

# Sunday, January 17, 2021

*Sermon at Nazareth*



## **BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO**

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**Pastor James Muske**

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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.*

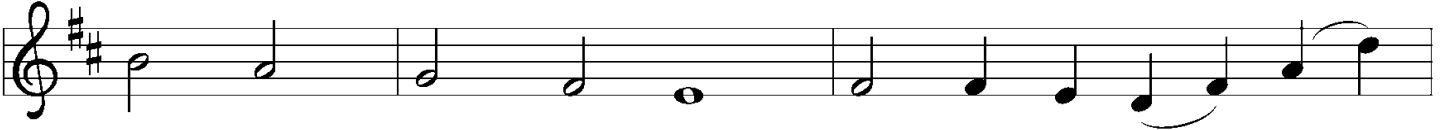
### **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

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](http://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**



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -  
 2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es  
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his  
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners  
 5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from  
 throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -  
 love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es  
 leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -  
 hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
 fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.  
 ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.  
 songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

## CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose voice is upon the waters, whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,

**you search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways. We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—our own sins and the broken systems that bind us. We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love. We distrust those who are not like us. We exploit the earth and its resources and fail to consider generations to come. Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone. Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them; receive them in your divine mercy. Amen.**

How vast is God's grace! Through the power and promise of † Christ Jesus, our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace.

**Amen.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God of the nations,

**Show us how to love all the people of the earth, of all colors and kinds: those with technology and without; those who make due with very little and who use many resources; those with formal education and without; those who call upon your name and who do not; so that all your children may be glorified in the name of the One who brought glory and liberty, Jesus Christ our salvation.**

**Amen.**

### **SCRIPTURE**

#### **FIRST READING: Psalm 146**

<sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

<sup>2</sup>I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

<sup>3</sup>Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.

<sup>4</sup>When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish.

<sup>5</sup>Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God,

<sup>6</sup>who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever;

<sup>7</sup>who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free;

<sup>8</sup>the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

<sup>9</sup>The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

<sup>10</sup>The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.

Praise the LORD!

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God**

## **Gospel: Luke 4:14-30**

<sup>14</sup>Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. <sup>15</sup>He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

<sup>16</sup>When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup>and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

<sup>18</sup>"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free,

<sup>19</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

<sup>20</sup>And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup>Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." <sup>22</sup>All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" <sup>23</sup>He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" <sup>24</sup>And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. <sup>25</sup>But 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; <sup>26</sup>yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. <sup>27</sup>There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." <sup>28</sup>When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. <sup>29</sup>They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. <sup>30</sup>But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God**

## **SERMON**

### **HYMN:**

#### **“They Raged at Jesus’ Sermon”**

(Sung to the tune of: "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers")

They raged at Jesus' sermon in Jesus' own hometown,  
For in the things he taught them, he turned life upside down;  
It wasn't just their neighbors who knew God's love and grace;  
For Jesus said God favors the ones we don't embrace.

God saved a foreign widow and rescued her from drought,  
For when she helped Elijah, God also helped her out.  
In Naaman, God's own favor to others was revealed;  
Though many locals suffered, that Syrian was healed.

In this world's noise and clatter, too often values shift;  
We say Christ's words don't matter and throw them off a cliff.  
We push aside the stranger, we walk right by the poor,  
We disregard the prisoner and say we matter more.

O God, your love is wider than we can comprehend;  
You reach to the outsider and call the stranger "friend."  
In Christ you gave a message transcending time and place  
May we your church have courage to share your love and grace.

*Words by: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette*

## **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.*

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

*A brief silence.*

For the body of Christ gathered throughout the world and for all servants of the gospel, that following Jesus, the church lives out its calling every day, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For the well-being of creation, for plants and animals, and for all that God has marvelously made, that we serve as wise stewards of Earth, our home, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For police officers and firefighters, for attorneys and paralegals, for peacekeepers and military personnel, and for the leaders of governments, that they provide protection to all people, especially the most vulnerable, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For those lacking food or shelter, for those who are sick or grieving, and for those who are imprisoned or homebound (*especially*), that God console all who suffer, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For our neighborhood, for visitors joining us for the first time or returning, and for those absent from our assembly, that all who seek to know God are nourished by word and sacrament, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

In thanksgiving for the saints who have gone before us (*especially Antony and Pachomius, renewers of the church*), that their lives give us a vision of the gospel in action, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

O God,

**receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. Amen.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Beloved: here is bread; here is wine. Here is Jesus. Come and be fed.

*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**

Christ Jesus,

**at this table we have feasted on your very life and are strengthened for our journey. Send us forth from this banquet nourished in body and in spirit to proclaim your good news and serve others in your name. Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter ✠ keep you in peace.

**Amen**

## **HYMN: "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness" #843 ELW**



- 1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
- 2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
- 3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.  
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.  
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,  
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;  
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.  
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.  
Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

Response to God's Word Last Week

January 10, 2021 Virtual Attendance \*: 158

*\*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.*

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRAYER & CARE LIST:** Lynn Hansen, Shirley Eklund

**ANNUAL MEETING:** The date and time for our Annual Congregational Meeting will be Sunday, January 31, 2021. We will have either an in-person or parking lot service that day starting at 10:00 a.m. with meeting to follow service. 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.

**ANNUAL MEETING:** We will need at least 25 voting members to attend our annual meeting to meet our quorum and the hall will be set up for approximately 50-60 people. *We are asking for members to please call or email the office to reserve a spot at the meeting.*

**WELCA MEETING:** Wednesday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am to discuss distribution of benevolence monies taken in from the No-Bazaar Bazaar. Mask up, bring your own beverage, and Social Distancing enforced. If interested in joining via Zoom, contact Mary Braun via email at: [blcmalmo@gmail.com](mailto:blcmalmo@gmail.com)

**“ZOOM COFFEE HOUR”:** coffee and conversation will continue to meet every other Tuesday if interest continues. Next meeting is January 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am. Please email Cheryl Malotky if you are interested so she can email you a Zoom invite. If you have additional questions, please contact Cheryl Malotky [clmalotky@gmail.com](mailto:clmalotky@gmail.com). or 952 412-6108