

Sunday, November 1, 2020

God's Care for the Widow



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.*

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN: "For All the Saints" (Vs 1,2,6,7)

#422 ELW



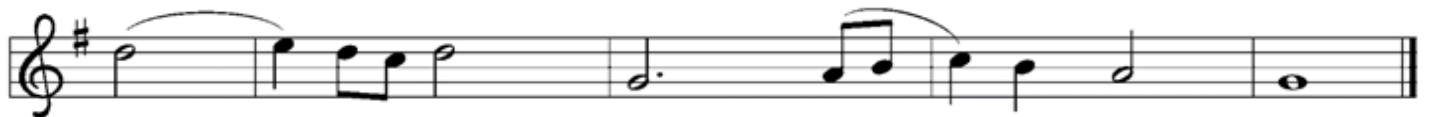
1 For all the saints who from their labors rest, who
2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might; thou,
6 But then there breaks a yet more glorious day: the
7 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through



thee by faith before the world confessed, thy
Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight; . .
saints triumphant rise in bright array; the
gates of pearl streams in the countless host, . .



name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
thou, in the darkness dread, their one true light.
King of glory passes on his way.
sing - ing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897

Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Music from *The English Hymnal* outside the USA © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of ✝ Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of compassion,

By the power of God, Elijah provided bread and oil for the widow and her household. By the faith in God, the widow provided food and water for Elijah. Give us hearts to love on another, so that in providing and in receiving, we too, might experience the unimaginable power of God, through the one who has provided life itself, your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 17:1-16

¹Now Elijah the Tishbite, of Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the LORD the God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word." ²The word of the LORD came to him, saying, ³Go from here and turn eastward, and hide yourself by the Wadi Cherith, which is east of the Jordan. ⁴You shall drink from the wadi, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there." ⁵So he went and did according to the word of the LORD; he went and lived by the Wadi Cherith, which is east of the Jordan. ⁶The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening; and he drank from the wadi. ⁷But after a while the wadi dried up, because there was no rain in the land.

⁸Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, ⁹Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you. ¹⁰So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink." ¹¹As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand." ¹²But she said, "As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die." ¹³Elijah said to her, "Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. ¹⁴For thus says the LORD the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the LORD sends rain on the earth." ¹⁵She went and

did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. ¹⁶The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

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

Gospel: Luke 4:24-26

²⁴And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. ²⁵But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon.

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

SERMON

HYMN: "Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness" (vs 1,3,4) #488 ELW



1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness, leave the gloom - y
3 Now in faith I hum - bly pon - der o - ver this sur -
4 Je - sus, source of last - ing plea - sure, tru - est friend, and



haunts of sad - ness, come in - to the day - light's splen - dor,
pass - ing won - der that the bread of life is bound - less
dear - est trea - sure, peace be - yond all un - der - stand - ing,



haunts of sad - ness, come in - to the day - light's splen - dor,
pass - ing won - der that the bread of life is bound - less
dear - est trea - sure, peace be - yond all un - der - stand - ing,



there with joy your prais - es ren - der. Bless the one whose grace un -
though the souls it feeds are count - less; with the choic - est wine of
joy in - to all life ex - pand - ing: hum - bly now, I bow be -



bound-ed this a - maz - ing ban - quet found - ed; Christ, though heav'n - ly,
heav - en Christ's own blood to us is giv - en. Oh, most glo - rious
fore you, love in - car - nate, I a - dore you; wor - thi - ly let



high, and ho - ly, deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
con - so - la - tion, pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion.
me re - ceive you, and, so fa - vored, nev - er leave you.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: SCHMÜCKE DICH, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, you invite those who feel most unworthy of love to a seat at the head of your table. Through the humility, vulnerability, and repentance of your church, bring a compassionate welcome to all in need of your grace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Sustaining God, guide all people of the earth through harsh extremes in the cycles of creation—drought and monsoon, blistering heat and freezing cold. Hold in your

mercy all places where lives have been disrupted by natural disasters (*especially*).
Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Sovereign God, gather our country around a shared table this week during our national election. Open fruitful dialogue between people of every political party, place, age, and socio-economic status so that we may discern the common good you desire for us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Merciful God, protect those whose human dignity has been denied and oppressed in our nation (*especially*). Raise the voices of those who have been silenced and bring justice where power has been abused for personal gain. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Loving God, accompany those in new and unfamiliar places who need an invitation to community. We pray especially for those who have recently moved to start their first year of college, a new job, or a missionary position in another land. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Eternal God, you unite all the faithful in a banquet of your abundance. This day we remember all who now feast in your eternal presence, especially all who have died in the past year (*here the names of those who have died in the previous year may be read*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet table where Christ gives himself as food and drink.

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

We give you thanks, gracious God,

that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

Mothering God, Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life. **Amen.**

HYMN:

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

#588 ELW



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness of the sea;
2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;
3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;
4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.
there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.
There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;
But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;
Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv' n.
there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.
and we mag - ni - fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.
and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.
Music: LORD, REVIVE US, North American, 19th cent.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

Response to God's Word Last Week

October 25th, 2020 – Actual In Person Attendance: 30

Virtual Attendance *: 70

**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: Judie Birk, Jerry Morris

WOMEN'S DEVOTIONS The Women's Devotional Bible study will meet on Monday, November 9 at 9:00am. We will meet in the church fellowship hall. Everyone must wear a mask and social distance.

NO-BAZAAR BAZAAR FUNDRAISER We are still accepting donations to WELCA's fundraising efforts for their many worth causes. You can send your donations to the church and make the checks out to "Bethesda WELCA".

BETHESDA QUILTERS need donations of clean used mattress pads and blankets to make Lutheran World Relief quilts. Please leave in the Fellowship Hall by the Quilter's Door. Many Thanks.

VETERANS PANCAKE BREAKFAST and bake sale. Sponsored by the **Malmo Area Lions** on November 14th, 7:30-11 a.m. Event will be held at Bethesda's church parking lot. Pre-order breakfast and Pasties by calling the church office (320 684-2123) \$5 per breakfast (veterans eat free) or \$5 per pastie (choices: Meat, Apple, Blueberry, or Cherry)

THANK YOU Cleo O'Brien would like to thank all of you for your kindness and prayers during the illness and death of her husband Jerry.