

**Sunday June 16, 2024**

**Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**



**BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO**

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**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:** Cliff Roberts, Ron Aho.

**VBS SETUP** Please consider staying after coffee today to help take down tables and chairs for the upcoming week of VBS. Thank You!

**CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S CLUB** For women of any ages. June 20<sup>th</sup>, 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

**CRAFTING FUN!** Join us to work on crafts for our Holiday Bazaar on the following Mondays from 9-11 am: June 24; July 1 & 29; Aug. 5 & 19; Sept. 16 & 30; Oct. 7. A few of these dates will be workshops where we will work on specific items: July 1 - Papermaking; and Aug. 19 – Dried fruit crafts. The bazaar is on Oct. 26 this year.

**NO CLASSES THIS WEEK** There will be no Chair Yoga, Women's Bible Study, or ROMEOS this week due to VBS

**JUNE RAFFLE BASKET** Help support Local Benevolence and get a head start on your Christmas celebrations. Sugar cookies, coffee, a snuggly warm blanket, and more. Merry Christmas! \$1 per ticket.

**SUMMER GOSPEL CONCERT** Malmo Free Church, 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month. This month; "The Garms Family", June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00pm. Free will donation.

### **THIS WEEK AT Bethesda** **June 17, 2024 – June 23, 2024**

Monday	6/17	9-11:30 am	VBS
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	6/18	9-11:30 am	VBS
		4:00 pm	Bell Practice No Choir Practice
Wednesday	6/19	9-11:30 am	VBS
		11am-7pm	Lion's Community Picnic
Thursday	6/20	9-11:30 am	VBS
		12:30 pm	Christian Women's Club
Sunday	6/23	9:00 am	Worship in Person & Live Stream

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## OPENING HYMN: “O God Whose Word Well Planted”

on screen

(Please rise on the last verse)



1 O God, whose word well-plant - ed yields fruit a hun-dred - fold,  
2 O God of seed and har - vest, of sun and soil and rain,  
3 O God, your fi - nal har - vest of his - t'ry's an - cient field



we praise your grac - es grant - ed to those who sowed of old,  
at - tend the word we sow, lest its plant - ing be in vain.  
will test with truth the proud - est that hu - man work can yield.



who by their wit - ness scat - tered good seed up - on the soil  
Send show - ers of your Spir - it, bright sun - shine of your grace,  
Op - pres - sion's blight will van - ish, fair free - dom's fruits in - crease;



where oth - ers, reap - ing, gath - ered the har - vest of their toil.  
that mul - ti - tudes who hear it your gos - pel may em - brace.  
and love and joy will flour - ish to clothe the earth with peace.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007

Music: ABIDING PRESENCE, Stephen P. Folkemer, b. 1952

Text and music © 1990 Augsburg Fortress

## CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

**Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our provider,

**help us.**

**It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own**

**understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

**Amen.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God,

**you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC: "Your Love Defends Me"** John Muske & Sandra Lee-Muske

### **FIRST READING: Ezekiel 17:22-24**

<sup>22</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain.

<sup>23</sup>On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind.

<sup>24</sup>All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree; I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

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

### **PSALM: Psalm 92:1-4,12-15**

<sup>1</sup> It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praise to your name, O Most High;

<sup>2</sup> **to herald your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night;**

<sup>3</sup> on the psaltery, and on the lyre, and to the melody of the harp.

**<sup>4</sup>For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD; and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.**

<sup>12</sup>The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

**<sup>13</sup>Those who are planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God;**

<sup>14</sup>they shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be green and succulent;

**<sup>15</sup>that they may show how upright the LORD is, my rock, in whom there is no injustice.**

### **SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:6-17**

<sup>6</sup>So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—<sup>7</sup>for we walk by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup>Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup>So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. <sup>10</sup>For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

<sup>11</sup>Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. <sup>12</sup>We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. <sup>13</sup>For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. <sup>14</sup>For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. <sup>15</sup>And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

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

## Gospel: Mark 4:26-34

### Glory to you, O Lord

<sup>26</sup>[Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,<sup>27</sup> and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. <sup>28</sup>The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup>But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

<sup>30</sup>He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

<sup>33</sup>With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup>he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY

### “For the Fruit of All Creation”

#679 ELW



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.  
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.  
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



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 HYDY NOS, Welsh traditional

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## APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.\* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

*A brief silence.*

Nourish your faithful people through gifts of word and worship. Guide the church in listening to and interpreting your message of grace for this time and place in history. In your wisdom, lead us in expanding the reach of your love. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Nature sings your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night. Sustain the holy rhythms of creation: days and seasons, hibernation and activity, phases of the moon and tides of the sea. Let these patterns assure us of your constancy. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

You raise the lowly and humble those in high regard. Raise up all who are victims of marginalization, discrimination, and hate. As we anticipate Juneteenth, banish white supremacy and bigotry from the hearts of your people and remove the inclination toward anger and violence. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Tend to all who journey by faith and who wait with patience for the fulfillment of your healing promises (*especially*). Grant perseverance to people doing physical and occupational therapy, people living with mobility concerns, and people facing chronic pain. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

As you have loved us, so let us love one another. Empower fathers, stepfathers, grandfathers, adoptive fathers, and chosen fathers to embody this gift of love for their children. Where these relationships are strained or broken, bring your comfort and peace. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

With gratitude, we remember (*the Emanuel Nine martyrs and all*) the saints who are now at home with you. Plant seeds of their wisdom and witness in our hearts, that we grow in faith until we join them in your heavenly dwelling. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of 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**

Jesus, Bread of life,

**you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**



## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.

Come!

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Jesus, Bread of life,

**we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.**

## BLESSING

The blessing of God,

who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, † be upon you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN:

### “Seed of Life”

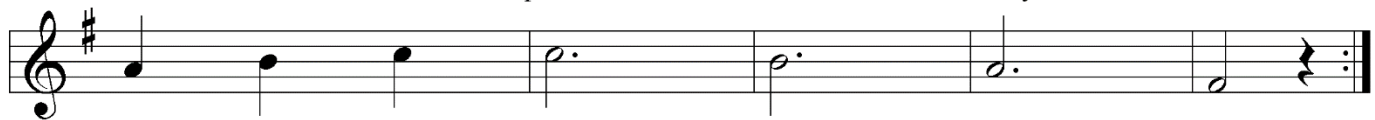
### Dakota Road (on screen)



Seed of Life a - rise a - new.



Dark - ness cov - ers and qui - et  
Wa - ter flow - ing and roots -  
Break - ing of soil - and a  
Ground of prom - ise to sky a -



hov - ers; we wait in won - der.  
grow - ing you nour - ish us. Oh,  
toil with strength un - known.  
round us you beau - ti - fy.

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## DISSMAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

**Please come again.**

**THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK**

Special Music: John Muske & Sandra Lee-Muske

Greeters: Sharon Whipple, Carolyn Morris

Ushers: Darrell Kelly & Dick Stebbins

Lector: Karen Elias

Hospitality: Mary Braun & Jenny Schuett

**Thank you for your service!**

Response to God's Word Last Week:

Sunday, June 9, 2024: In Person: 9:00am   74   Online:   14