

# Sunday February 19, 2023

## Transfiguration of Our Lord



**BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO**

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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:** Julie Swaggert's mom.

**GIVE ELECTRONICALLY** There are "Simply Giving" forms available in the Narthex and on our website. Never have to remember your check or envelope on Sundays.

**SIGN UP TO RECYCLE** There is a signup sheet in the Fellowship Hall to take recycling to Westerland's in Malmo every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> week of the month. If you can help, please sign up.

**LUTHERAN DISASTER RELIEF** Following the devastating earthquakes that impacted Turkey and Syria, Lutheran Disaster Response is committed to supporting our partner organizations that are responding to the needs of survivors. Go online to support the response today at: <https://bit.ly/3I1sFkm> or make checks payable to: *Lutheran Disaster Response* (or Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo) and drop in offering plate. Be sure to write "Middle East Crisis" on your check's memo line. We will mail the checks to *Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*.

**ISLE COMMUNITY LENTEN CANTATA** Performance on Good Friday, April 7, 2023, at 7:30pm. See poster in Narthex for more information.

**HEARTLAND CONFERENCE WOMEN'S SPRING GATHERING** Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023, from 8:30am to 1:00pm at First Lutheran Church in Aitkin. See the poster on the bulletin board in Narthex.

**HAVE FAITH-A SUICIDE PREVENTION WORKSHOP** February 28, 2023 from 3:30-5:30pm at Aitkin Public Library Community Room. See poster on bulletin board in Narthex.

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### **THIS WEEK AT Bethesda**                      **February 20, 2023 – February 26, 2023**

Monday	2/20	11:30 am	Cards
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	2/21	1:00 pm	Council Meeting
Wednesday	2/22	9:00 am	Women's Bible Study
		5:30 pm	Ash Wednesday Worship
Thursday	2/23	8:00 am	ROMEOS
Sunday	2/26	9:00 am	Worship Service <i>in person &amp; live stream</i>

# OPENING HYMN: "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright" #308 ELW

*(Please Stand on the last Verse)*



1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with  
2 Come, pre - cious dia - mond, light di - vine, and deep with -  
3 Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there  
4 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in your Son you loved us,



God's own truth and light, a - glow with grace and mer - cy!  
in our hearts now shine; there light a flame un - dy - ing!  
falls from God a - bove a ray of pur - est plea - sure.  
when not yet be - gun was this old earth's foun - da - tion!



Of Ja - cob's line, King Da - vid's son, our Lord and Sav - ior,  
In your one bod - y let us be as liv - ing branch - es  
Your word and Spir - it, flesh and blood re - fresh our souls with  
Your Son has ran - somed us in love to live in him here



you have won our hearts to serve you on - ly! Low - ly,  
of a tree, your life our lives sup - ply - ing. Now, though  
heav'n - ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure! Let your  
and a - bove: this is your great sal - va - tion. Al - le -



ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, all vic - to - rious, rich  
dai - ly earth's deep sad - ness may per - plex us and  
mer - cy warm and cheer us! Oh, draw near us! For  
lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, to us giv - ing life



in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!  
dis - tress us, yet with heav'n - ly joy you bless us.  
you teach us God's own love through you has reached us.  
for - ev - er, keeps us yours and fails us nev - er!

## CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy One, source of our renewal,

**we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare." God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of ✚ Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*O God,*

**in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, 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*

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## SCRIPTURE

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### FIRST READING: Exodus 24:12-18

<sup>12</sup>The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment,

which I have written for their instruction.” <sup>13</sup>So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup>To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

<sup>15</sup>Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup>The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. <sup>17</sup>Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. <sup>18</sup>Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

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

### **Psalm: Psalm 99**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is king; let the people tremble. The LORD is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD, great in Zion, is high above all peoples.**

<sup>3</sup>Let them confess God’s name, which is great and awesome; God is the Holy One.

<sup>4</sup>**O mighty king, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.**

<sup>5</sup>Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down before God’s footstool; God is the Holy One.

<sup>6</sup>**Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who call upon your name, O LORD, they called upon you, and you answered them,**

<sup>7</sup>you spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; they kept your testimonies and the decree that you gave them.

<sup>8</sup>**O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.**

<sup>9</sup>Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and worship upon God’s holy hill; for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

## **SECOND READING: 2 Peter 1:16-21**

<sup>16</sup>For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup>For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” <sup>18</sup>We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

<sup>19</sup>So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup>First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, <sup>21</sup>because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

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

*Please stand for the gospel*

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 17:1-9**

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

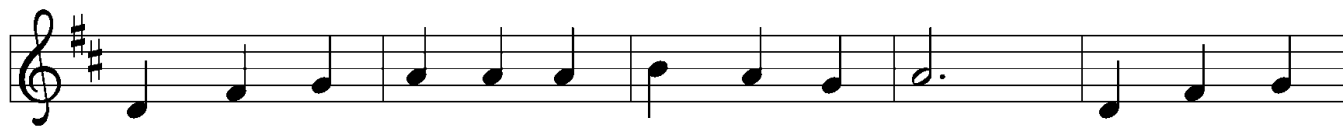
<sup>1</sup>Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup>And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>3</sup>Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup>Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” <sup>5</sup>While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” <sup>6</sup>When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup>But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” <sup>8</sup>And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

<sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

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

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY: "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" #815 ELW



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to  
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to  
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give  
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of right - teous-ness,  
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.  
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

#### *Refrain*



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

## APOSTLES' CREED

## **PRAYERS of INTERCESSION**

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

*A brief silence.*

Embolden your church as it witnesses to the majesty and mercy of your Son. Equip lay preachers, deacons, and pastors. Move us to share our stories of your faithfulness and forgiveness; may our lives proclaim your greatness. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Dwell with your whole creation, from the tallest mountain peak to the deepest valley. Bless the work of conservation organizations and protect vital habitats (*locally threatened waters or lands may be named*). Support the work of disaster relief agencies around the world. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Guide and give wisdom to all in authority: our mayor (*name*) and local leaders, our governor (*name*) and state legislators, our president (*name*) and national legislators. Bring freedom and justice to all nations. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Give shelter to those lacking safe homes. Spur communities to work for fair housing for all. Protect our neighbors whose dwellings do not keep out dangerous cold or heat; accompany with your touch those who are homebound, sick, or isolated (*especially*). Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Make us eager to receive your Word in scripture. Help us recognize Jesus' voice in the needs of our neighbors; make us confident to follow the way of the cross. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Receive our thanksgiving for the holy ones who have guided us in faithfulness and gathered even the unlikely as your people. With our forebears in faith and all who have hoped in you, teach us to wait with courage until the promised day dawns. 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:**

**“Lord of Light”**

**Dakota Road**

The Lord of light is my sal - va - tion. Whom shall I fear? God's the source of life.

*Fine*

*3rd time to Coda*

Though wars may rage and Wait, be still. God's pain sur - rounds you, your heart will hope. God's the source of life. The strong arms keep you. Wait, be strong. God's the source of life.

For in the day of trou-ble, God will keep me safe.

*D.C. al Fine*

Though en-e-mies sur - round me, I will sing to the Lord. The

**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: Gary & Brenda Sjerven  
Lector: LuAnn Gordon  
Greeters: Mary Braun  
Hospitality: Chuck & Elsa Carlson; Don & Donna Myhre

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

## Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, February 5, 2023: - In Person: 9:00am: 63 Online: 14

Attendance: Sunday, February 12, 2023: - In Person: 9:00am: 44 Online: 8