

**Sunday July 18, 2021**

**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**



**BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO**

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**Pastor James Muske**

**320-583-5796**

Parish Nurses: Darlene Christensen, RN 218-839-8193

Kathy Berland RN ANP 218-838-6181

Prayer Chain Contacts: Char Berg 320-684-2102 or Darlene Christensen 218-839-8193

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**

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**OPENING HYMN:** “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” #742 ELW  
(Please Stand on the Last Verse)

### 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

Almighty and eternal God,

**you created humanity so that all might long to know you and have peace in you. Grant that, in spite of the hurtful things that stand in their way, they may all recognize in the lives of Christians the tokens of your love and mercy, and gladly acknowledge you as the one true God and Father of us all. We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

**Amen**

*Please be seated*

**CHOIR ANTHEM: Jesus Messiah**

## **FIRST READING: Ephesians 2:11-22**

<sup>11</sup>So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called "the uncircumcision" by those who are called "the circumcision" — a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands — <sup>12</sup>remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup>But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup>For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. <sup>15</sup>He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, <sup>16</sup>and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. <sup>17</sup>So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; <sup>18</sup>for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. <sup>19</sup>So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup>built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. <sup>21</sup>In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; <sup>22</sup>in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God**

*Please Stand*

## **GOSPEL READING: Matthew 28:16-20**

### **Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>16</sup>Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup>When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God**

## **SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: “Blessed Be the Tie That Binds” #656 ELW**

*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.*

Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

Tend your church, O God. Encourage bishops, pastors, and deacons in their proclamation of the gospel. Raise up new leaders and encourage those pursuing a call to ministry. Embolden all the baptized to embody your love and justice. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Restore your creation, O God. Sustain croplands and pastures and safeguard all farm animals and livestock. Preserve lakes, rivers, and streams that offer refreshment. Revive lands recovering from natural disasters and protect coastlands threatened by rising oceans. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Reconcile the nations, O God. Break down the dividing walls that make us strangers to one another and unite us as one human family. Equip leaders to deal wisely with conflict and guide diplomats who seek peaceful solutions. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Heal your people, O God. Look with compassion on immigrants, exiles, and all who are afraid or feel lost. Give rest to those who are weary, comfort to those who are grieving, and recovery to those who are ill (especially). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Nourish this congregation, O God. Prepare a table where we receive food for our hungry spirits. Renew our commitment to provide for one another and revitalize our ministries of feeding and nurturing hungry neighbors. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

You lead us home, O God. We give thanks for all who have died, now citizens with the saints (*especially*). As you have received them into your heavenly home, so welcome all of us to dwell in your house forever. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**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 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:**

**“All Are Welcome”**

**#641 ELW**

## **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: Adult Choir

Greeters: Maynard & Kathy Berland

Ushers: 8:30am Winnie Zahradka & George Larson

10:00am Ron & JoAnn Haglund

Hospitality: Pat Becker & Jenny Schuett

***Thank you for your service!***

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, July 11, 2021: In Person: 8:30 am 46

10:30 am 21

Online: 14

**THIS WEEK AT Bethesda****July 19, 2021 – July 25, 2021**

Monday	7/19	9:00 am	Crafters
		10:00 am	Council Meeting
		11:30 am	Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	7/20	5:30 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	7/21	9:00 am	Women's Bible Study
		10:00 am	WELCA meeting
Thursday	7/15	8:00 am	ROMEOS
Saturday	7/17	7:30-11 am	Veggie Stand
Sunday	7/18	8:30 am	Worship
		10:00 am	Worship

**ANNOUNCEMENTS****PRAYER & CARE LIST:** Laury Nyberg

**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.

**CRAFTERS** will meet on Monday, July 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am

**SIMPLY GIVING** make your offering easy and automatic. Pick up a Simply Giving form from the Narthex and have your offering electronically transferred. Never forget your offering envelope at home and never have to write a check again.

**SING** **JOIN the CHOIR it's CHEAPER THAN THERAPY!** New members are welcome and encouraged to join Bethesda's Adult Choir. Practice has begun on Tuesday nights at 5:30 pm. Anyone interested in singing with the choir can just come to practice. Everyone is welcome!

**WELCA MEETING** There will be a WELCA meeting on Wednesday, July 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00am to discuss the possibility of having a Beef & Corn Feed this year. All women of the church are welcome!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

**VBS** We have an online version of VBS information for you to share at home with your little ones. The program is on our website:

<http://blcmalmo.org/2021/06/25/2021-at-home-vbs/>

along with a link from our Facebook page: *Facebook.com/BLCMalmo/*

**OR** you can pick up packets with worksheets and a CD of music in the office today. One worksheet packet per child and one CD per family.

A promotional graphic for Rocky Railway VBS. At the top, it says "CLIMB ABOARD FOR...." in green, followed by "BIBLE ADVENTURES - CRAFTS" and "GAMES - MUSIC - SNACKS" in black. To the right is a logo for "ROCKY RAILWAY" with a mountain scene and the text "JESUS' POWER PULLS US THROUGH". Below this, it lists dates: "Monday, August 9th - Thursday, August 12th" and "All kids ages 4 - Entering 6th grade are welcome to attend!!" with a note "(5th & 6th graders will be doing a service learning project.)". It also includes "Departure Time: 6:00 pm", "Return Time: 8:00 pm", and "DAILY!!". A contact number is provided: "Now accepting crew members, call Kim Jones at 218.380.3636". At the bottom, it says "Watch FLC Facebook pages and www.flc-aitkin.com for additional information!!". The background features a rocky landscape with a natural rock archway over a railway track.

**CLIMB ABOARD FOR....**  
BIBLE ADVENTURES - CRAFTS  
GAMES - MUSIC - SNACKS

**ROCKY RAILWAY**  
JESUS' POWER PULLS US THROUGH

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(5th & 6th graders will be doing a service learning project.)

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Watch FLC Facebook pages and  
[www.flc-aitkin.com](http://www.flc-aitkin.com) for additional  
information!!

## INVITATION TO ROCKY RAILWAY VBS

If your family is interested in attending VBS at **First Lutheran in Aitkin** they have extended an invitation that all are welcome! The dates are Monday, August 9th – Thursday August 12th from 6:00pm – 8:00pm. Below is an email you can send out to your congregation with all our info!

Registration is online. Book your trip today for Rocky Railway VBS!! Invite your friends and family to join us!!

<https://forms.gle/LiwTpVup2fzzE23D6>

Click the link to register!!!