

Sunday September 26, 2021

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost



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

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: “God of Grace and God of Glory” #705 ELW
(Please Stand on the 4th Verse)

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.

Amen.

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God our comforter:

like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Amen.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in † Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Generous God,

your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Please be seated

BELL ANTHEM: “Lift High the Cross”

FIRST READING: Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

What constitutes legitimate need and legitimate leadership is the focus of this reading. God provides manna in the wilderness, yet the people crave meat. What is truly needful? God bestows the spirit on seventy elders, yet two men not designated as leaders prophesy in the power of God’s spirit. What constitutes real leadership?

⁴The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, “If only we had meat to eat! ⁵We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; ⁶but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.”

¹⁰Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹So Moses said to the LORD, “Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹²Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors’? ¹³Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, ‘Give us meat to eat!’ ¹⁴I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. ¹⁵If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery.”

¹⁶So the LORD said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.”

²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” ²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” ²⁹But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD’s people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!”

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God

SECOND READING: James 5:13-20

Marks of the Christian community include praying for those who are sick and in need, celebrating with those in good health, restoring those who have strayed, confessing sins to one another, and offering forgiveness to each other.

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God

Please Stand

GOSPEL READING: Mark 9:38-50

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice. His disciples are slow to realize that these words apply to them as well as to others.

Glory to you, O Lord

³⁸John said to [Jesus,] “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” ³⁹But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

⁴²“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹“For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its

saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God

Please be seated

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: “Lord Speak to Us, That We May Speak” #676 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.

We pray for the church and its ministry. Bless the newly baptized and encourage them in their journey of faith. Sustain all members of the body of Christ in lives of prayer, service, and worship. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for natural wonders of your creation (*local waterways, forests, and natural areas may be named*). Restore damaged forests, waterways and natural habitats and lead us to be good stewards of what you have provided. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for those in authority. Give them wise minds and compassionate hearts. Strengthen in them a desire to protect the vulnerable and care for those underserved. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are struggling with cancer, dementia, or any other disease. Provide them with peace and resilience for the days ahead. Sustain caregivers with energy and patience. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for the worship leaders of this congregation: musicians, readers, acolytes, and ushers (*other roles may be added to reflect your context*). Bless us through their ministry and grant them the passion to continue in their service.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for all your saints, those we have loved and known and those from every time and place. Continue to guide us by their example and reassure us of your promised salvation. 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 abundance,

you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Invitation to Communion

All who hunger and thirst, come. The table is ready.

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord of life,

in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world.

The holy Trinity, † one God, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: "Be Thou My Vision" #793 ELW

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

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: Bev Wedig & Winnie Zahradke Ushers: Barry Ansell & Don Myhre

Hospitality: Chuck & Elsa Carlson, Lee & Barb Forrester

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, September 19, 2021: In Person: 9:00 am 50 Online: 18

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda

Sept. 27, 2021 – Oct. 3, 2021

Monday	9/27	9:00 am	Crafters
		11:30 am	Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	9/28	9:00 am	Quilters
		2:00 pm	Stewardship Meeting
		5:30 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	9/29	9:00 am	Women's Bible Study
		1:00 am	500 Cards
Thursday	9/30	8:00 am	ROMEOS
		3:30 am	Bell Practice
Sunday	10/3	9:00 am	Worship
		10:30 am	Pet Blessing in the Garden (1/2 hour after service)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER & CARE LIST: Carol Bakken, Wayne Olson, Dick Gripp & Judy Stahl, Paula Spetz, Patti Wanous, Ted Jaszczak.

GIVE ELECTRONICALLY There are “Simply Giving” forms available in the Narthex and online at: <http://blcmalmo.org/WP2016/wpcontent/uploads/2021/05/Simply-Giving-Form.pdf> Never have to remember your check or envelope on Sundays. If you like the idea of "dropping" your envelope in the offering plate on Sundays, you can place your empty envelope in the plate with the words "Simply Giving" on your envelope. It's safe, it's easy and it's convenient. If you have questions on how to fill out the form, talk with Mary in the office.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP BULLETINS are available on the table in the Narthex. Have your child pick up a clipboard with a bulletin and activities. Each clipboard has a pencil box with pencils, pens, and crayons to use each week. We are anticipating a Sunday School program to start soon, until then, pick up a clipboard.

CRAFTERS! The countdown is closing in ... 6 weeks to go to our Bazaar and two crafting days! We welcome crafts that people are making on their own. However, if you want to join our crafting group, we meet on the following Mondays: Sept. 27th and Oct. 11th. The week of Oct. 25th will be our lefse making and set up for the bazaar on the 30th. More details on the bazaar in next month's newsletter. Other Bazaar preparations: “**Cookie Walk**” — We are asking for donations of 6 dozen holiday cookies from each active member household for the cookie walk. **Lefse Making** days are 8 am Monday, Oct. 25 and Tuesday, Oct. 26. Please sign up to work and bring some lefse dough. **Jelly Making** day has been declared for Monday, Oct. 18 at 8:30 am.

UPCOMING FLU SHOT CLINIC Aitkin County Health & Human Services will be hosting a regular (not Covid-19) Flu Shot Clinic here at Bethesda on October 12, 2021, from 1:00-4:00pm. Pre-registration information will be available shortly.

2021 HOLIDAY BAZAAR Is on for October 30th from 9am to 1 pm. We have an abundance of gift ideas — for yourself and others. Quilts, hand-crafted items, jewelry, & soaps are just to name a few of the unique gift items. There's cookies in the Cookie Walk and yummy bake sale items. Lunch with our famous creamy turkey sandwiches, chips, bar, and a drink (and we have it 'To Go' too!). Tickets will be mailed in the October Newsletter (make copies if you want) for our 'Biggest Raffle Yet'! Masks will be required to enter the building.



WOMEN of the ELCA the Heartland Conference fall gathering will be held on October 9, 2021, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Pequot Lakes, 30985 Front Street, Pequot Lakes. The gathering will be from 1:00-3:00pm. For more information see the poster on the bulletin board in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall.

PET BLESSING we will hold our Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 3, about a half hour or so after the conclusion of Sunday service (10:30ish), down by the memorial garden. Pets should be leashed or otherwise controlled, and if you would prefer to keep them in your car, Pastor can come and bless them through the window.