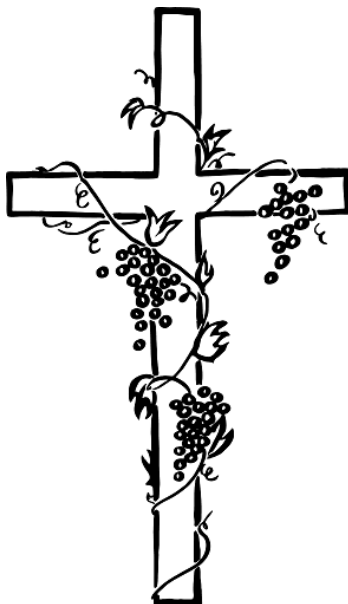


**Sunday April 28, 2024**

**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: 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

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:**

**HELP! as in HELPING HANDS:** We are restarting our Helping Hands Group. This group would lend a hand of light chores to our neighbors in need. This might include yard work and cleaning. We are looking for people who would like to join our group. A sign up sheet is in the Narthex if you would like to help. If you are aware of someone who could use help, contact Lee Forrester at 651-271-2186. Thanks. Lee

**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. We could use more cookies for the freezer.

**LECTORS NEEDED** we need lectors for weekly Sunday readings. Sign-up sheets are on the table in the Narthex heading into the Fellowship Hall and include the weekly readings.

**RAFFLE BASKET** Last day for the Fishing for Vets raffle basket. Check out the fishing items in the bucket in the Fellowship Hall (assorted snacks like chips, pretzels, sardines, oysters & assorted libations to keep you happy. Bucket includes tackle and a \$25 gift certificate to Glen Meats). \$1/ticket. Enter as many times as you like. Must be over 21 to enter. Name will be drawn today during Fellowship.

**PLASTIC BAG RECYCLE** The Malmo Lions will take your used plastic grocery bags. There is a box on the bench in the office to recycle your plastic bags.

**HEALTHY HABITS:** Join us April 30 at 12 noon as we get together and share ideas around Food, Fitness, Friends, and Faith. Lunch will be provided, please register at the office by Thursday (April 25) before, so adequate food can be prepared. Contact Mary V. with questions at [mmvuke@yahoo.com](mailto:mmvuke@yahoo.com) or by phone/text at 651-230-4512.

**TRAIL CLEANUP** is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00am. All are welcome to help with the cleanup.

**ANNUAL JELLY MAKING DAY** is set for Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am.

**GLOBAL HEALTH MINISTRIES** On Wednesday, May 15th at 10am WELCA is participating in a Thrivent Action Team Event to assemble Newborn Kits for Global Health Ministries. There is a display in the Fellowship Hall with

information about the project and bins where items are being collected. Everyone is invited to participate.

**SYTTENDE MAI BUFFET LUNCHEON** - Friday May 10, 2024, 11:00 AM — 1:00 PM. Price: \$12.00 — Tickets available at the door. Trinity Lutheran Church, 735 Second St SE, Milaca, MN 56353. Meal: Meatballs, Potatoes, Coleslaw, Deviled Eggs, Beet Pickles, Pickled Herring, Lefse, Homemade Breads. Dessert: Rice Pudding, Rommegrot, Traditional Cookies. Celebrating Norwegian Constitution Day!

**LET’S GO FISHING** We have booked a Let’s Go Fishing trip for the church members for anyone who is interested on 07 Aug from 1-3 PM. This trip is on Bay Lake. Everything is provided at no cost. So far, 3 individuals have signed up, we can take an additional 7 members. There are also other dates that are available in addition to this trip. Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex. For additional information, please contact David Brown at: 518-645-4746 or email at [dbrown22dogs@gmail.com](mailto:dbrown22dogs@gmail.com).

<b><u>THIS WEEK AT Bethesda</u></b>		<b><u>April 29, 2024 – May 5, 2024</u></b>	
Monday	4/29	11:30 am	Card Players
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	4/30	9:00 am	Chair Yoga
		Noon	Healthy Habits Meeting
		5:30 am	Choir Practice
Wednesday	5/1	9:00 am	Women’s Bible Study
		10:00 am	Trail Cleanup
Thursday	5/2	8:00 am	ROMEOS
		9:15 am	Chair Yoga
Sunday	5/5	9:00 am	Worship in Person & Live Stream

**TEMPLE TALK: Global Health Ministries** **Darlene Christensen**

**OPENING HYMN: “Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death” #452 ELW**



- 1 A - wake, O sleep-er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
- 2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,
- 3 There is one bod - y and one hope, one Spir - it and one call,
- 4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;
- 5 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con - quered in the strife.



so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.  
to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.  
one Lord, one faith, and one bap - tism, one God who made us all.  
with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.  
A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

## 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.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the flood-gates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*O God,*

**you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**BELL CHOIR ANTHEM: “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”**

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**SCRIPTURE**

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**FIRST READING: Acts 8:26-40**

<sup>26</sup>An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) <sup>27</sup>So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” <sup>31</sup>He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup>Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. <sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.”

<sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” <sup>38</sup>He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup>When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup>But Philip found himself at

Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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

### **PSALM: Psalm: 22:25-31**

<sup>25</sup> From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

<sup>26</sup> **The poor shall eat and be satisfied, Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

<sup>27</sup> All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow before God.

<sup>28</sup> **For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.**

<sup>29</sup> Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

<sup>30</sup> **Their descendants shall serve the LORD, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

<sup>31</sup> They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

### **SECOND READING: 1 John 4:7-21**

<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup> God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup> By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup> God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup> So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. <sup>17</sup> Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on

the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Those who say, “I love God,” and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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

**GOSPEL: John 15:1-8**

**Glory to You, O Lord**

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup>“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

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

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: “Thine is the Glory”**

**#376 ELW**



1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the  
 2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he  
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment  
 greets thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness  
 out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes  
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;  
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

*Refrain*

where thy bod - y lay.  
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con - qu'ring  
to thy home a - bove.

Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

## APOSTLES' CREED

### PRAYERS of INTERCESSION

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

#### *A brief silence.*

We pray for the church around the world, for all ministers, and for the mission of the gospel. Keep all the newly baptized and confirmed in your care. Cleanse our hearts with your word and help us to abide in you always. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For the well-being of the earth and of all created things: for rivers and lakes, streams and estuaries, melting glaciers and polluted waters (*local bodies of water may be named*). Renew the face of the earth and shower us with your goodness. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

For the nations and all those in authority: for local, state, and national leaders, for elected representatives at every level, and for international organizations, that justice and peace may reign. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

For all those in need: for any experiencing homelessness or unemployment, for those fleeing from oppression or seeking asylum, and for all who are ill or suffering (*especially*). God of grace,



**hear our prayer.**

For this congregation: for the caring ministries of this faith community, for all who visit and minister to one another, for all who take communion to homes or care centers, and for all who seek to share your love with the world.

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

With thanksgiving for the saints who rest from their labors. Help us, like them, to bear much fruit and to become your disciples, and at the last, bring us to that heavenly banquet where all will feast together at your table. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living 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** - *Please stand as the ushers bring the offering to the altar.*

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Risen One,

**you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**INVITATION to COMMUNION**

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.  
Come and eat at God's table.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Shepherding God,

**you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love.**

**Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.**

## BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ✝ bless you now and always.

**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN: "Take Me to the Water"

#957 ACS



1 Take me to the wa - ter, take me to the wa - ter,  
2 I . . . love . . Je - sus, I . . . love . . Je - sus,  
3 He's . . my . . Sav - ior, he's . . my . . Sav - ior,  
4 Glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah. Glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah.



take me to the wa - ter to be bap - tized.  
I . . . love . . Je - sus, oh, yes, I do.  
he's . . my . . Sav - ior, oh, yes, he is.  
Glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah to be bap - tized.

## DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**Thanks be to God Alleluia!**

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

## THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Ushers: Darrell Kelly & Dick Stebbins

Greeters: Mary Braun & Winnie Zahradka

Lector: LuAnn Gordon

Hospitality: Brenda & Gary Sjerven, Mary Braun

*Thank you for your service!*

Response to God's Word Last Week

Sunday, April 21, 2024: In Person: 9:00am 72 Online: 0 technical difficulties