

Sunday January 14, 2024

Second Sunday after Epiphany



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER & CARE LIST:

MONTHLY TITHING For your convenience we have direct deposit forms in the Narthex. You can sign up indefinitely or sign up for a few months if you're going south for the winter.

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2024 are here! Please pick up your envelopes in the Narthex.

YEAR END TAX GIVING STATEMENTS are available in the Narthex on the table heading into the Fellowship Hall.

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

POINSETTIAS Please take your poinsettia home after service today if you ordered one.

KITCHEN CLEANING DAY was scheduled for Monday, January 15. It is cancelled and will be rescheduled.

NEW TO BETHESDA GATHERING Have you joined our community over the past year? Maybe been around for some time but have never become an official member? Whether you are interested in official membership or not, if you have been wanting to learn a little bit more about our congregation and looking to deepen your relationship with us, please join Pastor at Castaways on January 30 @ 5pm to chat and enjoy the Tuesday night "Burger Special". If you are interested or have any questions, please let Pastor James know. We hope you can join us!

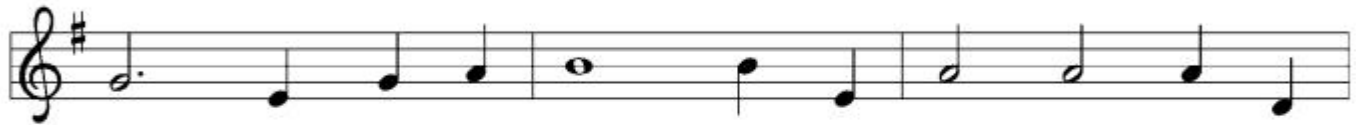
THIS WEEK AT Bethesda January 15, 2024 thru January 21, 2024

Monday	1/15	<i>Martin Luther King Day</i>	
		9:00 am	Kitchen Cleaning Cancelled, it will be rescheduled
		11:30 am	Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	1/16	9:00 am	Chair Yoga
Wednesday	1/17	9:00 am	Women's Bible Study
Thursday	1/18	8:00 am	ROMEOs
		9:15am	Chair Yoga
Sunday	1/21	9:00am	Worship in Person or Live Stream

OPENING HYMN: "Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult" #696 ELW



1 Je - sus calls us; o'er the tu - mult of our
2 As of old Saint An - drew heard it by the
3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
5 Je - sus calls us! By your mer - cy, Sav - ior,



life's wild, rest - less sea, day by day his clear voice
Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and toil and
vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would
toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and
may we hear your call, give our hearts to your o -



sound - ing, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me:"
kin - dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.
keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
be - dience, serve and love you best of all.

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our rock and refuge,

we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 3:1-10

¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. ²At that time Eli, Whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down.

⁶The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again."

⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. ¹⁰Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

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

PSALM: Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

¹ LORD, you have searched me out; O LORD, you have known me.

² **You know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.**

³ You trace my journeys and my resting-places and are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴ **Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, but you, O LORD, know it altogether.**

⁵ You encompass me, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

⁶ **Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain to it.**

¹³ For you yourself created my inmost parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

¹⁴ **I will thank you because I am marvelously made; your works are wonderful, and I know it well.**

¹⁵ My body was not hidden from you, while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.

¹⁶ **Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written in your book; my days were fashioned before they came to be.**

¹⁷ How deep I find your thoughts, O God! How great is the sum of them!

¹⁸ **If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.**

SECOND READING: 1 Samuel 3:11-20

¹¹Then the LORD said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. ¹²On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end.

¹³For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. ¹⁴Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever."

¹⁵Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶But Eli called Samuel and

said, “Samuel, my son.” He said, “Here I am.” ¹⁷Eli said, “What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.” ¹⁸So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, “It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him.”

¹⁹As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. ²⁰And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.

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

GOSPEL: John 1:43-51

Glory to you, O Lord

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.” ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!” ⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, “Where did you get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.” ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” ⁵⁰Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.” ⁵¹And he said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Here I Am, Lord”

#574 ELW



1	"I, the Lord of sea and sky,	I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2	"I, the Lord of snow and rain,	I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
3	"I, the Lord of wind and flame,	I will tend the poor and lame.

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.

I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
 Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"

Refrain
 Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you
 call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you
 lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Encourage the ministry and mission of the church, God of truth. Let the leaders of your church (*especially*) be trustworthy and accountable stewards, that all its resources and outreach bring hope and healing to communities. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Delight in the goodness of your creation, God of fig trees and fertile soil. Heal areas of the world harmed by human greed. Restore those recovering from natural disaster. Protect our forests and waterways and all the creatures that live in them.

God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Call the leaders of every neighborhood and nation to serve faithfully, God of wisdom. Give them visions of justice and unity. Lead them to action that promotes equitable partnership and uplifts those on the margins of society. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Hold in your care any who suffer and struggle, God of compassion. You who know our inner hearts, be present with any who are oppressed, victims of racism or cultural bias, and all who long for respite or restoration (*especially*). God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Give this congregation the anticipation and excitement of Samuel, so inspired and empowered to do your work in the world, God of unity. Make us faithful as we build communities of inclusion and mutual care. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Trusting God who raised Jesus and will also raise us in spirit and truth, we remember all who have died and are at peace among the saints (*especially the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. whose faithful advocacy for peace and justice continues to embolden the church*). God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING - *Please be seated as the Ushers pass the offering plate.*

Please stand as the ushers bring the offering to the altar.

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, Holy One,

for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us.

Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one.

Come and see.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Giver of every gift,

Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.

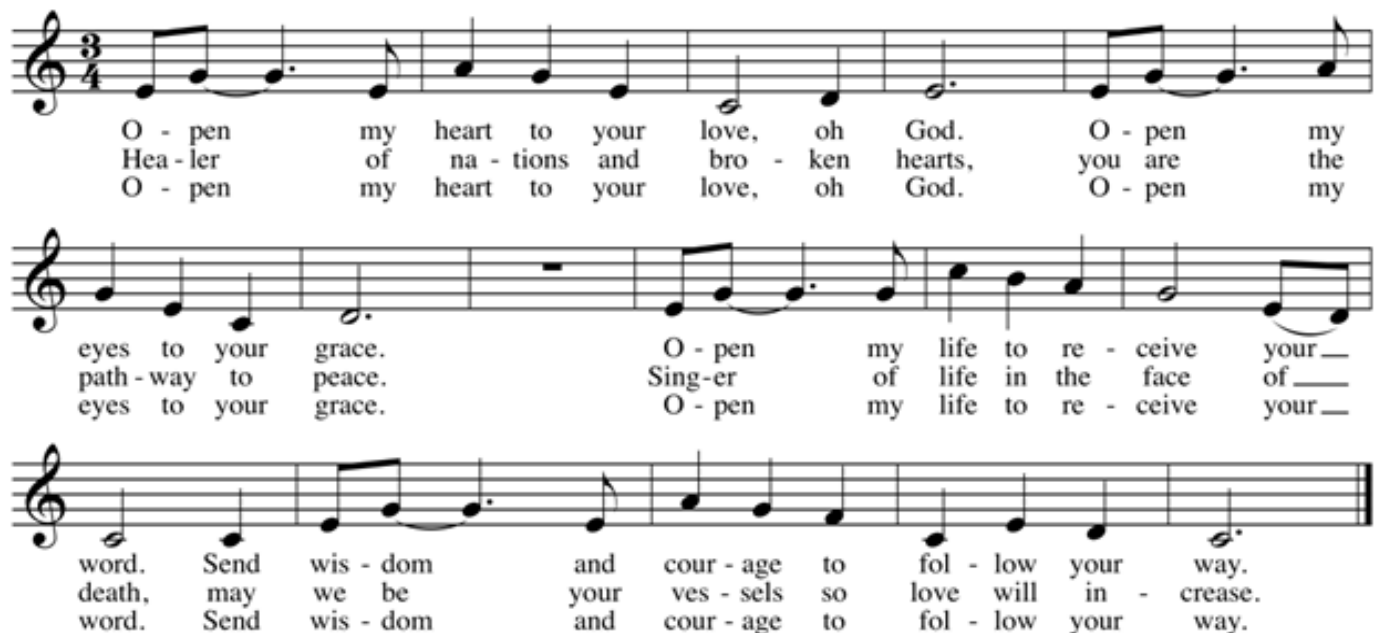
BLESSING

God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, ✚ bless you and remain with you always.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: "Open My Heart to Your Love"

Dakota Road



O - pen my heart to your love, oh God. O - pen my
Hea - ler of na - tions and bro - ken hearts, you are the
O - pen my heart to your love, oh God. O - pen my
eyes to your grace. O - pen my life to re - ceive your
path - way to peace. Sing - er of life in the face of
eyes to your grace. O - pen my life to re - ceive your
word. Send wis - dom and cour - age to fol - low your way.
death, may we be your ves - sels so love will in - crease.
word. Send wis - dom and cour - age to fol - low your way.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

Thanks be to God.

Visitors! It has been great having you join us for worship!

Please come again.

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Greeters: Wally & Bev Swenson

Ushers: Barry & Donna Ansell

Lector: NEED VOLUNTEERS!

Hospitality: NEED VOLUNTEERS!

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week:

Sunday, January 7, 2024: In Person: 9:00am 50 Online: 18