

# Sunday September 15, 2024

## Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost



### **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)

## **Rick Martins**

Mora, MN

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: “Wake Me Up Jesus”**

**Chorus:** Wake me up Jesus, with your loving Grace  
Wake me up Jesus, with your warm embrace.  
I know that You love me, so I will follow your ways.

The World is my home now. It won't be for long.  
The Bible, it tells me, and it can't be wrong.  
You saved me from sin now, a gift that's greater than all. **Chorus**  
I sing Hallelujah, for the gift of life.  
The world, it's not perfect, it's so full of strife.  
But You give me peace Lord, so I can do what's right. **Chorus x2**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRAYER & CARE LIST:** Ron Aho, Roy Berg

**LECTORS NEEDED** we are looking for volunteers to read aloud the scriptures on Sunday morning. Signup sheet in the Narthex which includes the weekly readings, or contact Mary Braun if you can help.

**CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S CLUB** meeting Sept. 19th, 12:30pm at Tullibee Tavern in Walkon. Lunch and a speaker, \$15.75, more info on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Call Lois Johnson for a reservation, 320 674-0136.

**AUTUMN EQUINOX** Celebrate with a Taste of Fall – Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 4-6 pm at Bethesda. Join us as we welcome the enchanting season of fall by celebrating the Autumn Equinox. We gather the bounties of the fall harvest with wines paired by wine pairing expert, Shari Blubard. This event begins with a welcoming wine and appetizers at our beautiful Memory Garden area at Bethesda and then continues to the church for dinner. Invite your friends to show the beauty of our church. Tickets are \$35 and are limited to 40 people. For tickets visit our website: <http://blcmalmo.org/2024/08/26/autumn-equinox/> Or go to <https://app.autobooks.co/pay/bethesda-lutheran-church-of-malmo> Or signup and pay in the office.

**THIS WEEK AT Bethesda September 16, 2024 – September 22, 2024**

Monday	9/16	9:00 am	Crafters
		11:30 am	Cards
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon

Tuesday	9/17	9:00 am	Chair Yoga
		4:00 pm	Bell Practice
		5:30 pm	Choir Practice
		6:30 pm	Praise Team Practice
Wednesday	9/18	9am-4pm	WIC
		9:00 am	Women's Bible Study
		10:00 am	WELCA meeting
Thursday	9/19	8:00 am	Romeos
		9:15 am	Chair Yoga
Saturday	9/21	4-6 pm	Autumn Equinox Event
Sunday	9/22	9:00 am	Worship in Person & live stream
		10:00 am	Pancake Breakfast

**OPENING HYMN                      “In The Garden”**

*(Please Stand on the last Verse)*

I come to the garden alone  
while the dew is still on the roses.  
And the voice I hear falling on my ear  
the Son of God discloses.

**Chorus:     And He walks with me and He talks with me  
                  and He tells me I am His own.  
                  And the joy we share as we tarry there,  
                  None other has ever know**

He speaks and the sound of His voice  
is so sweet, the birds hush their singing  
and the melody that He gave to me  
within my heart is ringing.     **Chorus:**

I'd stay in the garden with Him  
though the night around me be falling,  
but He bids me go in the voice of woe,  
His voice to me is calling.     **Chorus:**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

*Silence is kept for reflection*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

**Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*O God,*

**through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**PRAISE TEAM ANTHEM: “The River”**

---

## SCRIPTURE

---

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a**

<sup>4</sup> The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught.

<sup>5</sup> The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn

backward.

<sup>6</sup> I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

<sup>7</sup> The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; <sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.

<sup>9a</sup> It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

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

### **PSALM: Psalm 116:1-9**

<sup>1</sup> I love the LORD, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,

<sup>2</sup> **for the LORD has given ear to me whenever I called.**

<sup>3</sup> The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me; I came to grief and sorrow.

<sup>4</sup> **Then I called upon the name of the LORD: “O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”**

<sup>5</sup> Gracious is the LORD and righteous; our God is full of compassion.

<sup>6</sup> **The LORD watches over the innocent; I was brought low, and God saved me.**

<sup>7</sup> Turn again to your rest, O my soul. For the LORD has dealt well with you.

<sup>8</sup> **For you have rescued my life from death, my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling;**

<sup>9</sup> I will walk in the presence of the LORD in the land of the living.

### **SECOND READING: James 3:1-12**

<sup>1</sup>Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup>For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. <sup>3</sup>If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. <sup>4</sup>Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup>So

also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! <sup>6</sup>And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup>For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, <sup>8</sup>but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup>With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup>From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup>Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? <sup>12</sup>Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine yield figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

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

### **GOSPEL: Mark 8:27-38**

#### **Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>27</sup>Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” <sup>28</sup>And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” <sup>29</sup>He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” <sup>30</sup>And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

<sup>31</sup>Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what

can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

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

## **SERMON**

### **HYMN OF THE DAY: “Down By The Riverside”**

Gonna lay down my burden, down by the riverside,

Down by the riverside, down by the riverside.

Gonna lay down my burden, down by the riverside

And study war no more.

Gonna lay down my sword and shield, down by the riverside, down by the riverside, down by the riverside.

Gonna lay down my sword and shield, down by the riverside and study war no more.

**Chorus: I ain't gonna study war no more, ain't gonna study war no more,  
Ain't gonna study war no more, I ain't gonna study war no more,  
Ain't gonna study war no more, ain't gonna study war no more.**

Gonna put on my long white robe; down by the riverside,

Down by the riverside, down by the riverside.

Gonna put on my long white robe; down by the riverside

And study war no more.

Gonna talk with the Prince of Peace, down By the riverside,

Down by the riverside, down by the riverside.

Gonna talk with the Prince of Peace, down by the riverside

And study war no more. **Chorus x 2**

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

### **PRAYERS of INTERCESSION**

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

We pray for the church throughout the world. Form us into communities of forgiveness and grace. Help us to notice where you are calling us into new

relationships, and give us courage to embrace the uncomfortable and unfamiliar. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the earth and all its inhabitants. Protect lands at risk of wildfire and heal dying forests. Where fire brings destruction, raise up new growth. Guide us in tending precarious ecosystems. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for those who govern nations, tribes, and cities. Open them to the cries of people in need. Direct them in shaping policies that prioritize the health and well-being of all who struggle with hunger and housing insecurity. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all who are ill, all who are lonely or anxious, and all who grieve (*especially*). Draw them close to you and soothe them with the promise of your enduring love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for teachers, professors, librarians, school administrators, staff, and all who support the education of young people. Sustain them as they shape learning communities, rooted in equity and authenticity. We pray for children of all ages in their learning. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We remember our beloved dead (*especially*), who with the great cloud of witnesses bear witness to your saving grace. Accompany us in our pilgrimage of faith, that we too place our hope and trust in you. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

**PEACE** *Please be seated for the passing of the offering plate.*

**OFFERING** - *Please stand as the ushers bring the offering to the altar.*

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Blessed are you, O God,

**source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**



## **THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

**we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

**we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

**we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

**Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER – Lead by the Praise Team      By John Denver**

Our Father in heaven Holy be your name.

Your kingdom come your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread

And forgive us the wrong we have done

As we forgive those who wrong us.

And do not put us to the test, But deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory

Are yours now and forever, forever.

## **BLESSING**

The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed ✝ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

**Amen.**

## **CLOSING HYMN: “I Shall Walk In The Presence Of God”**

I shall walk in the presence of God, I shall walk  
With the sun and the rain upon me, I shall walk  
In the land of the living, living land, I shall walk  
With my sisters and brother around me, I shall walk

I shall sing in the presence of God, I shall sing  
With the sun and the rain upon me, I shall sing  
In the land of the living, living land, I shall sing  
With my sisters and brother around me, I shall sing

I shall breathe in the presence of God, I shall breathe  
With the sun and the rain upon me, I shall breathe  
In the land of the living, living land, I shall breathe  
With my sisters and brother around me, I shall breathe

I shall dance in the presence of God, I shall dance  
With the sun and the rain upon me, I shall dance  
In the land of the living, living land, I shall dance  
With my sisters and brother around me, I shall dance

I shall walk in the presence of God, I shall walk  
With the sun and the rain upon me, I shall walk  
In the land of the living, living land, I shall walk  
With my sisters and brother around me, I shall walk

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

## **THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK**

Music: Praise Team

Lector: Merrily Jones

Ushers: Barry & Donna Ansell

Greeters: Del & Dianne Jones

Hospitality: Janice & Wayne Olson, Penny Sjoquist, Winnie Zahradka

*Thank you for your service!*

Response to God's Word Last Week

Sunday, September 8, 2024: In Person: 9:00am   61   Online:   25  

### *Walking in the Word*

#### Election Season Resources



**As we near voting in the national election just two months away, *Walking in The Word* will focus on readings, prayers, and assembly songs that could be used in worship services, prayer vigils, printed in newsletters, and devotions either in the weeks preceding or following the election. We hope that these suggestions might deepen our understanding and relationships, even when significant differences of views and opinions exist. We call on our one God, the God of all people, to align our hearts with God's justice and to unite us all around the cross.**

**Bishop Amy Odgren**

View Walking in The Word on our website: <http://blcmalmo.org/WP2016/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/WalkinginWord-Election-Season-Resource-Sept-2024.pdf>

# PANCAKE BREAKFAST



There will be a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, September 22, following our regular worship service.

This will be a “Free Will Donation” event to raise money for the Village of Hope Zambia trip in January 2025.