

Sunday, June 20, 2021

Letter to the Exiles



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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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.

Hearing Assistance is available during the service.

Please notify usher if you would like assistance

Sunday, June 20, 2021
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN:

“Seek Ye First”
(Please Stand on the Last Verse)

#783 WOV

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God’s abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,

help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ✚ the bread of life, you are shown God’s mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of hope,

How often have we found ourselves in exile, separated from our awareness of your presence! Restore us and let us find you when we seek you.

Amen.

Please be seated

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14

¹These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. ⁴Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: ⁵Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. ⁶Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. ⁷But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare. ⁸For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let the prophets and the diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams that they dream, ⁹for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, says the LORD.

¹⁰For thus says the LORD: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. ¹¹For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. ¹²Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. ¹³When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, ¹⁴I will let you find me, says the LORD, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God

Please Stand

GOSPEL READING: Luke 12:22-31

Glory to you, O Lord

²²He said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. ²³For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. ²⁴Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! ²⁵And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁶If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? ²⁷Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ²⁸But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is

alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you — you of little faith! ²⁹And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. ³⁰For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. ³¹Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: “Death Be Never Last” #1030 ACS



1 We walk in light of count - less fac - es
 2 When sor - row's heav - y hand has weight - ed
 3 When joy re - turns with laugh - ter sing - ing



bright as beams of ris - ing sun, cer - tain as the
 loss a - gainst the great - er gain, pin - ning down that
 thanks to God for life's sweet song, let us fol - low



morn - ing chas - es night in end - less a - ges' run.
 grief sore fat - ed lad - en on the bed of pain.
 af - ter bring - ing thanks to God for those now gone.

Refrain



Turn - ing eyes now to their shin - ing mem - 'ry, to their faith - ful past,



saints be now the truth di - vin - ing: death be now but nev - er last.

Piano: Sandra Lee-Muske

Please stand if able

APOSTLE'S 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.

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

A brief silence.

Holy God, you gather your people from east and west, north and south. We pray for the mission of the church throughout the world, that your steadfast love may be made known to all peoples. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You laid the foundations of the earth and the waters are the womb of creation. The morning stars sing your name and all creation shouts for joy. We pray for your blessed creation, that it may continue to flourish and magnify your glory. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You keep watch over all nations. We pray for countries experiencing violence, hunger, and unrest (especially). Guide worldwide and local community organizations in their efforts to establish safety and justice. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You are close to the brokenhearted and near to those in distress. We pray for those who are experiencing oppression. Liberate us from the systems and chains that bind us. Remove the barriers that separate us from one another. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You dwell with us in this faith community. We pray for our leaders and elders (especially). Grant them knowledge, patience, and kindness, that through their leadership you may be exalted in this assembly. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Your love endures in all situations. On this Father's Day, we pray for those who are fathers or wish to be fathers, for those with broken or strained relationships, for those who are missing their fathers, and for fathers who have lost children. Bless and strengthen them. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated for the passing of the offering plate.

OFFERING

Please stand as the ushers bring the offering to the altar.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of all goodness,
generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Invitation to Communion

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

(Communion will be handed to you, pick up your own cup - red wine; white apple juice)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Jesus, Bread of life,
we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.

BLESSING

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ✝ be upon you now and forever.
Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" #619 ELW
(Verses 1-4)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Visitors! It has been great having you join us for worship! Please come again.

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Music: Digital Hymnal/Winnie Zahradka, Piano: Sandra Lee-Muske

Greeters: Barry & Donna Ansell

Ushers: 8:30am George & Kathy Larson 10:00am Ron & JoAnn Haglund

Hospitality: Del & Dianne Jones, Don & Donna Myhre

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, June 13, 2021: In Person: 8:30 am 50
10:30 am 15
Online: 8

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda

June 21, 2021 – June 27, 2021

Monday	6/21	10:00 am	Council Meeting
		11:30 am	Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	6/22	9:00 am	Quilters
Wednesday	6/23	9:00am	Women's Bible Study
		9:00-Noon	Moderna Vaccine Clinic
		5:00 pm	Lions Community Picnic (Mille Lacs Snowmobile Club)
Thursday	6/24	8:00 am	ROMEOS
Sunday	6/27	8:30 am	Worship
		10:00 am	Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENDANCE REGISTRY Please sign and pass the attendance registry which you will find in the pew. This information is gathered for annual reports to the Synod.

USHERS NEEDED if you could help us with ushering, please contact Jim Christensen. Phone: 320 279-0962 or email: jimdarl@hotmail.com

COFFEE SERVERS NEEDED Please sign up so we may continue to enjoy coffee in between the services, the signup sheet is now on the bulletin board mounted in fellowship hall.

LAWN MOWERS NEEDED If you would like to help with the lawn mowing, there is a signup sheet in the Narthex. We can use your help. If you have any questions call Lee Forrester at 651-271-2186.



ACTS OF KINDNESS CARDS let someone know we care by taking a business card and paying it forward to let them know that our church welcomes all. See ideas, and pick up cards, on display in the Fellowship Hall.

MALMO LIONS' COMMUNITY PICNIC June 23rd, 5:00pm at Mille Lacs Snowmobile Club. Adult Junk Bingo! Games for Kids. Free meal with good will donation. All proceeds go to local food shelves.

GLEN 4th OF JULY PARADE is on for this summer! Start time for the parade is 1:00pm on Sunday, July 4th. If you are interested in representing Bethesda in the parade, give the office a call. 320 684-2123. We will meet at the church and plan to leave the parking lot by 11:30am. We will be pulling a decorated trailer and bike riders are welcome to ride beside the trailer! We have candy and tote bags to hand out.

VBS ONLINE Next week would have been Vacation Bible School week. We are working on a virtual online version for you to share at home with your little ones. Stay tune, we'll have a program to share with you on our website: blcmalmo.org and on our Facebook page: [Facebook.com/BLCMalmo/](https://www.facebook.com/BLCMalmo/) soon.



JOIN the CHOIR it's CHEAPER THAN THERAPY! New members are welcome and encouraged to join Bethesda's Adult Choir. Practice will be on Tuesday nights at 5:30 pm starting on July 6th, 2021. Anyone interested in singing with the choir can just come to practice. Everyone is welcome!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY MEETING on Wednesday, June 23rd at 9:00am, will be to discuss areas of interest for the year. All are welcome to join!