October Newsletter.

COVID-19 COMMUNITY TESTING EVENT IN AITKIN Aitkin County Public Health is working in cooperation with the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), Minnesota State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and Minnesota National Guard to host a multi-day COVID-19 Community Testing Site. Testing will be available free of charge for anyone who is interested in getting tested. MDH and the SEOC have worked to provide these clinics throughout Minnesota to ensure access to free testing. Testing will take place at The Journey North Church in Aitkin, from 12:00-6:00 PM Tuesday, October 13th and Wednesday, October 14th and 12:00-3:00 PM on Thursday, October 15th, during MEA. The test is a mid-nasal cavity swab, so it is only about 1 inch into the nose. You can register online for the event at: <https://www.primarybio.com/r/aitkin>.

Please help us spread the word by posting in your congregation. Thank you so much for all you do!

NO-BAZAAR BAZAAR & RAFFLE Go online to our website to view the items for the No-Bazaar Raffle. There were tickets included in the October Newsletter and there is also a link to print your own tickets at: <http://blcmalmo.org/2020/09/25/no-bazaar-bazaar/>.

LUTEFISK DINNER Holden Lutheran Church has cancelled their Lutefisk Dinner held in October but instead you can Pre-order a "To Go Boxed Lutefisk Dinner for Two". Cost \$28. Pre-order by Thursday, October 1, 2020 by calling 320 676-3497 or 320-676-3706. Leave a message with Name, Phone Number and How many. Meals to be picked up on Saturday, October 25, 2020 between 11am and 1pm at Holden Lutheran Church. 2987 150th Street, Isle, MN 56342. Meal consists of 1 ½ lbs. Lutefisk, Meatballs, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Cream Sauce, Butter, Lefse and instructions for Preparation. Additional Lefse will be available at \$6/pkg.

October 11, 2020

Northeastern Minnesota Synod Native American Sunday

On the second Sunday of October each year, ELCA congregations in Northeastern Minnesota Synod host Native American Sunday in order to honor the unique and beautiful contributions of our Native American brothers and sisters by lifting up the American Indian/Alaska Native ministries of the ELCA. Native American Sunday also provides an opportunity to give generously through a special offering set aside for Together Here Ministries to fund the work led by the Bridge Building Task Force and Anti-Racism Team in our synod.



Prelude

Sing to the Lord a New Song

Offered by Mr. Paul Jacobson

Sing to the Lord a New Song

Paul Jacobson

Inspired by song sparrows, chickadees, and a Dakota tune

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of five staves of music. The first staff begins with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The second staff starts at measure 6 with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The third staff starts at measure 12 with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The fourth staff starts at measure 18 with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The fifth staff starts at measure 23 with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4.

Welcome

Given by Colleen Bernu, Mission Developer, Together Here Ministries

Call to Worship

God, our Creator, made all that is, and proclaimed that 'it is good.' You have placed us together here on this land. You have shown us how to build community.

**Creator, help us to discover in all Your creation,
the good wisdom about the interconnectedness of all
things, about balance and about living in harmony.**

We are not above nature, we are part of Creation;
we live by the same laws as all of nature
and need to learn from what God has made.

Creator, help us discover the power that lies in the wisdom and understanding of our role in the mysterious web of life and in honoring every living thing as a teacher.

ALL: Creator God, may our spirits be in harmony with Yours as we gather in Your worship.

Led by Bridge Building Task Force members:

Dave Ackerson, Messiah, Mt. Iron

Joseph Bauerkemper, Gloria Dei, Duluth, Co-Chair

Mark Hollabaugh, Trinity, Hovland

Ron Osborne, Waters of Life, Duluth, Co-Chair

Opening Song

Cherokee Morning Song

*Offered by Ms. Carol Kot, Lodge Keeper,
Oshki giizhigimatoogan (New Day Lodge)*

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.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *<Silence is kept for reflection.>*

The Doctrine of Discovery is a philosophical and legal framework dating to 15th century European papal decrees. This framework gave Christian governments a false moral rationale for invading and seizing indigenous lands and people around the world. Its effects, including intergenerational trauma, still linger in our social and legal systems.

We confess our complicity in this sinful doctrine, and we are grateful that this synod, along with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, by official repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery, acknowledges the harm done to Indigenous people by colonization. We pledge to continue the way of listening and of repentance. With the whole church, we intend to further nurture mutual relationships of loving care and respect.

We acknowledge that we worship and gather on land traditionally cared for by the Ojibwe Nation who continue to live and work here as members of surrounding communities.

Indigenous people are our siblings and neighbors, and we are commanded to love our neighbors as we heed Christ's call to the healing of people, of land, and all Creation.

God our helper, often we get so caught up in the letter of the law that we lose sight of the spirit of the law. We remember with shame the impact of laws like the Doctrine of Discovery that corrupted your will and inflicted harm on generations of Native Americans. In our self-righteous lack of understanding, we continue to persecute your children. Too often, we are the instrument that pierces your hands and feet. Forgive us for the pain that we cause others. Open our eyes to see you in our neighbor. Transform us into instruments of your good news.

Siblings in Christ, hear the Good News. There is rejoicing in heaven when sinners repent. Put your trust in these promises: God will never leave you or forsake you. You who were lost have been found. For the sake of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Rejoice with the angels at this good news. **Amen.**

Led by Bishop-elect Amy Odgren, Northeastern Minnesota Synod

Prayer to the Seven Directions

Creator God, the Great Mystery, the strength of the people, we honor you. Listen to the thoughts of your people. We respect the truth of your unseen world and care for your Creations to the east, to the south, to the west and to the north. We honor you by deeds and not words. We live by the ways you have entrusted to us within the circle of life. Come Great Spirit as we gather together here in your name.

(We turn our bodies to the directions as we pray. Begin by looking eastward and turn with each petition in a clockwise direction.)

We face East: To your symbol color gold, the place of dawning, there is beauty in the morning, where the Seeker finds new visions as each sacred day is born. All who honor life around them, all who honor life within, shall shine with light and glory when the morning comes again. And we pray, **Come Holy Creator's Spirit, Come**

We turn to the South: To your symbol color red. In the South, the place of growing there is wisdom in the earth, both the painful song of dying and joyful song of birth. As the earth gives

up her lifeblood so her children's hearts may beat. We give back to her our reverence for the holy ground beneath our feet. And we pray, **Come Holy Creator's Spirit, Come**

We turn to the West: To your symbol color black, the place of seeing, there is born a vision of the servant of the servants, who proclaimed the Gospel to us. Guide us at the end of each day and fill us with your peace. And we pray, **Come Holy Creator's Spirit, Come**

We turn to the North: To your symbol color white, we look to God our Creator who cleanses our earth with snow, wind, and rain. To Jesus who fills us with the wideness of mercy and grace and lovingly embraces all the people. And the Holy Spirit who comes to inspire us. And we pray, **Come Holy Creator's Spirit, Come**

We face the earth: To your symbol color green, the place from whom we receive those things which sustain our life. It is with your breath, Creator God, and the earth, our mother, that we were created to be part of your whole creation. Keep us mindful, so that we may not despoil, rape, or hurt our mother in any way. Help us to live in harmony with all our relatives. And we pray, **Come Holy Creator's Spirit, Come**

We face the sky: To your symbol color blue, the place from where your breath moves and the warmth of the sun flows. We see our brother the eagle carrying our prayers to you. From the sky you bring us rain, which refreshes the whole earth regardless of race, class, or other divisions that we have placed in your way. Keep us ever mindful of your grace and mercy, which shines upon us every day. Let us be faithful witnesses to your love and your power in all lives. And we pray, **Come Holy Creator's Spirit, Come**

We face ourselves in prayer to you, Creator God. We feel your presence in our lives. We remember that before we were born, you counted every hair on our head and you called us into relationship with you and into relationship with all our relatives: sun and moon and wind, the winged ones, the two-leggeds, the four-leggeds, those who swim, those who crawl, and those who are rooted into the earth. You have given each of us a calling. Help us not to forsake

this calling by thinking only of ourselves. We asked for your help, Creator God.

Led by: Deacon Brenda Tibbetts, Assistant to the Bishop, Northeastern Minnesota Synod

Deacon Wendy Hjemberg, Hope Lutheran, Moose Lake

Mr. Nate Anderson, SAM, Trinity Lutheran, Bruno, and Oak Lake, Kerrick

Pastor James Muske, Bethesda Lutheran, Malmo, and Communications Secretary - Together Here Ministries' Bridge Building Task Force

Pastor Amanda Kossow, Trinity Lutheran, Cass Lake

Pastor Andy Berry, Littlefork Lutheran, Littlefork

Pastor David Carlson, Gloria Dei Lutheran, Duluth

Ms. Skylar Helgerson, St. Mark's Lutheran, Palo

Members of Our Savior's Lutheran, Outing

Prayer of the Day

Creator, to you we give thanks in all you bring and ask for your guidance as we prepare to open our hearts and minds. Within this sacred circle, Jesus Christ is our center in all that we do. Help us to speak with honor and respect to all of creation and be open to the teachings we are given. As we walk this sacred journey together with our relations, open our eyes to understanding, and the strength to truly see the way to live with compassion, love and grace. For with your Spirit, we can face the winds together. **AMEN**

Led by Pastor Larry Johnson, Hope Lutheran, Moose Lake

Children's Message

Old Turtle *Written by Douglas Wood. Watercolors by Cheng-Khee Chee.*

Read by members of the Lutheran Youth Organization Board:

Ms. Else Madsen, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Duluth

Ms. Lindsey Ploetz, Elim Lutheran Church, Duluth

Normally, this book would not be available for public use due to copyright laws, but because of COVID-19, Pfeifer-Hamilton Publishers, Duluth, MN, is allowing their works to be used in a limited capacity by libraries, schools and nonprofits. We would like to thank them for allowing us to share "Old Turtle" with you today.

First Reading

**Genesis 2:5-9,18-22.....Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.**

Read by Deacon Krista Anderson, Support of Rostered Ministers Program Director and Region 3 Candidacy Leadership Manager, ELCA Churchwide, and Together Here Ministries' Anti-Racism Team member.

Second Reading

Nehemiah 1:1-4,2:1-5....A teaching from God's people. AMEN.

Read by Ms. Colleen Bernu

Gospel Song

Amazing Grace in Cherokee

Offered by Ms. Carol Kot

Hand drum: Mr. Kevin Kot, Lodge Keeper, Oshki giizhigimatoogan and member of Together Here Ministries' Anti-Racism Team.

Gospel Reading

John 9:2-7.....The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Read by Deacon Susan Williams, Calvary Lutheran, Mora

Sermon

Will you go?

Preacher: Ms. Colleen Bernu

Special Music

Lament for the Missing Women

Performed by Mr. Paul Jacobson

Lament for the Missing Women

Paul Jacobson

Prayers of Intercession

Triune God, we come before you as many parts of a single body; people drawn from every tribe, every nation, every language; some Indigenous—peoples of this land; some refugees, immigrants, pilgrims— people on the move; some hosts, some guests; all of us searching for an eternal place where we can belong.

Creator, remind us the earth and everything in it is yours, but in our arrogance, we think we own it. In our greed, we think we can steal it. In our thoughtlessness, we destroy it. We forget that you created it to bring praise and joy to you, that you gave it as a gift, for us to steward, for us to enjoy, for us to see more clearly your beauty and your majesty. Restore your creation. Bring peace to all our relatives. God, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**

Jesus, save us. We cry out in response to the pains of this world. We mourn for the losses we feel. We hunger for your reconciliation, for that day when people, from every tribe and every tongue will gather in peace. God, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**

Holy Spirit, show us. Help us remember that the body is made up of many parts; each one unique and every one necessary. Teach us to embrace the discomfort that comes from our diversity and to celebrate the fact that we are unified, not through our sameness, but through the blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. God, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**

Triune God, we love you. Your creation is beautiful. Your salvation is merciful. Your wisdom is beyond compare. We pray this all in Jesus' name. Amen

Led by: Members of Our Savior's Lutheran, Outing

Pastor Liz Davis, Our Savior's Evangelical Lutheran, Duluth

Pastor John Deitz, United in Christ, Eveleth; St. Mark's Lutheran, Palo

Ms. Catherine Anderson, Coordinator of Youth Ministry, Northeastern Minnesota Synod

Peace

As a community let us embrace the ongoing work of understanding and peace making.

The Great Mystery who is God makes peace within us. Let

us claim it. The Great Mystery who is God makes peace between us. Let us share it.

The peace of the Great Mystery be with you in all things. You are invited to take a moment to offer a prayer of peace into the world.

Led by Ms. Sue Lyback, Lay Leader Network Coordinator, Northeastern Minnesota Synod

Offering Song

All My Love

Offered by Ms. Carol Kot and Mr. Kevin Kot

Food for the Journey

As a scattered community we won't take communion together in today's service in part because communion is something we do when we are physically together as one body of Christ. But, when the Israelites were wandering in the desert, they cried out to God, and God sent manna. We know that in times of crisis, God feeds hungry people. We know there are so many ways that God nourishes our hungry souls. God, give us companions on the way, and God, give us bread and water for the journey ahead.

For all.. for all of Creation for whom Christ has died, communion bread is bread for the Journey...

Christ says, "This is my Body, do this in remembrance of me."

For us, rice cake is bread for the journey.

We do this in remembrance of Christ.

For us, my brothers and sisters in Guatemala and elsewhere, tortilla (flatbread) is bread for the journey.

We are asked to do this in remembrance of Christ.

For us, cardamom braid is bread for the journey.

*What will we do together in remembrance of Christ?
May all that we do this day and every day be in
remembrance of Christ.*

For us, manoomin is bread for the journey. Gizhe-manidoo, we give you thanks that in your Son Jesus Christ you have given us bread for the journey and water in the desert. Open our eyes to see you in all things, in every part of creation and in every

person we meet. May we remember that we are on this journey together with you and with all our siblings, beings of all creation. Give us grateful hearts that we might say miigwech, thank you, for bringing us together here and for leading us on the journey ahead. **AMEN.**

Led by: Bishop Tom Aitken, Northeastern Minnesota Synod

Pastor Kim Sturtz, Emmanuel and Grace Lutheran Churches, Sandstone

Pastor Rebecca LeMenager

Pastor CJ Boettcher, Zion Lutheran, Cloquet

Pastor Liz Cheney, Immanuel Lutheran, Tower

Pastor Chris Hill, Our Savior's Luther, Cloquet

Mr. Luke Lekander, SAM, Our Savior's Lutheran, Outing, and Together Here Ministries' Anti-Racism Team member

Pastor Amy Janssen, Gethsemane Lutheran, Virginia

Pastor Beth Pottraz, First Lutheran, Little Falls

Pastor Karen Linne, Our Savior's Lutheran, Cloquet

Ms. Johanna Bernu, Bethesda Lutheran, Carlton

Lord's Prayer

In Ezekiel 38:23, "I will magnify Myself, sanctify Myself, and make myself known in the sight of many nations; and they will know that I am the LORD." As we come together in unity to praise you God our Creator, let us pray each in our own language as Jesus has taught us...

Led by members of Our Savior's Lutheran, Outing

Invitation and Blessing

As God has loved you, go forth and love the circle of life created by God's hand. As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in Christ. May you be a blessing to all whose paths cross your own.

Given by Bishop-elect Amy Odgren

Sending Song

Isaiah 40:4

Offered by Ms. Carol Kot and Mr. Kevin Kot

Sending Prayer

Gichi-Gizhe-Manidoo, the Great Mysterious Spirit who is God, together our breath is a prayer rising to you. Give us your peace. **AMEN**

Led by Ms. Colleen Bernu

Dismissal

We have honored Christ, our brother; all my relatives, go in peace to serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Given by Ms. Colleen Bernu

Postlude

Depart in Joy and Peace

Offered by Mr. Paul Jacobson

Depart in Joy and Peace

Paul Jacobson

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of ten staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a 4/4 time signature. The music features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. The score is divided into measures, with measure numbers 5, 10, 16, 22, 27, 32, 37, 42, and 48 marked at the beginning of their respective staves. The piece concludes with a final cadence on the tenth staff.



A special word of thanks extended to all who worked to make this worship service possible today. We are eternally grateful for your partnership with the work of Together Here Ministries. We especially thank:

- *God through whom all things are possible.*
- *Mr. Luke LeKander, ELCA, for coordinating video contributions, filming multiple clips, and editing the worship service.*
- *Mr. Paul Jacobson, ELCA, for composing original pieces for the wooden flute and offering beautiful music for meditation and reflection.*
- *Mr. Kevin Kot and Ms. Carol Kot, Oshki giizhigimatoogan, Ojibwe and Cherokee/Choctaw, for their praise and worship through hand drum and voice, and*
- *All those who contributed to writing the liturgy, including Rev. Rebecca LeMenager, United Church of Christ; Rev. Anita Phillips, Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference, United Methodist Church; Kelly Sherman-Conroy, ELCA, Oglala Sioux; Bishop-elect Amy Odgren, Northeastern Minnesota Synod, ELCA; Ms. Colleen Bernu, ELCA, Ojibwe; Christian Reformed Church in North America; Hope Lutheran Church, Moose Lake, Minnesota; Sacred Ground, Episcopal Church; United Methodist Church 21st Century Worship Resources for Native American Ministries Sunday and Native American Ministries Sunday Liturgy; ELCA Native American Liturgical Celebration.*

**To learn more about Together Here Ministries, visit
www.nemnsynod.org/together-here.**

**Mission support dollars earmarked “Together Here”
can be mailed to:**

**Together Here Ministries
% Northeastern Minnesota Synod
1105 E. Superior St, Upper Suite
Duluth MN 55802**

**Electronic gifts can be made on
www.nemnsynod.org/together-here.**

