

**Sunday, March 21, 2021**

*Zacchaeus*



**BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO**

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**Pastor James Muske**

**320-583-5796**

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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.*

**INTRODUCTION** *Jesus came to seek and to save the lost. That's not a promise postponed until we die. It's a promise now to those who have lost jobs and those who no longer find meaning in their work. Those who will change careers many times and those who feel so angry they have to find somebody to blame for everything that has changed. Jesus stops today to meet us wherever we are — proud of our successes or ashamed of our failures. Something inside us knows that making a living is not the same as finding your life.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HYMN

### “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

#678 ELW



- 1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and end - less store:
- 2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
- 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through pow'rs your grace con - ferred;



na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly cross, grave's shat - tered door,  
all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es joined, the church made one.  
ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to spread the gos - pel word.



gift - ed by you, we turn to you, of - f'ring up our - selves in praise;  
Now di - rect our dai - ly la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone;  
O - pen wide our hands in shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call,



thank - ful song shall rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.  
born with tal - ents, make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.  
heal - ing, teach - ing, and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

## CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer.

**Amen.**

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Fountain of living water,

**pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.**

**Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.**

Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are † forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus. **Amen.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Lord of the lost,

**We are quick to judge and slow to accept those whom we consider lower than ourselves. But you show us the way of acceptance, forgiveness, and peace. We honor your name for teaching us to love, for the sake of the one who is the essence of love itself, Jesus Christ our loving Lord. Amen.**

### **SCRIPTURE**

#### **FIRST READING: Psalm 84: 1-4, 10-12**

<sup>1</sup>How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!

<sup>2</sup>My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.

<sup>3</sup>Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.

<sup>4</sup>Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.

Selah

<sup>10</sup>For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than live in the tents of wickedness.

<sup>11</sup>For the Lord GOD is a sun and shield; he bestows favor and honor. No good thing does the LORD withhold from those who walk uprightly.

<sup>12</sup>O LORD of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God**

#### **Gospel: Luke 18:31-19:10**

**18** <sup>31</sup>Then he took the twelve aside and said to them, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. <sup>32</sup>For he will be handed over to the Gentiles; and he will be mocked and insulted and spat upon. <sup>33</sup>After they have flogged him, they will kill

him, and on the third day he will rise again.”<sup>34</sup> But they understood nothing about all these things; in fact, what he said was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said.

<sup>35</sup> As he approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. <sup>36</sup> When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. <sup>37</sup> They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.” <sup>38</sup> Then he shouted, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” <sup>39</sup> Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet; but he shouted even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” <sup>40</sup> Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, <sup>41</sup> “What do you want me to do for you?” He said, “Lord, let me see again.” <sup>42</sup> Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight; your faith has saved you.” <sup>43</sup> Immediately he regained his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.

**19** <sup>1</sup> He entered Jericho and was passing through it. <sup>2</sup> A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. <sup>3</sup> He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. <sup>4</sup> So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. <sup>5</sup> When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.” <sup>6</sup> So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. <sup>7</sup> All who saw it began to grumble and said, “He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.” <sup>8</sup> Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, “Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.” <sup>9</sup> Then Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup> For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.”

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God**

## SERMON

**HYMN:**

**“Amazing Grace”**

**#779 ELW**



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that  
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

## 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.*

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

You wash us through and through and remember our sin no more. Make your church a community of forgiveness throughout the world. Give your people courage to forgive; through them show the world new possibilities. Bless ministries of repentance and reconciliation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You fill the earth—from tiny grains of wheat to the mighty thunder—with your presence, and you call us to attend to your will for all creation. Grant weather that prepares the soil for seeds; protect all from violent storms, flooding, and wildfires (*especially*). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You promise to write your law on our hearts. Guide citizens throughout the world to shape communities that reflect your mercy, justice, and peace, and give them creativity to work for the welfare of all. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. Restore the joy of all who need to know your presence: those who are lonely or feel unforgivable, those who need healing of mind or body, those who are dying, and all who grieve. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Jesus calls us to follow him in life and death. Empower this congregation in discipleship. Equip children and teachers in Sunday school, confirmation, and learning ministries. Give us your truth and wisdom and teach us to follow Jesus. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

In the cross of Christ, your name is glorified. We praise you for those who have given us words to worship you (*especially Thomas Cranmer*). With all those who have died in Christ, bring us into life everlasting. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Faithful God,

**you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus draws the whole world to himself. Come to this meal 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

God of steadfast love,

**at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

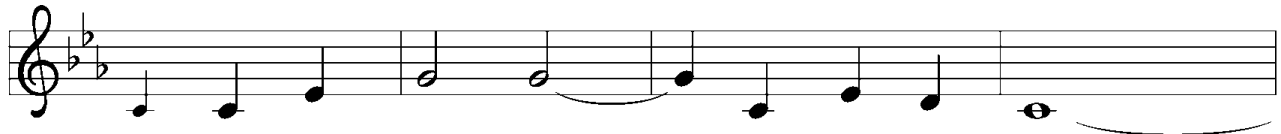
## BLESSING

You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you ☩ that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity. **Amen**

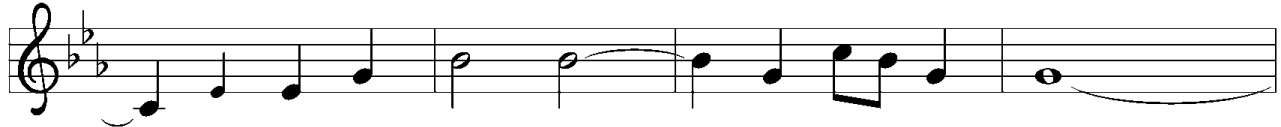
## HYMN

### "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

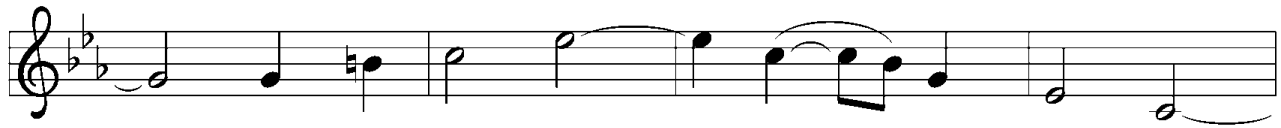
#325 ELW



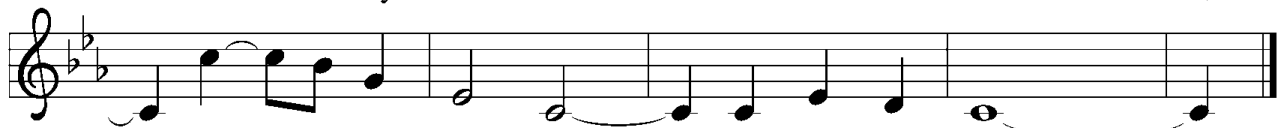
1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;  
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;  
when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,  
when my heart is al - most break - ing,  
when my head is bowed in sor - row,



Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.  
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.  
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

Response to God's Word Last Week:

Sunday, March 14, 2021 - In Person: 39  
- Virtual Attendance \*: 36

Wednesday, March 17, 2021 - In Person: 20  
Virtual Attendance \*: 30

*\*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.*

**THIS WEEK AT Bethesda March 22, 2021 – March 28, 2021**

Monday	3/22	11:30am	Pinochle
Wednesday	3/24	6:00 pm	Lenten Service In-Person
Sunday	3/28	10:00 am	In Person Worship Service

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRAYER & CARE LIST:** Jerry Morris

**WEDNESDAY LENTEN SERVICES** will continue in person throughout the Lent Season. Services will be at 6:00pm. Pre-recording of the service will be available on our YouTube channel at the same time.

**“ZOOM COFFEE HOUR”:** coffee and conversation will continue to meet every other Tuesday as interest continues. Next meeting is March 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am. Please email the office if you are interested so we can email you a Zoom invite. If you have additional questions, please contact Mary in the office at blcmalmo@gmail.com or 320 684-2123.

**IN PERSON WORSHIP SERVICES** are planned for Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am. There will be two in person worship services on Easter, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 & 10:30am. 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.

**EASTER SERVICES** we are requesting that you contact the church office if you are planning to attend one of the In Person Easter Services, at 8:30 & 10:30am, so we can monitor attendance. Seating is limited to approximately 60 people per service. Call (320 684-2123) or email (blcmalmo@gmail.com).