

Sunday August 22, 2021

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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Pastor James Muske

320-583-5796

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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

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: “Paise the One Who Breaks the Darkness” #843 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

Holy God,

your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

BELL ANTHEM: “Great is Thy Faithfulness”

FIRST READING: Revelation 6:1-8; 7:9-17

6¹ Then I saw the Lamb open one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures call out, as with a voice of thunder, “Come!”² I looked, and there was a white horse! Its rider had a bow; a crown was given to him, and he came out conquering and to conquer.

³ When he opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature call out, “Come!”⁴ And out came another horse, bright red; its rider was permitted to take peace from the earth, so that people would slaughter one another; and he was given a great sword.⁵ When he opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature call out, “Come!” I looked, and there was a black horse! Its rider held a pair of scales in his hand,⁶ and I heard what seemed to be a voice in the midst of the four living creatures saying, “A quart of wheat for a day’s pay, and three quarts of barley for a day’s pay, but do not damage the olive oil and the wine!”⁷ When he opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature call out, “Come!”⁸ I looked and there was a pale green horse! Its rider’s name was Death, and Hades followed with him; they were given authority over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, famine, and pestilence, and by the wild animals of the earth.

7⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands.¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,¹² singing, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?”¹⁴ I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.¹⁶ They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God

Please Stand

GOSPEL READING: John 14:1-4

Glory to you, O Lord

¹Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going."

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY:

“You Servants of God”

#825 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.

Made children and heirs of God’s promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

God of courage, bless all leaders of your church. Make them ready to proclaim the gospel of peace and strengthen them to preach your loving word. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of creation, bless fields and orchards. Protect the land from drought and bring life-giving rain to support growth. Instruct your people in wise treatment of the world you have provided for all your creatures. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of community, bless all who seek justice between nations and peoples. Give guidance to bridge-builders, heal divisions, and inspire cooperation in times of crisis, disaster, and war. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of compassion, bless all who are in any need. Accompany all who are lonely and feeling abandoned and remind them of your abiding presence. Accompany all who are persecuted and exploited and open us to their cries. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of change, bless our transitions. Guide all who are embarking on new stages in life such as a new job, new school, or new community (especially). Sustain enduring friendships and kindle new relationships and interests. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of comfort, bless all who mourn the deaths of their beloved ones. We give you thanks for the saints who have gone before us (especially). Renew our confidence in your promise of resurrection and life in the world to come. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; 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:

“Praise to You”

Dakota Road

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: Bell Choir

Greeters: Chuck & Elsa Carlson

Ushers: 8:30am-Wayne & Janice Olson 10:00am-Ron & JoAnn Haglund

Hospitality: Julie Swaggert, Dennis Hennessy & Patti Smith

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, August 22, 2021: In Person: 8:30 am 45

10:30 am 44

Online: 18

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda

Aug. 23, 2021 – Aug 29, 2021

Monday	8/23	11:30 am	Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	8/24	5:30 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	8/25	9:00 am	Women's Bible Study
Thursday	8/26	8:00 am	ROMEOs
Saturday	8/28	7:30-10 am	Veggie Stand
		11:00 am	Funeral for Jerry Morris (visitation 1 hr. before)
Sunday	8/29	8:30 am	Worship
		10:00 am	Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER & CARE LIST: Carol Bakken, Ron & LuAnn Gordon's son, Ramsey (deployed to Afghanistan), the family of Jerry Morris, and Roy Berg.



We are collecting donations for Lutheran Disaster for wildfire relief. Write "U.S. wildfires" on your check memo line. There is a basket in the Narthex.

Additional Ways to Give: Checks or money orders can be sent to: **Lutheran Disaster**

Response, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009 (Write "U.S. wildfires" on your check memo line). Donate by phone at **800-638-3522** or [online](https://www.elca.org/disaster) at <https://www.elca.org/disaster>.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

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.

MASK UP, PLEASE Masks are now recommended for everyone visiting indoor public spaces in more than half of Minnesota's 87 counties including Aitkin, Crow Wing & Mille Lacs counties. We are strongly urging members to wear masks during worship services. We will have the TVs in the Fellowship Hall available during worship service and request using social distance protocols during Fellowship.

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.

CAMP ONOMIA QUILT AUCTION Saturday, September 18, 2021, from 11:00am-3:00pm. Live Quilt Auction, Silent Auction, Bake Sale, Quilt Raffle. If you would like to stay at the camp on Friday night, call in advance to reserve a room. \$40 per person for the night, includes breakfast & lunch on Saturday. 320-532-3767. See poster on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

THANK YOU! To all who helped with the Corn Feed! We couldn't have done it without the help from volunteers like you! Many hands make for lighter loads.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! We need your help to keep the church running smoothly. We need **ushers**, **greeters**, and **hospitality** volunteers. If you could volunteer for any of these jobs: please contact Jim Christensen if you can usher; or be a greeter. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for hospitality.