

# Sunday September 8, 2024

## Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost



### **BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO**

21590 State Highway 47, Isle, MN 56342

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Church Web Site: [blcmalmo.org](http://blcmalmo.org)

## **Rev. Dan Holm**

(Hermantown, 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.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRAYER & CARE LIST:** Ron Aho

**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.

**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 gardens by the church for dinner (or indoors if too windy or cold). 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> or go to <https://app.autobooks.co/pay/bethesda-lutheran-church-of-malmo>. If you have sets of 2 different size wine glasses that the church could use for our Autumn Equinox party, it would be greatly appreciated

**CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S CLUB** meeting Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>, 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.

**SURVEY DISCUSSION TODAY** As part of the call process church members will be asked to complete 2 surveys at a coffee table discussion after church today. One of the surveys was included in the newsletter, and both were included in last week's bulletin. We are collecting information the Call Committee needs to complete the application for a new Pastor.

**OUTDOOR WORSHIP** is scheduled for next Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am. Dress for the weather and bring a lawn chair and enjoy the beauty of our gardens. No live stream. We will be inside if it rains.

**WELCA** is the women's ministry organization of the ELCA. If you are a woman sitting in the pew at Bethesda Lutheran, you are already a part of WELCA. You are a woman of the ELCA. You are welcome to everything that is happening in our activities, projects and meetings. Come join us. There is room at the table for you.

Women of the *ELCA Fall Gathering is October 5<sup>th</sup> at Lord of Life Church in Brainerd*. Registration starts at 8:30am

**MEET YOUR CALL COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS:** David Brown, Kat Carlson, Ron Haglund, Merrily Jones, Carolyn Morris, Carol Pantsari, Mark Vukelich.

**THIS WEEK AT Bethesda**

**September 9, 2024 – September 15, 2024**

Monday	9/9	9:00 am	Women's Devotion
		11:30 am	Cards
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	9/10	9:00 am	Chair Yoga
		9:00 am	Quilters
		4:00 pm	Bell Practice
		5:30 pm	Choir Practice
		6:30 pm	Praise Team Practice
Wednesday	9/11	9:00 am	Women's Bible Study
Thursday	9/12	8:00 am	Romeos
		9:15 am	Chair Yoga
Sunday	9/15	9:00 am	Worship in Person & Live Stream

**OPENING HYMN:**

**“Earth and All Stars”**  
*(Please rise on the last verse)*

**#731 ELW**



1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets!  
2 Trum - pet and pipes! Loud clash - ing cym - bals!  
3 En - gines and steel! Loud pound - ing ham - mers!  
4 Class - rooms and labs! Loud boil - ing test tubes!  
5 Knowl - edge and truth! Loud sound - ing wis - dom!



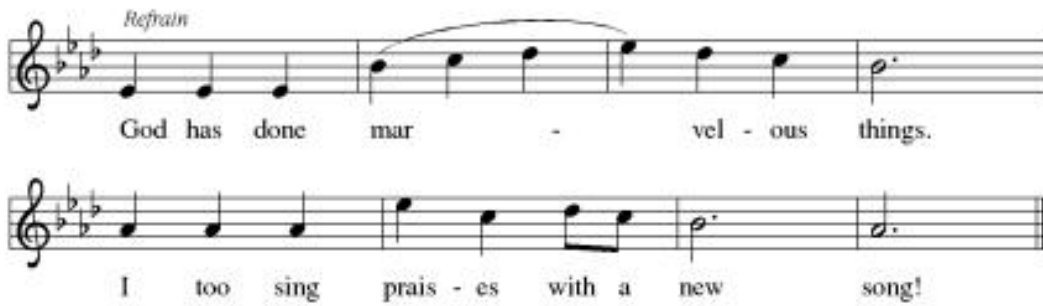
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!



Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blow - ing snow - storm!  
Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming cel - los!  
Lime - stone and beams! Loud build - ing work - ers!  
Ath - letes and band! Loud cheer - ing peo - ple!  
Daugh - ter and son! Loud pray - ing mem - bers!



Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
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## 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

Gracious God,

**throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.**

## **FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:4-7a**

<sup>4</sup>Say to those who are of a fearful heart, “Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.” <sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; <sup>6</sup>then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; <sup>7a</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

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

## **PSALM: Psalm 146**

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

<sup>2</sup> **I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

<sup>3</sup> Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is no help.

<sup>4</sup> **When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish.**

<sup>5</sup> Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the LORD their God;

<sup>6</sup> **who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;**

<sup>7</sup> who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The LORD sets the captive free.

<sup>8</sup> **The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**

<sup>9</sup> The LORD cares for the stranger; the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

<sup>10</sup> **The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

## **SECOND READING: James 2:1-17**

<sup>1</sup>My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? <sup>2</sup>For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes

in, <sup>3</sup>and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, “Have a seat here, please,” while to the one who is poor you say, “Stand there,” or, “Sit at my feet,” <sup>4</sup>have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup>Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? <sup>6</sup>But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? <sup>7</sup>Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

<sup>8</sup>You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>9</sup>But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. <sup>10</sup>For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. <sup>11</sup>For the one who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. <sup>12</sup>So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. <sup>13</sup>For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

<sup>14</sup>What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? <sup>15</sup>If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, <sup>16</sup>and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? <sup>17</sup>So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

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

### **GOSPEL: Mark 7:24-37**

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

<sup>24</sup>[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, <sup>25</sup>but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. <sup>26</sup>Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup>He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” <sup>28</sup>But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” <sup>29</sup>Then he said to her, “For

saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.”<sup>30</sup> So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

<sup>31</sup> Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup> They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup> He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup> Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” <sup>35</sup> And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup> Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup> They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

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

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY: “Spirit Open My Heart” #1043 ACS

*Refrain*

Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of  
 liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing  
 and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.

1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's  
 2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my  
 3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of

kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and  
 goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and  
 friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to

*Refrain*

fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.  
 deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.  
 day, love will be my fin - est la - bor.

## **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**

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.*

Awaken in our communities of faith a spirit of radical hospitality. Encourage our churches to celebrate and embrace people of diverse backgrounds, experiences, and abilities. Deepen our commitment to ecumenical and interreligious partnerships (*local partners may be named*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Bring forth water to nourish plants and animals in places suffering from drought. Renew our commitments to protect rivers, lakes, and streams, and make us good stewards of water in our homes and communities. Preserve wetland habitats and the creatures that make their homes there. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Inspire leaders of cities, nations, and tribes to lead with wisdom and humility. Bring peace among peoples in conflict (*especially*) and strengthen global commitments to nonviolent solutions. Guide all who seek refuge from war to a safe haven. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Comfort all who live with chronic illness. Surround them in your tender embrace and sustain all who provide ongoing care and support. Bring hope and healing to people struggling with addiction and nourish the spirits of all who are in recovery. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**



Nurture in all people the gift of your creating Spirit. Inspire artists and musicians, woodworkers and quilters, poets and dancers. Revive those whose artistic wells have run dry and enliven all who doubt their creative talents. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We give you thanks for all who have died and now find their rest in you. May their faithful witness guide us in our daily life with 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**

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, 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.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Jesus welcomes you to this table.

Come, here is your God

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Holy God,

**you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table.**

**Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## BLESSING

God all mighty, God most merciful ✠ bless you, keep you, and give you peace.  
**Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN: "Made for Love" Dakota Road (on screen)

We've been mold - ed by the Cre - a - tor's hand. Here in  
Je - sus we have grace to stand. Moving by the  
*Fine*  
Spir - it, we are made for love.  
Sun and star - light, spark - ling wa - ters, morn - ing  
In the wa - ter's ho - ly bless - ing, Spir - it  
Live out jus - tice, treas - ure kind - ness, jour - ney  
birds that ser - e - nade, in the i - mage of the  
com - ing like a dove, we're a wit - ness to the  
hum - bly ev - 'ry - day. We are called here in - to  
Mak - er we are won - der - ful - ly made.  
won - der; we are loved and so we love.  
ser - vice, a for - giv - ing,, lov - ing way.

## 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**

Greeters: Julie Swaggert & Dennis Hennessy

Ushers: Barry & Donna Ansell

Lector: Judy Seifert

Hospitality: Bob & Kat Carlson, Don & Donna Myhre

**Thank you for your service!**

Response to God's Word Last Week:

Sunday, September 1, 2024: In Person: 9:00am 47 Online: 22