

Sunday March 2, 2025

Transfiguration of Our Lord



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

21590 State Highway 47, Isle, MN 56342

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E-mail address: blcmalmo@gmail.com

Church Web Site: blcmalmo.org

Pastor Deb Hanson-Carlson

Cromwell, 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 & Jan Aho, George Larson, Teri Carlson, Noah Elias.

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 the Fellowship Hall next to the serving window.

LECTORS NEEDED we are looking for volunteers to read aloud the scriptures on Sunday mornings and Wednesdays during Lent. Sign-up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall and include the weekly readings.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA HEARTLAND CONFERENCE SPRING

GATHERING Saturday, April 5, 2025, Lutheran Church of the Cross 5064 County Road 13, Nisswa, MN. Registration and Coffee 8:30-9:00 (\$10 Registration). See WELCA bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for more information.

ANNUAL COMMUNITY CANTATA Rehearsals will start on Sunday, March 2·2:30 – 4:00pm at Faith Lutheran Church, 220 E Lake St, Isle, MN. All voices are welcome to join us. The performance will be on Good Friday, April 18th at 7:30pm, at Faith Lutheran Church in Isle.

BLESSING BOX The first Sunday of every month we pass the “Blessing Box”. If you feel blessed, please contribute to the Blessing Box today to help others. Today's donations will go to HOPE of Aitkin. Thank you! What a Blessing you are!

THANK YOU! The Isle Area Girl Scouts want to thank you for last Sunday’s cookie sales! 59 boxes were sold, and proceeds go towards a worthy cause.

LUTHERAN ADVOCACY-MN WEBINAR SERIES (Tuesdays, Feb. 25-Mar. 25) see below

Lutheran Advocacy - Minnesota presents

THE EVERFLOWING STREAM WEBINAR SERIES

7-8:30 PM CST via Zoom

In a time of great division and uncertainty, hope seems to be in short supply. Every day we see harm being done to our neighbors both here and abroad, our planet, and our trust in one another. Join Lutheran Advocacy-MN and our partners in our new webinar series to stay informed, rekindle hope, and take meaningful action toward a more just future.

February 25th - Minnesota's Session & LA-MN's Priorities
Electronic Waste Recycling, Affordable Housing, & Effective Advocacy

March 4th - Immigration
Executive Orders, Mass Deportations, & Refugee (De)Settlement

March 11th - Care of Creation
Climate, Clean Energy, & Cut Funding

March 18th - International Disruption
USAID, Poverty-Focused Assistance, & the Palestinian Crisis

March 25th - Poverty and Hunger
Housing, Nutrition Programs, Medicaid, & More Safety Net Cuts

WHAT TO EXPECT

Non-partisan presentations from trusted LA-MN/ELCA staff and partner organizations.

Review of the ELCA's theological stance.
(Why do Lutherans care about this topic?)

Q&A time with panelists

LET
JUSTICE
ROLL
DOWN



SCAN TO REGISTER

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda**March 3, 2025 – March 9, 2025**

Monday	3/3	11:30 am	Cards
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	3/4	9:00 am	Chair Yoga
Wednesday	3/5	9:00 am	Women's Bible Study
		Noon	Ash Wednesday worship (potluck after)
Thursday	3/6	8:00 am	ROMEOS
		9:15 am	Chair Yoga
Sunday	3/9	9:00 am	Worship in Person & live stream <i>(with communion)</i>

TEMPLE TALK – HOPE (*Healing Opportunity Provided Equally*) of Aitkin

OPENING HYMN: **“Shine, Jesus, Shine”** **#671 ELW**
(Please Stand on the last Verse)

Lord, the light of Your love is shining,
in the midst of darkness shining,
Jesus, Light of the world, shine up on us,
set us free by the truth You now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Chorus: Shine Jesus shine; fill this land with the Father's glory.
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth Your Word, Lord, and let there be light.

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness,
so our faces display Your likeness.
Ever changing from glory to glory,
mirrored here may our lives tell Your story.
Shine on me, shine on me. **Chorus:**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

Amen.

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection

Merciful God,

you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways.

Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In † Christ, you are forgiven.

In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, mighty and immortal,

you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE

FIRST READING: Exodus 34:29-35

²⁹ Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain

with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰ When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹ But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them.

³² Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³ When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; ³⁴ but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, ³⁵ the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

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

PSALM: Psalm 99

¹ The LORD is king; let the people tremble. The LORD is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

² **The LORD, great in Zion, is high above all peoples.**

³ Let them confess God's name, which is great and awesome; God is the Holy One.

⁴ **O mighty king, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.**

⁵ Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down before God's footstool; God is the Holy One.

⁶ **Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who call upon your name, O LORD, they called upon you, and you answered them,**

⁷ you spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; they kept your testimonies and the decree that you gave them.

⁸ **O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.**

⁹ Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and worship upon God's holy hill; for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2

¹² Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, ¹³ not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. ¹⁴ But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. ¹⁵ Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶ but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

^{4:1} Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ² We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

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

GOSPEL: Luke 9:28-36

Glory to you, O Lord

²⁸ Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹ And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰ Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹ They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³² Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³ Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. ³⁴ While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is

my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!”³⁶ When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

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

SERMON

SERMON HYMN: “Thy Strong Word ” #511 ELW



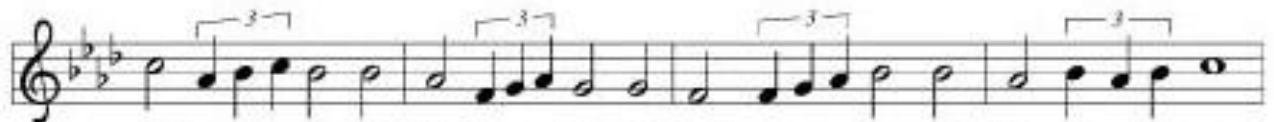
1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as
 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; bright with
 4 From the cross thy wis - dom shin - ing break - eth



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed light we
 night and deep as death, broke the light of thy sal -
 thine own ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward
 forth in con - qu'ring might; from the cross for - ev - er



thank thee, while thine or - dered sea - sons run,
 va - tion, breathed thine own life - breath - ing breath.
 glo - ry, and our lives our hopes con - fess.
 beam - eth all thy bright re - deem - ing light,



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

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

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Transfiguring God, through the glory of your presence, you transform us. Move the church from complacency to boldness in sharing the good news with others.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We pray for your creation. As seasons change, give patience and skill to all who tend to animals giving birth. Grant nourishing weather for the growing of crops.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We pray for all in leadership, especially for those who lead states, counties, and town councils (*local leaders may be named*). Give them wisdom to protect local resources so that all will flourish both now and in the years to come. God of

grace,

hear our prayer.

Bring your healing grace to those who feel distant from you. Speak comfort to those who need your words of mercy. We pray for those close to our

communities and in our hearts (*especially*). God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God of our past, present, and future, lead us into new beginnings, trusting in the promise of new life in Christ. Accompany congregations needing to close, and give courage to congregations starting new ministries (*new ministries may be*

named). God of grace,
hear our prayer.

*Here other intercessions may be offered by congregation
either aloud or in their hearts.*

Renewing God, the saints who have gone before us witnessed to the ways you transform your church and people (*especially John Wesley and Charles Wesley, renewers of the church*). We give thanks for their example and pray we carry it forward. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

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.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of grace,

your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourishing God,

at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink.

Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

BLESSING

The Spirit of the triune God ☩ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN:

“Born Reborn”

on screen

Born, Reborn, Born, Reborn Formed, Reformed
Souls with gladness Now adorned

Born, Reborn, Born, Reborn Formed, Reformed
Praise our God Forever, more

Drown Us - Raise Us - Mark Us - Claim Us

Name Us - Heal Us - Wash Us - Seal Us

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God.

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

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Ushers: Gary & Brenda Sjerven

Greeters: Mark & Mary Vukelich

Lector: Kat Carlson

Hospitality:

Thank you for your service!

Response to God’s Word Last Week

Sunday, February 26, 2025: In Person: 9:00am 55 Online: 12