

Sunday May 14, 2023

Sixth Sunday in Easter

Happy Mother's Day



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.

We Welcome You

1. We are all Together, To call upon Your name,
There is nothing we like better,
Than to sing and give You praise.

CHORUS:

Lord, we welcome You, We welcome You,
We welcome You, Come fill this place

2. Bring healing and salvation, Let Your kingdom come,
Right here just like in heaven,
May Your will be done. **CHORUS**

3. Father, come fill this place, We welcome You,
Jesus, we seek Your face because
All we want to do is, Give our love to you.

CHORUS:

Lord, we welcome You, We welcome You,
We welcome You, Come fill this place,
Come fill this place, Come fill this place

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER & CARE LIST:

MAY MONTH OF SERVICE - LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF we will be assembling PERSONAL CARE KITS on May 17th at the monthly WELCA meeting. Items needed for the personal care kits:

- 1 bath towel
- 2 bars of soap
- 1 toothbrush
- 1 sturdy comb
- 1 metal nail clippers

*Bring items to the
Fellowship Hall by May 17th*

CRAFTERS! Mark your calendar for Monday, May 22 at 9 am to brainstorm ideas for our fall bazaar. Bring ideas or craft that you think we can do as a group.

COFFEE SERVERS NEEDED Please sign up so we may continue to enjoy coffee & fellowship after service. The signup sheet is on the bulletin board mounted in fellowship hall next to the serving window. You don't have to bake; there's plenty of treats in the freezer.

LECTORS NEEDED we are looking for volunteers to read aloud the scriptures on Sunday morning. If interested, please let Mary Braun know.

JELLY SALES With the new batch of Jelly made on Friday, we are selling last fall's Jars of Jelly in the Fellowship Hall. \$5/jar – They'll make a nice Mother's Day Gift!

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S CLUB will meet on Thursday, May 18th at The Wahkon Inn at 12:30pm. All women are invited. The Skogen family will be sharing their music. Price is \$13, for reservations, call Lois Johnson at 320 684-2000. See poster on the bulletin board in Narthex for more information.

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda

May 15, 2023 – May 21, 2023

Monday	5/15	9:00 am	Women's Devotional
		11:30 am	Card Players
		4:00 pm	Council Retreat starts
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	5/16	8:00am-2:00pm	Council Retreat continues
		9:00 am	Chair Yoga
		1:00pm	Council Meeting (after Council Retreat)
		4:00 pm	Bell Practice
		5:30 pm	Choir Practice
Wednesday	5/17	9:00 am	Women's Bible Study
		10:00 am	WELCA meeting
Thursday	5/18	8:00 am	ROMEOS
		9:00 am	Chair Yoga
		12:30 pm	Christian Women's Club, Wahkon Inn
Sunday	5/21	9:00 am	Worship in person and live stream

OPENING HYMN: "Amazing Grace-Alleluia"

(Please Stand on the last Verse)

Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now am found I once was blind but now I see

[Chorus]

Alleluia Al-le-lu

Allelu-ia Alleluia

Allellu-ia Al-le-lu

Alleluia Al- le-lu Alleluia,

Jesus loves me this I know for the bible tells me so
little ones to him belong they are weak but he is strong *[Chorus]*

Jesus loves me still today walking with me on my way
Wanting as a friend to give light and love to all who live *[Chorus]*

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, by whose hand we are given new birth,
by whose speaking we are given new life.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring. In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.

Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit

reigns forever.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God,

you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, 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

PRAISE TEAM ANTHEM “Carrier”

SCRIPTURE

FIRST READING: Acts 17:22-31

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we too are his offspring.’

²⁹Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals.

³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

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

PSALM: 66:8-20 *(Read Responsively)*

⁸ Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.

⁹ **Our God has kept us among the living and has not allowed our feet to slip.**

¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us just as silver is tried.

¹¹ **You brought us into the net; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

¹² You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water, but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

¹³ **I will enter your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my vows—**

¹⁴ those that I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

¹⁵ **I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams; I will give you oxen and goats.**

¹⁶ Come and listen, all you who believe, and I will tell you what God has done for me.

¹⁷ **I called out to God with my mouth, and praised the Lord with my tongue.**

¹⁸ If I had cherished evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me;

¹⁹ **but in truth God has heard me and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**

²⁰ Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, nor withheld unfailing love from me.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do

suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

Glory to you, O Lord

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: “God of the Women” (sung to the tune of Be Thou My Vision)

God of the women who answered your call,
Trusting your promises, giving their all,
Women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth —
Give us their courage to live in your truth.

God of the women who walked Jesus' Way,
Giving their resources, learning to pray,
Mary, Joanna, Susanna, and more —
May we give freely as they did before.

God of the women long put to the test,
Left out of stories, forgotten, oppressed,
Quietly asking: "Who smiled at my birth?" —
In Jesus' dying you show us our worth.

God of the women who ran from the tomb,
Prayed with the others in that upper room,
Then felt your Spirit on Pentecost Day —
May we so gladly proclaim you today.

Words by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS of INTERCESSION

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

God our faithful companion, you promise to never leave us and to send your Spirit to guide us in wisdom and truth. Send your people into the world to serve as mirrors that reflect and magnify your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

All the earth sings praises to you. Grant your care to the creatures, plants, and places that are suffering, and equip us to respond to their song. Make us agents of restoration and refreshment for all your beloved creation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You call all people of the world your children. Judge the nations justly, show mercy to all who are oppressed, and speak truth to power through your prophets. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Nurturing Lord, you sent your Spirit to grant us peace. Make your presence known to those who feel abandoned or alone, and to all who are sick or grieving (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You hold us in your loving care. We pray for mothers and mother figures. Console all who long to be mothers, children estranged from their mothers, anyone grieving the death of a mother, and mothers who have lost a child. Support all for whom this day is difficult. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Almighty God, you give life and breath to all things. We give thanks for the apostle Matthias and all your saints (*especially*). Sustain us by your love until we join the saints in glory. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen 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.*

OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God,

in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER – Lead by the Praise Team

INVITATION to COMMUNION

Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God,

in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. Amen.

BLESSING

The God of all, who raised ✝ Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN: “Born, Reborn” (on screen)

Refrain

Born, reborn! Born, reborn! Formed, reformed!
Souls with gladness now adorned!
Born, reborn! Born, reborn! Formed, reformed!
Praise our God forevermore!

1 Drown us. (Drown us.) Raise us. (Raise us.)
 Mark us. (Mark us.) Claim us! (Claim us!) *Refrain*

2 Name us. (Name us.) Heal us. (Heal us.)
 Wash us. (Wash us.) Seal us! (Seal us!) *Refrain*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

Thanks be to God.

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

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Music: Praise Team

Lector: LuAnn Gordon

Ushers: Darrell Kelly & Dick Stebbins

Greeters: Chuck & Elsa Carlson

Hospitality: Rocky & Jo DeFreyter

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Sunday, May 7, 2023: In Person: 9:00am 72 Online: 8