

Sunday November 27, 2022

First Sunday of Advent



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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Church Web Site: 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:

GRIEF SHARE CLASSES are on Tuesdays at 3:30pm and will last about 1 hour. All welcome.

2022 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be held on Sunday, December 4th, at 10:30am. Reports are available for pickup in the Fellowship Hall.

CALLING ALL LADIES! Glory Baptist Church is inviting all women to an afternoon of music, joy, encouragement, dessert, and tea! December 7th starting at 1:30pm in the Glory Worship Center (28053 360th Ave, Aitkin, MN). Presenting “The Sounds of Christmas” - led by Jenni Thyng of Joy in All Seasons.

ZION LUTHERAN’S SANTA LUCIA LUNCHEON will be held on Friday, December 9, 2022, from 11am-1pm at Zion Lutheran Church in Milaca. Traditional Swedish meal; cost \$12 per person. See the flyer on the bulletin board in the Narthex for more information.

MUTUAL MINISTRY LIAISON TEAM The Mutual Ministry Liaison Team meets monthly or bi-monthly with Pastor James to talk about “People-to-Pastor” or “Pastor-to-People” current concerns, questions, and thoughts. Our hope is to understand and hopefully help clear any issues. You can connect with or call Pastor James or any of the Team to talk or ask questions.

Donna Ansell – 952-270-1893

Carolyn Morris – 320-676-8113

Susan Samuelson – 612-220-4579

Wally Swenson – 218-429-2430

Vickie Vossen – 651-295-3044

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda

November 28, 2022 – December 4, 2022

Monday	11/28	10:00 am	Adult Education & Fellowship Meeting
		11:30 am	Cards
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	11/29	3:30 pm	Grief Share
		4:00 pm	Bell Practice
		5:15 pm	Choir Practice (5:30 for Cantata Singers)
		6:30 pm	Praise Team Practice
Wednesday	11/30	9:00 am	Women’s Bible Study
Thursday	12/1	8:00 am	ROMEOS
Sunday	12/4	9:00 am	Worship in person & live stream
		10:30 am	Annual Congregational Meeting

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near.

You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world.

You show up in our lives at unexpected times.

Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival.

We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour,
you hurry to gather all people to your peace.

Amen.

CANDLE LIGHTING MUSIC:

Filled with Hope and Gratitude

1 Filled with hope and grat - i - tude and filled with ver - y
God, I sing with soul and spir - it ex - ul -
ta - tion, The prom - ise to our
fore - bears God re - news for us to - day: the
world is filled with God's a - bun - dant mer - cy.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Spirit of God the Creator and of Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Come, let us worship our Creator with hearts now open to all peoples, hearts
where pride and prejudice once dwelt;

Let us worship the God of endless diversity, who made the world in colors, in seasons, in marvelous variety; who created all the earth's peoples in God's own image.

Creator, the strength of the people, we honor you. Listen to the prayers of your people. You have created all, the worlds to the east, the south, the west, and the north; and to all that is above and beneath us. We respect your creation and the truth of your spirit. We honor you in gestures and in words. We live by the ways you have entrusted to us, within the circle of life.

Come, Great Spirit, as we gather in your name and the name of Jesus. Gather us from every direction; point us outward to the wonders of your creation. Refresh us from the living waters that come to us from every corner of our land.

In the east, the place of dawning, there is beauty in the morn, there the seeker finds new visions as each sacred day is born. All who honor life around them, all who honor life within, shall shine with light and glory when the morning comes again.

In the south, the place of growing there is wisdom in the earth, Both the painful song of dying and joyful song of birth. As the earth gives up her lifeblood so her children's hearts may beat. We give back to her our reverence for the holy ground beneath our feet.

In the west, the place of seeing, there is born a vision new, of the servant of the servants, who proclaimed a gospel true. Let the creatures of creation echo back creation's prayer, Let the Spirit now breathe through us and renew the sacred there.

In the north, the place of wisdom, there is holy darkness deep, Here the silent song of mystery may awake you from your sleep. Here the music still and holy sounds beneath the snow and night, In the ones who wait with patience for the coming of the light.

Creator, you bent the earth like a bow until it was joined together into one, round, shining circle. At your word the land was drawn into mountains and deserts, forests and plains. You gathered the waters together into rivers, lakes and seas. Many times we have broken the circle of your creation by greed and violence, and we have shattered the lives of others.

Creator, as we gather the waters you have given us for life, renew the circle of the earth, and turn the hearts of all people to one another, that they and all the earth may live and be drawn toward you, Through the power of your Son, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, in the circle of the Trinity, forever One.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG: “Awake, O Sleeper”

WOV 745

(Please Stand on the 4th Verse)



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,
3 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;
4 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con - quered in the strife.



so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.
to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.
with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.
A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984
Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.

By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

BELL ANTHEM: “Come Ye Thankful People, Come”

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

SCRIPTURE

FIRST READING: Isaiah 2:1-5

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.

³Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

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

PSALM: Psalm 122 *(Read Responsively)*

¹*I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!"*

²**Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

³*Jerusalem — built as a city that is bound firmly together.*

⁴**To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD.**

⁵*For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David.*

⁶**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.**

⁷*Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers."*

⁸**For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be within you."**

⁹*For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good.*

SECOND READING: Romans 13:11-14

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day,



might cre - a - tion bless. Shine up - on your church to - day,
 word with - in us leap. Give us voic - es to pro - claim
 wa - ter from the rock. Bless the u - ni - ty we share
 heav'n - ly path - way wide. Raise us up from sin and death
 ho - ly Trin - i - ty! May your gra - cious will be done:



show - ing all your gen - tle way. Have mer - cy, Lord.
 prais - es to your ho - ly name. Have mer - cy, Lord.
 in our shep - herd's lov - ing care. Have mer - cy, Lord.
 with your Spir - it's liv - ing breath. Have mer - cy, Lord.
 make us one, as you are one. Have mer - cy, Lord.

Text: Christian David, et al.; tr. Frank W. Stoldt, b. 1958
 Music: SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT, Bohemian Brethren, *Kirchengeseng*, 1566
 Text © 2003 Augsburg Fortress.

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS of INTERCESSION

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

A brief silence.

God of all, your children everywhere cry out for mercy. Awaken the global church to the urgent needs of our time. Break down barriers of culture and custom and unite people of all faiths in your redemptive and healing work. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of wonder, the earth's beauty and abundance is your gift. Teach us your ways of sharing resources and caring for life. Guard fragile habitats, preserve the wild places, and protect endangered plants and animals. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of peace, you judge the nations. Beat our weapons into tools for serving the neighbor. Strengthen the resolve of all who work for an end to war. We pray for lasting peace in the land of Jesus' birth (*other places of conflict may be named*). God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of lovingkindness, you desire fullness of life for everyone. Fill those who hunger. Comfort the grieving and attend to those near death. Bring help and hope to any who are sick or needing your care (*especially*). God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of community, you are present when we gather in your name. Guide congregations in transition or conflict (*especially*). Give wisdom to congregational councils, call committees, and ministry leaders. Keep us alert to unexpected opportunities for mission. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of promise, your goodness is everlasting. We give thanks for the lives of the faithful who now rest in you. We trust that you will bring us into the company of all the saints with rejoicing. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

PEACE

As a community let us embrace the ongoing work of being reconciled.

God makes peace within us. Let us claim it.

God makes peace between us. Let us share it.

Let us greet each other as a sign of God's peace, love, forgiveness and grace. The peace of our Creator be with you in all things.

We give thanks to our Creator.

You are invited to share a sign of peace with your neighbor.

Please be seated for the passing of the offering plate

OFFERING - *Please stand as the ushers bring the offering to the altar.*

OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance,

we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION to COMMUNION

Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God, who has come to save you.

