

# Sunday October 3, 2021

## Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost



### **BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO**

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### **Pastor James Muske**

**320-583-5796**

Parish Nurses: Darlene Christensen, RN 320-279-0097

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.*

**Hearing Assistance is available during the service.**  
**Please notify usher if you would like assistance**

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING HYMN: “All Creatures Worship God Most High” #835 ELW**  
(Verses 1-4, 6) *(Please Stand on the last 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**

Sovereign God,

**you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen**

*Please be seated*

**FIRST READING: Genesis 2:18-24**

*Genesis 2 stresses that people are not meant to live in isolation but in relationship. Out of love for humanity, God creates them male and female, to provide companionship for each other and to become with each other “one flesh.” The Hebrew words used here are ish (man) and ishshah (woman).*

<sup>18</sup>The LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.” <sup>19</sup>So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup>The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. <sup>21</sup>So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. <sup>22</sup>And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup>Then the man said,

“This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.”

<sup>24</sup>Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God**

## **PSALM: Psalm 8**

*You crown us with glory and honor. (Ps. 8:5)*

<sup>1</sup>O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

<sup>2</sup>**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children; you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.**

<sup>3</sup>When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

<sup>4</sup>**what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them, human beings that you should care for them? R**

<sup>5</sup>Yet you have made them little less than divine; with glory and honor you crown them.

<sup>6</sup>**You have made them rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet:**

<sup>7</sup>all flocks and cattle, even the wild beasts of the field,

<sup>8</sup>**the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**

<sup>9</sup>O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! **R**

*Please Stand*

## **GOSPEL READING: Mark 10:2-16**

*Jesus announced and enacted in history the new reality of God's surprising activity.*

*These two stories demonstrate this new reality: Women and children are accepted and valued, not dismissed as inferior to adult men.*

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

<sup>2</sup>Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" <sup>3</sup>He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" <sup>4</sup>They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." <sup>5</sup>But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. <sup>6</sup>But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' <sup>7</sup>'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, <sup>8</sup>and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. <sup>9</sup>Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

<sup>10</sup>Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. <sup>11</sup>He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; <sup>12</sup>and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

<sup>13</sup>People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. <sup>14</sup>But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. <sup>15</sup>Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." <sup>16</sup>And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God**

*Please be seated*

## **SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: "Blest 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.*

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

*A brief silence.*

Holy One, you have raised up faithful leaders throughout history. Empower those discerning a call to ministry and all seminarians (specific individuals known to the congregation may be named), that they continue to be formed for the sake of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You have established a diverse and beautiful creation. Revive declining species and preserve endangered lands. Cultivate in us a sense of wonder for the world you created. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You desire for us not to be alone and to live in community with one another. Strengthen relationships between nations and peoples, that we celebrate and support one human family. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You share in our experiences and struggles. Bless all who live with any mental or physical disability. Inspire creative communities, spaces, and environments that are accessible and hospitable. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You have established and nurtured relationships that extend beyond those gathered here today. Bless members who can no longer travel to worship with us (especially) and remind us of their continued role in this community of faith. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

You promise eternal life to all your children. Thank you for the people of faith who have gone before us. Strengthen our trust we have in you. 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:**

**"Hold Us Together"**

**Matt Maher**

## **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**

Greeters: Barry & Donna Ansell

Ushers: Ron & JoAnn Haglund

Hospitality:

*Thank you for your service!*

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, September 26, 2021: In Person: 9:00 am 58

Online: 12

## **THIS WEEK AT Bethesda**

**Oct. 4, 2021 – Oct. 10, 2021**

Monday	10/4	11:30 am	Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	10/5	5:30 pm	NO Choir Practice
Wednesday	10/6	9:00 am	Women's Bible Study
		1:00 am	500 Cards
Thursday	10/7	8:00 am	ROMEOS
		3:30 am	Bell Practice
Sunday	10/10	9:00 am	Worship-Native American Sunday

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRAYER & CARE LIST:** Carol Bakken, the family of Doug Hansen, Paula Spetz, Ted & Ruth Jaszczak, Cliff Roberts.

**BLESSING BOX** The first Sunday of every month we pass the "Blessing Box". If you feel blessed, please contribute to the Blessing Box today to help others. All donations will go to local area benevolences. Thank you! What a Blessing!

**PET BLESSING** we will hold our Blessing of the Animals on today 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.

**GIVE ELECTRONICALLY** There are "Simply Giving" forms available in the Narthex and online at: <http://blcmalmo.org/WP2016/wp-content/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.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

**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 ... 4 weeks to go to our Bazaar and one crafting day! We welcome crafts that people are making on their own. However, if you want to join our crafting group, we meet one more time on Monday, Oct. 11th. The week of Oct. 25th will be our lefsa making and set up for the bazaar on the 30th. 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 host a Flu Shot Clinic here at Bethesda on October 12, 2021, from 1:00-4:00pm. They will have the high dose flu vaccine available for those 65 and older. In addition to the regular flu shot, the Pfizer Covid booster vaccine will be available for those six months out from their 2nd dose and over 65 (or have a medical condition that puts them at higher risk). To register for your flu shot that day you can scan the QR code above, visit Aitkin County's website at [www.co.aitkin.mn.us](http://www.co.aitkin.mn.us), or call Public Health at 927-7200 or 1-800-328-3744. Walk-ins will be welcome!



**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 are 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 for our ‘Biggest Raffle Yet’ will be mailed in the October Newsletter (make copies if you want) and you can find them on our website at: <http://blcmalmo.org/WP2016/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/2021-raffle-tickets.pdf> Print your own and mail them in. 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.

**GRIEF SHARE** Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo will be starting a Grief Support Group on Tuesday, October 26th, 2021, from 4:00-6:00pm. The sessions will run every Tuesday for 12-13 weeks. Anyone interested can simply show up. You are not required to attend all session but are urged to. Free will donation accepted but not required. Pre-registration is encouraged, but not required. Call the church office to register or register the at your first meeting.