

# Sunday February 4, 2024

## Fifth Sunday after Epiphany



**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](mailto:blcmalmo@gmail.com)

Church Web Site: [blcmalmo.org](http://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:** Dianne Jones

**HOSPITALITY HOSTS NEEDED!** Sign up on the bulletin board next to the serving counter in the Fellowship Hall. There are treats in the freezer to serve if you don't bake.

**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.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:** February 4, Sunday afternoon 2:00, watch the movie “A Man Called Otto” and enjoy some popcorn and snacks right here at Bethesda!! Bring friends! Back by popular demand: Junk Bingo! February 18 at 2:00pm

**BLESSING BOX:** The first Sunday of every month we pass the “Blessing Box”. If you feel blessed, please contribute to the Blessing Box today to help others. Thank you! What a Blessing!

**ISLE COMMUNITY LENTEN CANTATA** Performance on Good Friday, April 7, 2023, at 7:30pm. See poster in Narthex for more information. Join the choir! Rehearsals on Sundays in Lent 2:30-4:00pm (Feb 18, 25, Mar 3, 10,17,24)

**THIS WEEK AT Bethesda February 4, 2024 thru February 11, 2024**

Sunday	2/4	2:00 pm	Movie Day, “A Man Called Otto”
Monday	2/5	11:30 am	Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	2/6	9:00 am	Chair Yoga
Wednesday	2/7	9:00 am	Women’s Bible Study
Thursday	2/8	8:00 am	ROMEOS
		9:15 am	Chair Yoga
Sunday	2/11	9:00 am	Worship in Person or Live Stream

**TEMPLE TALK: Worship & Music**

**Julie Swaggert**

**OPENING HYMN: “We Come to You For Healing, Lord” #617 ELW**  
*(Please rise on the last verse)*



1	We	come	to	you	for	heal	-	ing,	Lord,	of
2	As	once	you	walked	through	an	-	cient	streets	and
3	You	touch	us	through	phy	-	si	-	cians’	skills,
4	When	nights	are	long	with	wake	-	ful	-	ness,
5	We	come	to	you,	O	lov	-	ing	Lord,	in



bod - y, mind, and soul, and pray that by your  
reached toward those in pain, come, ris - en Christ, a -  
nurs - es' gifts of care, and through the love of  
days when strength runs low, grant us your gift of  
our dis - tress and pain, in trust that through our



Spir - it's touch we may a - gain be whole.  
mong us still with pow'r to heal a - gain.  
faith - ful friends who lift our lives in prayer.  
pa - tience, Lord, your calm - ing peace to know.  
nights and days your grace will heal, sus - tain.

## 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

Everlasting God,

**you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21-31**

<sup>21</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

<sup>22</sup>It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in;

<sup>23</sup>who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

<sup>24</sup>Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

<sup>25</sup>To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

<sup>26</sup>Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

<sup>27</sup>Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, “My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God”?

<sup>28</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

<sup>29</sup>He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

<sup>30</sup>Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;

<sup>31</sup>but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

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

## **PSALM: Psalm 147:1-11, 20c**

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem, and gathers the exiles of Israel.**

<sup>3</sup>The LORD heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

<sup>4</sup>**The LORD counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.**

<sup>5</sup>Great is our LORD and mighty in power; there is no limit to God’s wisdom.

<sup>6</sup>**The LORD lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground.**

<sup>7</sup>Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make music upon the harp to our God,

<sup>8</sup> **who covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the mountains.**

<sup>9</sup> God provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they cry.

<sup>10</sup> **God is not impressed by the might of a horse, and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,**

<sup>11</sup> but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD, in those who await God's steadfast love.

<sup>20c</sup> **Hallelujah!**

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23**

<sup>16</sup>If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! <sup>17</sup>For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. <sup>18</sup>What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

<sup>19</sup>For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. <sup>20</sup>To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. <sup>21</sup>To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. <sup>22</sup>To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. <sup>23</sup>I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

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

## **GOSPEL: Mark 1:29-39**

### **Glory to You, O Lord**

<sup>29</sup>As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. <sup>30</sup>Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. <sup>31</sup>He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

<sup>32</sup>That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. <sup>33</sup>And the whole city was gathered around the door. <sup>34</sup>And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

<sup>35</sup>In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. <sup>36</sup>And Simon and his companions hunted for him. <sup>37</sup>When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." <sup>38</sup>He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." <sup>39</sup>And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY "Precious Lord, Taky my Hand" #773 ELW



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,  
 2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,  
 3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . . near,



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.  
 when my life is . . . al - most . . . gone,  
 and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,



Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light,  
 hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.  
 at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.



take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.  
 Take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.  
 Take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

## 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.*

Everlasting God, you bring your healing power to the church. Give your church a spirit of unity and prayer, that we discern your way for us in the world. God of grace,

**receive our prayer.**

Creator of the ends of the earth, you make the grass grow and send rain for the soil. Bring your creation into harmony and balance. Give animals their food and provide healthy shelter for your people. Inspire us to honor the miraculous beauty of all you have made. God of grace,

**receive our prayer.**

God without equal, your steadfast love endures forever. Bring the leaders, elected officials, and peacekeepers of our towns and countries into understanding and unity. Guide them to serve with compassion and understanding. God of grace,

**receive our prayer.**

God who strengthens, you lift up with your hand any who are suffering. Heal those who are brokenhearted and strengthen the weak and all in need (*especially*). God of grace,

**receive our prayer.**

God who gives power to the faint, challenge us to share the faith stories of what God has done in our lives. Open us to receive the unique ways God is at work in your people, especially those whose perspectives challenge our own. God of grace,

**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God who calls each star by name, we remember all who have died. Shelter all who mourn with your mercy and care, and give us hope in your promised salvation. 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: “Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness” #843 ELW



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at-ing light;  
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil-dren with a strong yet gen-tle word;  
3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris-'ners, turn-ing blind-ness in - to sight.  
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc-ing, two-edged sword.  
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal-ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,  
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn-ing sand;  
Let us sing for joy and glad-ness, see-ing what our God has done.



calm-ing storms and feed - ing thou-sands with the ver - y bread of peace.  
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench-ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.  
Praise the one re - deem-ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

### DISSMAL

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: Julie Swaggert & Dennis Hennessy

Ushers: Barry & Donna Ansell

Lector: Karen Elias

Hospitality: Mary Braun, David & Libby Brown, Jeannine Bruesewitz

**Thank you for your service!**

Response to God's Word Last Week:

Sunday, January 28, 2024: In Person: 9:00am 53 Online: 12