Sunday May 7, 2023 Fifth Sunday in Easter



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO 21590 State Highway 47, Isle, MN 56342 Phone: 320-684-2123 (1-877-684-2123) Fax: 320-684-2836 E-mail address: blcmalmo@gmail.com Church Web Site: <u>blcmalmo.org</u>

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.

<u>Hearing Assistance is available during the service.</u> <u>Please notify usher if you would like assistance.</u>

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

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.

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda			May 8, 2023 – May 14, 2023
Monday	5/8	11:30 am 7:00 pm	Card Players AA/Alanon
Tuesday	5/9	9:00 am 9:00 am 4:00 pm 5:30 am	Quilters Chair Yoga Bell Practice Choir Practice
Wednesday	5/10	9:00 am	Women's Bible Study
Thursday	5/11	8:00 am 9:00 am	ROMEOs Chair Yoga
Sunday	5/14	9:00 am	Worship in Person & Live Stream

TEMPLE TALK – Lutheran World Relief

OPENING HYMN:

"Thine Is the Glory"

#376 ELW

(Please Stand on the last Verse)

Bring items to the Fellowship Hall by May 17th



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 God,

your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

SCRIPTURE

FIRST READING: Acts 7:55-60

⁵⁵Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶"Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the

witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

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

PSALM: 31:1-5, 15-16 (*Read Responsively*)

¹ In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

² Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.

³ Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

⁴ Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.

⁵ Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.

¹⁵ My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

¹⁶ Let your face shine up on your servant; save me in your steadfast love."

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:2-10

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," ⁸ and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They

stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

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

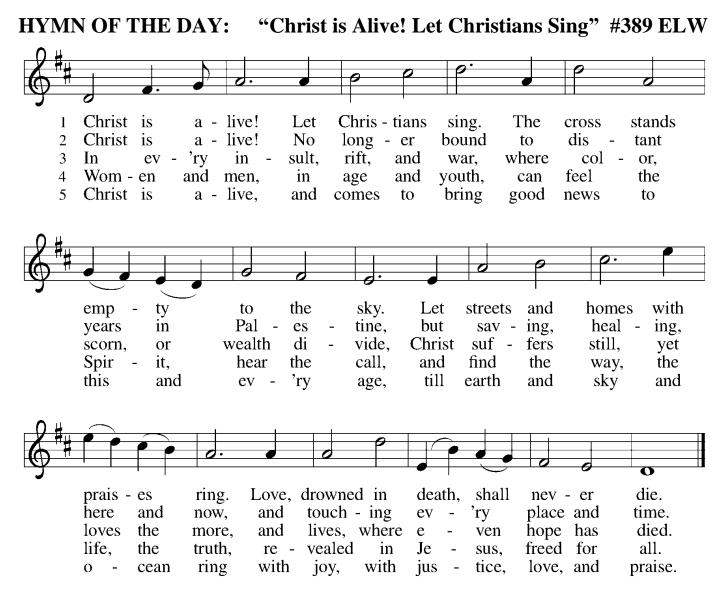
GOSPEL: John 14:1-14

Glory to you, O Lord

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

⁸Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

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



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 of life, strengthen your church to proclaim your gospel even in times of trouble. As we remember Stephen, we give thanks for diaconal ministry. Bless all deacons and strengthen them for their bridge-building ministry between church and world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creating God, you show your steadfast love through mighty waters, towering mountains, verdant fields, and arid deserts. Protect the earth's diverse habitats from the forces of pollution, erosion, extinction, and global warming. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Mighty God, your Spirit guides us into all truth. Give wisdom to world and local leaders and organizations as they begin, build, or renew relationships. Strengthen leaders and aid organizations in areas needing to be rebuilt following conflict, unrest, or natural disaster (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Loving God, you make your home among us. Abide with refugees, those experiencing homelessness, those fleeing war and poverty, and all who question if there is a home in your heart. We pray for all who are sick (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Assuring God, you accompany your people amid uncertainty and change. Uphold people in this community who have recently moved, changed jobs or schools, retired, or are going through transitions of any kind. Lead us in your ways. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Renewing God, you gather the saints at your heavenly banquet. We give you thanks for the care shown us by those who have gone before us (*especially*). Grant confidence and comfort for all awaiting the place you have prepared. 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 - <u>Please stand</u> 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

INVITATION to COMMUNION

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

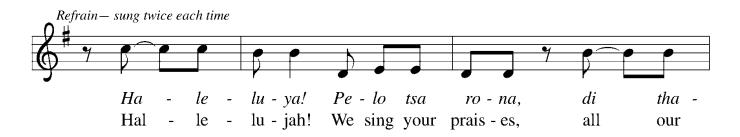
Gracious God,

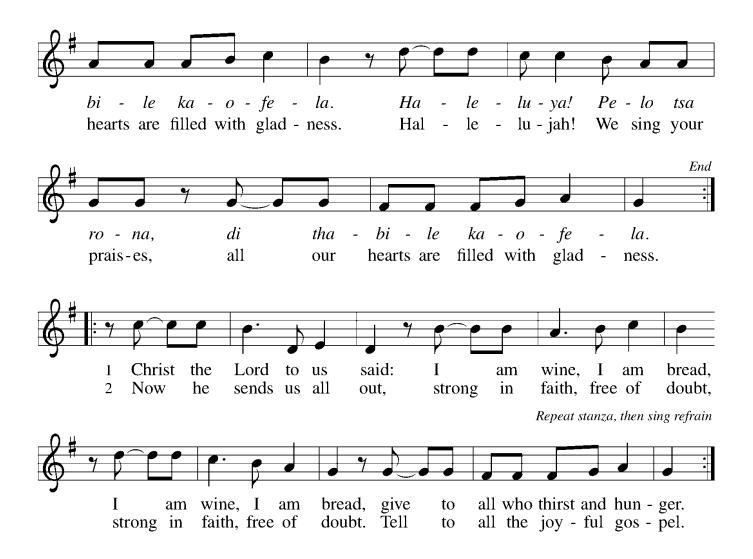
in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. Amen.

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: "Hallelujah, We Sing Your Praises" #535 ELW





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: Digital Hymnal – Jim Christensen Lector: Ushers: Susan Samuelson & Mary Vukelich Greeters: Carolyn Morris

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week Sunday, April 30, 2023: In Person: 9:00am <u>46</u> Online: <u>0</u>