

Sunday March 9, 2025

First Sunday in Lent



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

21590 State Highway 47, Isle, MN 56342

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Church Web Site: blcmalmo.org

Pastor 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.*

CALL TO WORSHIP: I Just Came to Praise the Lord

CCLI# 10525

I just came to praise the Lord.
I just came to praise the Lord.
I just came to praise His holy name.
I just came to praise the Lord.

I just came to thank the Lord,
I just came to thank the Lord,
I just came to thank His holy name,
I just came to thank the Lord.

I just came to love the Lord,
I just came to love the Lord.
I just came to love His holy name,
I just came to love the Lord.

He came into my life one very special day
He came into my heart, to show me a better way
He said He'd never depart; and this is why I sing

I just came to praise the Lord.
I just came to praise the Lord.
I just came to praise the Lord.
I just came to praise His holy name.
I just came to praise the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER & CARE LIST: Ron & Jan Aho, George Larson, Noah Elias.

COFFEE SERVERS NEEDED Please sign up so we may continue to enjoy coffee & fellowship after service. The sign up 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 on the table in the Narthex 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 have started on Sundays from 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.

CORRECTION TO APRIL'S NEWSLETTER Usher & Greeter List Correction:

USHERS

March 9 Barry/Donna Ansell
March 16 Barry/Donna Ansell
March 23 Dick Stebbins/Darrell Kelly
March 30 Sherry Whipple

GREETERS

March 9 Larry & Carol Pantsari
March 16 Gary & Brenda Sjerven
March 23 Carolyn Morris
March 30 Winnie Zahradka

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda

March 10, 2025 – March 16, 2025

Monday	3/10	9:00 am	Women's Devotion
		10:00 am	Property Meeting
		11:30 am	Cards
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	3/11	9:00 am	Chair Yoga
		9:00 am	Quilters
Wednesday	3/12	9:00 am	Women's Bible Study
		3:30 pm	Potluck
		4:30 pm	Lenten Worship
Thursday	3/13	8:00 am	ROMEOS
		9:15 am	Chair Yoga
		2:00 pm	Call Committee Meeting
Sunday	3/16	9:00 am	Worship in Person & live stream (with communion)

OPENING HYMN:

“Mighty to Save”

CCLI# 4591782

(Please Stand on the last Verse)

Everyone needs compassion, Love that's never failing
Let mercy fall on me.
Everyone needs forgiveness. The kindness of a Savior
The hope of nations

Chorus: Savior He can move the mountains
My God is mighty to save
He is mighty to save
Forever, author of salvation
He rose and conquered the grave, Jesus conquered the grave

So, take me as you find me, all my fears and failures
Fill my life again
I give my life to follow, Everything I believe in, Now I surrender **Chorus**

Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing for the glory of the risen King, Jesus
Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing for the glory of the risen King **Chorus**

Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing for the glory of the risen King, Jesus
Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing for the glory of the risen King

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.
Silence is kept for reflection

Compassionate One,
you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even

though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.

Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In ✠ Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God,

you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through 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: My God, My Savior

SCRIPTURE

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

¹ When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ² you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³ You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." ⁴ When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, ⁵ you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶ When the Egyptians treated us harshly

and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷ we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸ The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹ and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰ So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.” You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. ¹¹ Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

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

PSALM: Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

¹ You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty—

² **you will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my stronghold, my God in whom I put my trust.”**

⁹ Because you have made the Lord your refuge, and the Most High your habitation,

¹⁰ **no evil will befall you, nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**

¹¹ For God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways.

¹² **Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.**

¹³ You will tread upon the lion cub and viper; you will trample down the lion and the serpent.

¹⁴ **I will deliver those who cling to me; I will uphold them, because they know my name.**

¹⁵ They will call me, and I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.

¹⁶ **With long life will I satisfy them, and show them my salvation.**

SECOND READING: Romans 10:8b-13

^{8b} “The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹ because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹ The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

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

GOSPEL: Luke 4:1-13

Glory to you, O Lord

¹ Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished.

³ The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” ⁴ Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

⁵ Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” ⁸ Jesus answered him, “It is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.’”

⁹ Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’

¹¹ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

¹² Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

¹³ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

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

SERMON

SERMON HYMN: “Jesus Take All of Me (Just As I Am)” CCLI# 6366049

Just as I am without one plea, But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that Thou bidd’st me come to Thee
O Lamb of God I come I come

Just as I am though toss’d about, With all my conflict all my doubt,
Fighting and fears within without
O Lamb of God I come I come

Chorus: Jesus take all of me, I run to You I run to You,
I lay ev’rything at Your feet, let my life be Yours

Just as I am Thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome pardon cleanse relieve,
Because Thy promises I believe
O Lamb of God I come I come **Chorus**

Just as I am Thy love unknown, Has broken ev’ry barrier down,
Now to be Thine yes Thine alone,
O Lamb of God I come I come **Chorus**

Jesus take all of me, I run to You I run to You,
I lay ev’rything at Your feet, Let my life be Yours
Let my life be Yours, Let my life be Yours

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

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, speak your word anew among your church. Strengthen it to withstand the temptation to turn inward in fear or complacency. Embolden church institutions to turn from self-preservation toward the self-giving love of Jesus. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Mothering God, speak the word of life into wilderness places and fertile fields. Grant wisdom to your people, that we may quell the urge to strip lands of their resources and instead preserve first fruits for future generations. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Almighty God, speak a word of wisdom to people in positions of power: mayors, councils, and tribal leaders, legislators, judges and juries, presidents, and monarchs. Help them discern your voice and follow your guidance, resisting the temptations of the evil one. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Steadfast God, speak words of courage to your people in the wilderness. Protect migrants and refugees on perilous journeys, that they find safe refuge and a portion in the bounty you have given humanity to share. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Loving God, speak gently to all who are alone. Bless lay ministers, home communion teams, and others who attend to those who are overlooked, vulnerable, or lonely, that all find belonging in your love. We pray for all who are ill (*especially*). God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

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

Living God, we give thanks for all the faithful who have crossed the threshold from death to life (*especially*). Guide us who are living to learn from their wisdom and follow their example. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

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

Gracious Provider,

you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world.

As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER – Lead by The Praise Team

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All who are hungry, come!
The feast of grace is spread.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous Host,
you have shared your feast with us and made us new.
Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,
that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,
in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit,
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: “All the People Said Amen” CCLI# 6518275

You are not alone if you are lonely.
When you're feeling frail, you're not the only
We are all the same in need of mercy
To be forgiven and be free
It's all you got to lean on
But thank God, it's all you need

Chorus: And all the people said Amen, Whoa, oh
And all the people said Amen
Give thanks to the Lord, for his love never ends
And all the people said Amen

If you're rich or poor well it don't matter
Weak or strong, we know love is what we're after
We're all broken but we're all in this together
God knows we stumble and fall
And he so loved the world he sent his son to save us all **Chorus**

Blessed are the poor spirits who are torn apart
Blessed are the prosecuted and the pure in heart
Blessed are the people lonely for another start
For this is a kingdom The kingdom of God **Chorus** (Repeat Chorus)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

Thanks be to God.

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

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Music: The Praise Team

Ushers: Barry & Donna Ansell

Greeters: Larry & Carol Pantsari

Lector: Merrily Jones

Hospitality:

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Sunday, March 2, 2025: In Person: 9:00am 64 Online: 18

Wednesday, March 5, 2025: In Person: Noon 18 Online: 8