

Sunday January 8, 2023

Baptism of Our Lord



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

21590 State Highway 47, Isle, MN 56342

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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: Gaylard Westerlund

MONTHLY TITHING For your convenience we have direct deposit forms in the Narthex. You can sign up indefinitely or sign up for a few months if you're going south for the winter.

JANUARY BLESSING BOX will be passed today. We are collecting donations and money for **HOPE** center in Aitkin. There is a collection box in the Fellowship Hall with a wish list of items, and all donations made to the Blessing Box this month will go to them.

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2023 are here! Please pick up your envelopes in the Fellowship Hall.

POINSETTIAS Please take your poinsettia home after service today if you ordered one.

MOVIE DAY is scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 15 at 2:00pm. The movie will be of interest to adults with kids' movies available. Some treats like popcorn and or pizza will be available. Freewill donation.

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda

January 9, 2023 – January 15, 2023

Monday	1/9	9:00 am	Women's Devotion
		11:30 am	Cards
		1-5:00 pm	Loaves & Fishes
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	1/10	9:00 am	Quilters
Wednesday	1/11	9:00 am	Women's Bible Study
Thursday	1/12	8:00 am	ROMEOS
Sunday	1/15	9:00 am	Worship Service <i>in person & live stream</i>
		2:00 PM	Movie Afternoon

TEMPLE TALK: "HOPE of Aitkin"

OPENING HYMN: "Shall We Gather at the River"

#423 ELW

(Please Stand on the last Verse)



- 1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
- 2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,
- 3 Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;
- 4 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will cease;



with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?
we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.
grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.
soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.

Refrain



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;



gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who makes all things new, whose
Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, clothed with God's mercy and
forgiveness, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, fountain of living water, source of mercy, tender and mighty, you are
clothed with majesty and splendor.

Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Your love flows through water, satisfying the thirst of all living things,
sustaining life in this community, nourishing and delighting us. We bless you for
these gifts of water: *Local waters may be named.*

Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Your love flows through water, a sign of your saving power: Noah and the animals survive the flood, Hagar discovers your well. The Israelites escape through the sea, and they drink from your gushing rock. Naaman washes his leprosy away, and the Samaritan woman will never be thirsty again.

Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Your love flows through the water of baptism joined to your life-giving Word: your well of mercy and cleansing flood, your sea of deliverance from death into life, your healing river washing sin away, your living water springing up to eternal life.

Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Your steadfast love fills the earth.

Shower us with your Holy Spirit. Fill us with your love. Clothe us and all your people with grace. Embolden us to do justice. Bless us to love mercy. Guide us to walk humbly with you, whom we thank and praise, through Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God our Father,

at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

SCRIPTURE

FIRST READING: Isaiah 42:1-9

¹Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.

²He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street;

³a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;

he will faithfully bring forth justice.

⁴He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

⁵Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it:

⁶I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations,
⁷to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.

⁸I am the LORD, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols.

⁹See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

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

PSALM: Psalm 29 *(Read Responsively)*

¹*Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.*

²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name; worship the LORD in holy splendor.**

³*The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over mighty waters.*

⁴**The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**

⁵*The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.*

⁶**He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

⁷*The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.*

⁸**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

⁹*The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare;*

and in his temple all say, "Glory!"

¹⁰ The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.

¹¹ May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!

SECOND READING: Acts 10:34-43

³⁴Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

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

Please stand for the gospel

GOSPEL: Matthew 3:13-17

Glory to you, O Lord

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him.

¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the

heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: “Wash O God, Our Sons & Daughters” #445 ELW



- 1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleans-ing wa-ters flow.
- 2 We who bring them long for nur-ture; by your milk may we be fed.
- 3 Oh, how deep your ho-ly wis-dom! Un-im-ag-ined, all your ways!



Num-ber them a-mong your peo-ple; bless as Christ blessed long a-go.
Let us join your feast, par-tak-ing cup of bless-ing, liv-ing bread.
To your name be glo-ry, hon-or! With our lives we wor-ship, praise!



Weave them gar-ments bright and spark-ling; com-pass them with love and light.
God, re-new us, guide our foot-steps; free from sin and all its snares,
We your peo-ple stand be-fore you, wa-ter-washed and Spir-it-born.



Fill, a-noint them; send your Spir-it, ho-ly dove and heart's de-light.
one with Christ in liv-ing, dy-ing, by your Spir-it, chil-dren, heirs.
By your grace, our lives we of-fer. Re-cre-ate us; God, trans-form!

PRAYERS of INTERCESSION

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Calling God, you speak with power to your church. Open our hearts and minds to the new things you are declaring. Strengthen bishops, pastors, deacons, lay leaders, and teachers of the faith. Equip the baptized for your reconciling and redeeming work. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Renewing God, you provide the waters of the earth and in Jesus' baptism you reveal the waters of life. Cleanse and protect oceans, rivers, and watersheds. Bring relief to parched lands and to communities without access to safe water. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Righteous God, you never weary of establishing justice. Increase cooperation and constructive dialogue between nations. Guide local, national, and international authorities to govern with equity, vision, and integrity. We pray for those in military service, for peacemakers, and for our enemies. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Abiding God, your mercy is steadfast. Give sanctuary to people who flee from oppression, war, poverty, and famine. Sustain health care workers, caregivers, first responders, counselors, and all who help and heal. Comfort those who are grieving or experiencing crisis. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Blessing God, in Christ you gather the beloved community. Kindle the gifts of your Spirit in your people. Accompany the newly baptized, those recently ordained, and any beginning a new ministry. Inspire synodical leaders and congregational councils to serve with imagination and wisdom. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Promising God, your faithfulness endures throughout all generations. We give thanks for those who have died in Christ, trusting that we will be united with them and all the saints in Christ's resurrection life. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

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.*

OFFERING PRAYER

Liberating God,

you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION to COMMUNION

Come and taste the joy of God!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy One,

we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. Amen.

BLESSING

The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod †
bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN:

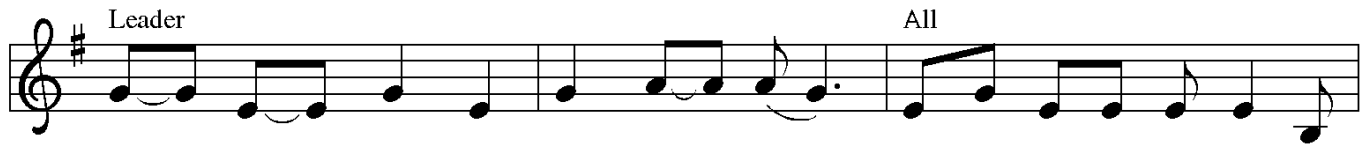
“Wade in the Water”

#459 ELW

Refrain
All

Wade in the wa - ter, wade in the wa - ter, chil - dren,
wade in the wa - ter, God's a - goin' - a trou - ble the wa - ter.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the first line of the hymn, and the second staff contains the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.



1 See that host all dressed in white,
 2 See that band all dressed in red, God's a-goin'-a trou-ble the
 3 Look o - ver yon - der, what do I see?
 4 If you don't be - lieve I've been re - deemed,



wa - ter. the lead - er looks like the Is - rael - ite.
 looks like the band that . . . Mo - ses led.
 the Ho - ly Ghost a - com - ing on me.
 just fol - low me down to . . . Jor - dan's stream.



God's a - goin' - a trou - ble the wa - ter.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

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

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Music: Digital Hymnal

Ushers: Wally & Bev Swenson

Greeters: Gary & Brenda Sjerven

Hospitality: Wally & Bev Swenson (Happy Birthday Wally!)

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, January 1, 2023: - In Person: 9:00am: 50 Online: 12