

# Sunday October 31, 2021

## Reformation Sunday



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

21590 State Highway 47, Isle, MN 56342

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E-mail address: [blcmalmo@gmail.com](mailto:blcmalmo@gmail.com)

Church Web Site: [blcmalmo.org](http://blcmalmo.org)

### **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**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRAYER & CARE LIST:** Carol Bakken, Audrey Bistodeau, Cliff Roberts.

**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. 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.

**BUDGET REQUEST FORMS ARE DUE TODAY!** Each committee has received the 2022 Budget Request forms in their In Boxes. Please have these forms fill out and returned today by October 31st, 2021 to the Stewardship Inbox in the office.

**ANNUAL COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS** are due by November 16th for our annual meeting on December 5th following our regular worship service. Please email reports to: Judie Birk [jimjudiebirk@gmail.com](mailto:jimjudiebirk@gmail.com).

**VETERANS BREAKFAST** The Malmo Area Lions will host a Veterans Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> from 8 AM – 10 AM. Two types of Egg Bakes to choose from, Fresh Fruit and Variety of Breakfast Breads. \$10, Veterans eat FREE. Take out available.

### **THIS WEEK AT Bethesda**                      **Oct. 25, 2021 – Oct. 31, 2021**

Monday	11/1	11:30 am	Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	11/2	4:00-6:00 pm	Grief Share
		5:30 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	11/3	9:00 am	Women's Bible Study
Thursday	11/4	8:00 am	ROMEOS
		3:30 am	Bell Practice
Sunday	11/7	9:00 am	Worship

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**OPENING HYMN:**    **“The Church’s One Foundation”**    **#654 ELW**  
*(Please Stand on the Last Verse)*

## **CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

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**

Almighty God, gracious Lord,

**we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

**CHOIR ANTHEM: “Amazing Grace/My Chains are Gone”**

## **FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34**

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt — a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my

law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Word of God, Word of Life.   **Thanks be to God**

**SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28**

<sup>19</sup>Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup>For "no human being will be justified in his sight" by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

<sup>21</sup>But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, <sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, <sup>23</sup>since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; <sup>24</sup>they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; <sup>26</sup>it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

<sup>27</sup>Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup>For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Word of God, Word of Life.   **Thanks be to God**

**GOSPEL READING: John 8:31-36**

**Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>31</sup>Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; <sup>32</sup>and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." <sup>33</sup>They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

<sup>34</sup>Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup>The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. <sup>36</sup>So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God**

## **SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: "Lift High the Cross" #660 ELW**

## **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**

Longing for God's will to be fulfilled among us, we pray persistently for the church, the world, and all people in need.

*A brief silence.*

Holy God, work in your church across denominational and cultural divisions to form us into a more complete expression of your holy community. Show the world your likeness through us. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

By rain, rivers, and oceans, remind us how your word flows through this world, surrounding us with grace. Keep us always in the covenant that is sealed in water and Spirit. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Free us from the lies we tell ourselves or others in order to justify our words and actions. Lead us to speak honestly and to listen humbly, and reveal your truth among us. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Be a stronghold for people who are in danger this day (especially whom we now name). In your righteous presence cause the evil that surrounds them to flee, and clothe them with your mercy. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Continue making all things new. Seal your covenant with humankind, and write your law on our hearts. Make repentance a regular habit for us so that forgiveness abounds. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions are invited.*

Guide all the saints in proclaiming the good news of salvation in Christ. Bring your people eternally into Christ's presence on the last day. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Enfold all things in your compassion, O God, and bring us into your life through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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: "We Are Marching in the Light" #866 ELW**

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

## **THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK**

Greeters: Del & Dianne Jones

Ushers: George Larson & Dick Stebbins

Hospitality: Kristin Penoyer, Ellie & Eldon

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

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, October 24, 2021: In Person: 9:00 am 57  
Online 12