

Sunday May 12, 2024

Seventh 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: 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.*

CALL TO WORSHIP: "I Believe"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER & CARE LIST: Lisa Cook; daughter of the Malotkys.

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

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.

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.

RAFFLE BASKET Mission & Evangelism has a "Spring Flower Basket" for raffle this month! Tickets are \$1/each and enter as many times as you want. Proceeds will go towards advertising costs throughout the year.

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.

WELCA meeting on Wednesday, May 15th at 10:00am.

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S CLUB For women of any ages. May 16th, 12:30pm at Tulibee Tavern in Wahkon. Lunch & Speaker: \$15.75. For more information, see the bulletin board in the Narthex. Call Lois Johnson for reservations 320 674-0136

CHURCH CLEAN UP DAY is scheduled for Wednesday, May 22nd at 10:00am. Yard work & window washing.

SPRING PLANTING We will be planting at 10:00am on the 23rd. Rain date 24th.

LOAVES & FISHES Bethesda's next opportunity to volunteer at First Lutheran in Aitkin for the Monday night Loaves and Fishes community meal is MAY 20th. We need **6 volunteers** with 2-3 coming early (2pm) to help prep the meal and 3 more to come at 3-5:30 to help pack, serve and clean up. We will be

2. And when the sky was starless in the void of the night

Our God is an awesome God.

He spoke into the darkness and created the light.

Our God is an awesome God.

The judgment and the wrath He poured out on Sodom

The mercy and the grace He gave us at the cross

I hope that we have not too quickly forgotten

That our God is an awesome God (*Chorus 3X*)

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

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

Gracious and glorious God,

you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PRAISE TEAM ANTHEM: “Spirit In The Sky”

SCRIPTURE

FIRST READING: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, ¹⁶“Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—¹⁷for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” ²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.” ²³So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴Then they prayed and said, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

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

PSALM: Psalm 1 (Read Responsively)

¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

² **Their delight is in the law of the LORD, and they meditate on God’s teaching day and night.**

³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,

with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

⁴ **It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

⁶ **For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

SECOND READING: 1 John 5:9-13

⁹If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. ¹⁰Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

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

GOSPEL: John 17:6-19

Glory to You, O Lord

[Jesus prayed:] ⁶“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I protected them in your name that

you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: “Wonderful, Merciful Savior” CCLI #106879

1. Wonderful, merciful Savior
Precious Redeemer and Friend
Who would have thought that a Lamb could
Rescue the souls of men,
Oh You rescue the souls of men.

2. Counselor, Comforter, Keeper
Spirit we long to embrace,
You offered hope when our hearts had
Hopelessly lost the way,
Oh we’d hopelessly lost the way.

Chorus

You are the One that we praise
You are the One we adore
You give the healing and grace our
Hearts always hunger for,
Oh our hearts always hunger for.

3. Almighty, infinite Father
Faithfully loving Your own.
Here in our weakness You find us
Falling before Your throne,
Oh we’re falling before Your Throne.

Chorus

You are the One that we praise
You are the One we adore
You give the healing and grace our
Hearts always hunger for,
Oh our hearts always hunger for.
(Repeat)

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.

You sanctify us in your truth; your word is truth. Send your church out into the world to spread your love and joy. Embolden all bishops, pastors, and deacons (*especially*) to be faithful ministers of your word and sacraments. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your creation groans under the strain of pollution. Preserve melting glaciers and dwindling forests. Bolster those who work for climate justice and help us all to be good and faithful stewards of your creation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your people seek wisdom, understanding, and peace. Guide all those who govern and inspire them to work on behalf of the most vulnerable in our midst. Keep safe first responders, those serving in the military, and those whose duty it is to protect others. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your children need your loving care. Protect them from all harm. Comfort those in any affliction (*especially*). Support those who grieve and bring solace to those near death. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your Spirit lives within us here. Inspire the work of this congregation and unite us as one. Bless all the mothers in our midst, console those for whom this day is difficult, and gather us all under the care of your loving wings. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Your saints dwell with you in light. Keep us ever thankful for those who have gone before us in faith (*especially*). Inspire us by their witness. 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 – Lead by the Praise Team

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: “Go Now”

by Hans Peterson and Larry Olson

Filled with the Holy Spirit
Go now with God, go now with God
Into the world as a servant
Go now with God, go now with God
Go now, go now, go now with God
Go now, go now, go now with God

Offering a hand to a stranger
Go now with God, go now with God
Trusting in the risen savior
Go now with God, go now with God
Go now, go now, go now with God
Go now, go now, go now with God

Waters of mercy have found us
Go now with God, go now with God
Grace on the journey surrounds us
Go now with God, go now with God
Go now, go now, go now with God
Go now, go now, go now with God

Crossing every boundary every nation
Go now with God, go now with God
Dancing in the gift of liberation
Go now with God, go now with God
Go now, go now, go now with God
Go now, go now, go now with God

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: Lee & Barb Forrester

Greeters: Wally & Bev Swenson

Lector: Jeannine Bruesewitz

Hospitality: Jeannine Bruesewitz, Penny Sjoquist, Bev Wedig

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Sunday, May 5, 2024: In Person: 9:00am 78 Online: 16