

Sunday October 22, 2023
Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost



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: blcmalmo.org

Rev. 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 SUPPORT GROUP Grief Support meetings will start this week. They are meeting at 2:30pm on Tuesdays in the Fellowship Hall. The sessions run every Tuesday for 13 weeks. Anyone interested can simply show up. You are not required to attend all sessions but are urged to. Free will donation accepted but not required. Pre-registration is encouraged, but not required. There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

BETHESDA'S HOLIDAY BAZAAR Saturday, October 28th from 9am-1pm. Tell your friends and neighbors.

ATTN: COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS Budget Request Forms are in your "In Boxes" (or emailed if requested). These forms need to be filled out and returned to the Stewardship's In-Box by October 29th, 2022, so the Stewardship committee can review them and present to the Council meeting in November.

ANNUAL COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS are due by November 5th for our annual meeting on Sunday, December 3rd following our regular worship service. Please email to: Judie Birk jimjudiebirk@gmail.com with your committee reports.

MILLE LACS FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES invites you to attend a Pizza & Pre Planning Seminar on Thursday, Oct. 26th from 11:30am – 6:00pm at their newly remodeled chapel at 460 E. Main Street, Isle. See the poster in the Narthex for more information

LUTEFISK, HAM & POTATO SAUSAGE DINNER Saturday, October 28th from 3-7pm at Trinity Lutheran Church in Milaca.

CAMP ONOMIA WOMEN'S REFRESH RETREAT November 3rd-5th. Theme: Forgiveness and Reconciliation. See poster on the bulletin board in the Narthex for more information.

KEY CHANGE we will be changing the keys to the front door next week. Please turn in your old keys for a new one starting on Tuesday.

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda

October 23, 2023 – October 29, 2023

Monday	10/23	8:00 am	Lefse Making
		11:30 am	Card Players
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	10/24	8:00 am	Lefse Making
		9:00 am	NO Chair Yoga

		2:30 pm	Grief Share
		4:00 pm	Bell Practice
		5:00 am	Choir Practice (5:30pm Cantata)
Wednesday	10/25	9:00 am	Women's Bible Study
Thursday	10/26	8:00 am	ROMEOb
		9:15 am	NO Chair Yoga
Friday		8:30 am	Bazaar Setup
Saturday		9am-1pm	BAZAAR!
Sunday	10/29	9:00 am	Worship in Person & Live Stream

OPENING HYMN **“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”** **#834 ELW**
(Please Stand on the last Verse)

- 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!
- 2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
- 3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.
- 4 Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light;
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render; oh, help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824-1908, alt.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, ✝ Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

Amen.

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,
you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Beloved in Christ,
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In † Christ, you are already and always forgiven.
Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Sovereign God,
raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BELL ANTHEM: "Lift High the Cross"

SCRIPTURE

FIRST READING Isaiah 45:1-7

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him — and the gates shall not be closed: ²I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. ⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no

god. I arm you, though you do not know me, ⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷I form light and create darkness, I make peace and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

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

PSALM: Psalm 96:1-9

¹Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

²**Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

³Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.

⁴**For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.**

⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

⁶**Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

⁸**Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.**

⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in

every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

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

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-22

Glory to you, O Lord

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” ²¹They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: “Lift Every Voice and Sing”

#841 ELW

- 1 Lift ev'ry voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise high as the list'ning skies,
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on till victory is won.
- 2 Stony the road we trod, bitter the chast'ning rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;

yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our parents sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

- 3 God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.

Text: James W. Johnson, 1871-1938

APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS of INTERCESSION

Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Faithful God, your Spirit animates the church throughout the world and binds believers near and far into the body of Christ. Equip us for the work of faith, and enlarge our hearts for the labor of love. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Creating God, the sea roars, the earth rejoices, and the heavens are glad at the wonder of all you have made. Bless the work of ecologists and conservationists and all those who safeguard the riches of creation. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Sovereign God, your rule and authority is over the cosmos. As you once worked through the ruler Cyrus for the good of your people, accomplish your purposes

through the work of elected leaders and public servants (*especially*). Guide them with your wisdom and compassion. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Caring God, your arms enfold all who are lonely, oppressed, despairing, sick, and suffering (*especially*). Pour out your abundant mercy on all whom this world has neglected, abandoned, and forgotten, that they may know your joy. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Almighty God, all our life belongs to you. When earthly idols threaten to lead your church astray, remind us that you alone are the source of our eternal hope. Direct the work of church treasurers, councils, and all who manage financial matters. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Everlasting God, the saints of every age have sung your praise and shared your word. We give you thanks for their witness and pray that we may join them as citizens of your unending kingdom. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE *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 power, God of plenty,

all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION to COMMUNION

Jesus invites you to this table.
Come, eat and live.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed be your name, O God,
for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

BLESSING

The God of glory, ✝ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

CLOSING HYMN:

“Savior’s Song”

Dakota Road

Sing to the one who has known us for-ev - er. Dance to the rhythm of
free-dom and love. Rest and be sure in the arms of for-give - ness.
Join in the Sav - ior's song.
I'm hop - ing for a brand new day where we stop all the fuss
There's noth - ing that can take a - way all the love of the one
and the fight - ing long e - nough to look in each oth-er's eyes and see the
who has saved us. We may walk, we may run or fall, but God is
pre - cious gift of ev - 'ry life.
right here with us through it all.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God.

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

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Music: Bell Choir

Greeters: Darlene Christensen & Sherry Whipple

Ushers: Carol Morris & Gary Sjerven

Lector: Darlene Christensen

Hospitality:

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Sunday, October 15, 2023: In Person: 9:00am 70 Online: 6