

# Sunday November 26, 2023

## Christ the King Sunday



**BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO**

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Church Web Site: [blcmalmo.org](http://blcmalmo.org)

## Guest Leader: Dennis Hennessy

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:** Marlyn Eklund who passed away on Monday.

**KEY CHANGE** we changed the keys to the front door. Please turn in your old keys for a new one.

**LECTORS NEEDED** we are looking for volunteers to read aloud the scriptures on Sunday mornings. Sign-up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall and include the weekly readings.

**GLORY WOMEN'S MINISTRIES** annual luncheon. Wednesday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm Glory Baptist Church Community Room. See the poster on the bulletin board for more information.

**BETHESDA QUILTERS** need donations of clean used mattress pads and blankets to make Lutheran World Relief quilts. Please leave in the Fellowship Hall by the Quilter's Door. Many Thanks.

**WORLD HUNGER** It has been a tradition to pay extra attention to world hunger needs in November. Please pick up a change bank or an envelope and consider making an extra donation to support the ELCA World Hunger efforts. Thank You, Mission & Evangelism committee.

### **BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH HOLIDAY BAKE SALE**

Dec. 1<sup>ST</sup> from 9am-1pm (or sold out) at Bremer Bank in Aitkin. 100% of proceeds go to Community Food Shelf.

**CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S CLUB** Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> at 12:30 at Wahkon Inn. Lunch and sing-along. \$13 call Lois for reservations (320) 674-0136. See the poster in the Narthex for more information.

**GLORY BAPTIST ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON** Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm. See the poster in Narthex for more information.

**LOOKING FOR A COUNCIL SECRETARY** Judie Birk is resigning from her secretary position on the council, and we are looking for a replacement starting in Jan. 2024. Thank you Judie for your years of service.

### **THIS WEEK AT Bethesda** **November 27, 2023 – December 3, 2023**

Monday	11/27	11:30 am	Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	11/28	9:00 am	Chair Yoga

		5:00 pm	Choir Practice
		5:30 pm	Cantata Practice
		7:00 pm	Community Thanksgiving Service Faith Lutheran, Isle
Wednesday	11/29	9:00 am	Women's Bible Study
Thursday	11/30	8:00 am	ROMEOb
		9:15 am	Chair Yoga
Sunday	12/3	9:00 am	Worship in Person & Live Stream Annual Congregational Meeting following worship.

**OPENING HYMN    "Crown Him with Many Crowns"    #855 ELW**  
*(Please Stand on the last Verse)*



1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;  
 2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,  
 3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,  
 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave  
 5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,



hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.  
 whose arm those crim-son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;  
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.  
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.  
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
 fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,  
 No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,  
 His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,  
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem.  
but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.  
who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.  
thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, sts. 1–3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 4  
Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

**Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy One,

**we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.**

Beloved, we are God’s children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through † Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

**Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*O God of power and might,*

**your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to**

**serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

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## **SCRIPTURE**

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### **FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24**

<sup>11</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. <sup>12</sup>As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup>I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. <sup>14</sup>I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup>I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. <sup>16</sup>I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

<sup>20</sup>Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. <sup>21</sup>Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, <sup>22</sup>I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

<sup>23</sup>I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup>And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

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

### **PSALM: Psalm 95:1-7a**

<sup>1</sup> Come, let us sing to the LORD; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

<sup>2</sup> **Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**

<sup>3</sup> For you, LORD, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.

<sup>4</sup> **In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.**

<sup>5</sup> The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land.

<sup>6</sup> **Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

<sup>7a</sup> For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

## **SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23**

<sup>15</sup>I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, <sup>18</sup>so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, <sup>19</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. <sup>20</sup>God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup>And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46**

**Glory to you, O Lord**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>31</sup>“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. <sup>32</sup>All the nations





For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.  
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.  
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,  
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,  
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.  
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.  
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional

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## APOSTLES' CREED

### PRAYERS of INTERCESSION

Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.*

Holy God, from Christ we receive our call to feed, clothe, and welcome. Direct your church to respond to this call with faithfulness and generous love. We pray for the work of ELCA World Hunger and partnerships with global feeding ministries. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In Christ, the rock of our salvation, we are brought into union with all of creation. With mountains, seas, dry lands, and animals of the field, we seek your guidance and protection. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**



In Christ we know merciful judgment. Guide rulers of every nation in ways of humble leadership and wise decision-making. Allow aid to come to all who are underserved and care to any who are neglected. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In Christ we feel the depth of your love and care toward us. Nourish all who hunger, connect any who are isolated, and surround all who experience rejection or abuse. We pray for those who suffer (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In Christ we are made the people of his pasture. Inspire the outreach and social ministries of this congregation (*especially*). We pray for all people who serve and attend to the needs of others. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Holy God, in Christ we are welcomed home. We praise you for the faithful witness of those who have served you and extended your welcome and love to us (*especially*). Unite us with them as one body of Christ. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**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 all goodness,

**generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. Amen.**

### **THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

**Amen.**

## **THE LORDS PRAYER**

Our Father, which art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come.  
Thy will be done in earth, As it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,  
The power, and the glory, For ever and ever.  
Amen.

## **BLESSING**

May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.

**Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN:            “Sing to the King”            Billy Foote (on screen)**

Sing to the King Who is coming to reign  
Glory to Jesus, the Lamb that was slain  
Life and salvation His empire shall bring  
And joy to the nations when Jesus is King

Come, let us sing a song  
A song declaring that we belong to Jesus  
He is all we need  
Lift up a heart of praise  
Sing now with voices raised to Jesus  
Sing to the King

For His returning we watch and we pray  
We will be ready the dawn of that day  
We'll join in singing with all the redeemed  
'Cause Satan is vanquished and my Jesus is King

**DISMISSAL**

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

**THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK**

Greeters: Darlene Christensen & Mary Braun

Ushers: Mark & Mary Vukelich

Lector: Dennis Hennessy

Hospitality:

*Thank you for your service!*

Response to God's Word Last Week

Sunday, November 19, 2023: In Person: 9:00am 66 Online: x