
BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

21590 State Highway 47, Isle, MN 56342

October 19th, 2025

9:00 a.m.

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Presiding Minister-Dan Holm

Hermantown, MN

Bethesda Lutheran Church

<http://www.blcmalmo.org>

Office: 320-684-2123 (1-877-684-2123) Fax: 320-684-2836

E-mail address: blcmalmo@gmail.com

A member congregation of the NE MN Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Ministers: All People of Bethesda Lutheran Church

Pastoral Ministries: Reverend Christina Kadelbach

blc.reverend@gmail.com 218.213.6731

Church Secretary: Mary Braun

Parish Nurses: Darlene Christensen, RN Kathy Berland RN ANP

Prayer Chain Contacts: Char Berg 320-684-2102 or

Darlene Christensen 320-279-0097

Custodial and Maintenance: Gary Sjerven

Music Specialist & Sound Technician: Jim Christensen

Choir Director: Teri Carlson **Hand Bell Choir Director:** Donna Myhre

October Altar Care: Elsa Carlson and Barb Forrester

MISSION STATEMENT

We will LIVE and SERVE through FAITH

we will ACT with LOVE and KINDNESS

we will GIVE hope and SUPPORT to all.

✠ GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE ✠

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP: “Jesus Loves Me/Alleluia”

Jesus loves me this I know
For the Bible tells me so
Little ones to Him belong
They are weak, but He is strong!

Chorus: Alleluia Al-le-lu
Allelu-ia Alleluia,
Allelu-ia Al-le-lu Alleluia Al-le-lu Alleluia

Jesus loves me this I know
As He loved so long ago
Taking children on His knee
Saying, “Let them come to me” **Chorus**

Jesus loves me still today
Walking with me on my way
Wanting as a friend to give
Light and love to all who live. **Chorus**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER & CARE LIST Teri Carlson, Noah Elias, LuAnn Gordon, Brenda Sjerven, Judy Stahl, Sherry Whipple

As a community of faith, we are committed to holding one another in prayer and care. We invite you to pray for those listed here and offer support as you are able. To request prayers for yourself or someone else (with their permission) please contact the church office.

COFFEE SERVERS NEEDED Sharing coffee and treats after worship is one of the ways we care for one another and build community. You’re invited to sign up to serve by writing your name on the sheet on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall by the serving window. Not able to serve? Consider bringing treats to stock the freezer. Every contribution helps provide a warm and welcoming space for connection.

LECTORS NEEDED Do you enjoy reading scripture? We’re looking for lectors for November! Sign-up sheets are located on the table in the Narthex and include the weekly readings. Your voice helps bring the Word to life in worship, thank you for considering!

BUDGET REQUEST FORMS are in committee chairperson’s “In Boxes” to be completed by November 2, 2025, and returned to the “Stewardship In Box” in the office. All chairpersons have been emailed also.

HOLIDAY BAZAAR Saturday, October 25th from 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Join us for Bethesda's annual Holiday Bazaar, featuring baked goods, crafts, lefse, and our famous Cookie Walk!

Here's how you can help with the bazaar:

Cookie Walk: Each family is asked to donate 6 dozen holiday cookies. Thank you for helping fill our tables with sweetness!

Lefse Making: We'll be rolling and grilling lefse on Monday, Oct. 20 and Tuesday, Oct. 21 starting at 8:00 a.m. Please sign up to help. Dough will be provided.

Bake Sale: We welcome donations of candies, breads, pies, and all your delicious holiday treats!

Caramel Wrapping: Will take place Tuesday, Oct. 21 following lefse making.

Crafts: Handmade items are always a highlight! Donations may be dropped off anytime so they can be priced before the sale.

Bazaar Set-Up: Thursday, Oct. 23 at 3:30 p.m. Table setup and

Friday, Oct. 24 at 8:30 a.m. Set up Craft, Cookie Walk, Quilt, and Bake Sale areas.

Come lend a hand, bake, craft, or simply join us for the fun on October 25!

BETHESDA BAZAAR BUCKS are a fun and meaningful way to support local charities through our upcoming Holiday Bazaar!

Here's how they work:

- Purchase Bazaar Bucks in \$5, \$10, or \$20 denominations.
- Spend them at the Holiday Bazaar, where all proceeds support local charitable causes.
- Buy them in the church office or during Sunday Fellowship.
- Give them as gifts or use them to invite friends and neighbors to join the fun and support the community!

It's an easy way to spread holiday cheer while giving back to those in need.

Bonus! Each Sunday before the Bazaar, we'll hold a \$20 Bazaar Buck Giveaway during Fellowship. Be sure to sign up for your chance to win!

READING THE BIBLE Have you ever closed your Bible and wondered, "*What did I just read?*" You're not alone. Join Pastor Christina, Mary V. and others from Bethesda for a gentle, engaging journey through the New Testament. No pressure, no tests just curiosity, conversation, and grace as we explore the story of God's love together. Whether you've read the Bible cover to cover or are opening it for the first time in years, there's a place for you here.

Want to learn more or join in? Email BLCBibleRead@gmail.com

ZOOM MEETING LINK Topic: New Testament Bible Recap Virtual Meeting
 Time: Oct 20, 2025 07:00 PM CST (US and Canada) Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/2710501019?pwd=bQbl1lGJ3kus59XYNQEFT55LQKjNjA.1&omn=83138285245> Meeting ID: 271 050 1019 Passcode: 366055

PATHFINDERS Love the outdoors? Join the Bethesda Pathfinders, a faith-based hiking group that grows together in spirit and strength. We explore local trails, share friendship and faith, and enjoy the beauty of God’s creation. All are welcome, whether you’re an experienced hiker or simply love a good walk in nature. To join or learn more, scan the QR code on the narthex flyer or connect with Judie B. or Pastor for further details.

LUTEFISK DINNER at Trinity Lutheran Church in Milaca on Saturday, Oct. 25th from 3:00-6:00pm. See the poster in the Narthex for more information.

PARKING NOTICE To those using our lot as a carpool meet-up spot: please park along the outer edge near the pollinator sanctuary. This helps keep the lot clear in case emergency access is needed for a medical helicopter landing.

NAME TAGS HELP US CONNECT Wearing a name tag is a simple and meaningful way to help us learn each other’s names and grow in community. Please remember to wear your reusable name tag each Sunday. Guest name tags are available near the guest book by the main entrance doors.

PASTORAL CARE We care about you! If you are hospitalized, going through a difficult time, or in need of support, please don’t hesitate to reach out. Contact Pastor Christina or one of our parish nurses, Darlene or Kathy- we’re here for you.

WELCOME GIFTS As a small gesture of hospitality, we offer a Bethesda mug to guests who join us for worship. If you're visiting today, we’re glad you’re here please take one as our gift to you!

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda			October 20, 2025 – October 26, 2025
Monday	10/20	8:00 am	Lefse Making
		10:00 am	Council Meeting
		11:30 am	Cards
		7:00 pm	New Testament Recap Zoom Meeting
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	10/21	8:00 am	Lefse Making (Carmel Wrapping after Lefse)
Wednesday	10/22	9:00 am	Women’s Bible Study
Thursday	10/23	8:00 am	ROMEOS

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful and loving God,

we are your stiff-necked people.

We trample on the needy.

We grumble about your grace to others.

We turn away from the poor.

Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.

**Rejoice over us as ones who were lost
and have been found.**

Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.

Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.

You who were lost have been found.

In the name of † Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

Amen.

GREETING

The immeasurable grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the rich mercy and love of
God, and the unity of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God,

tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries.

Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your

enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAISE TEAM ANTHEM: “Living Water”

SCRIPTURES

SCRIPTURE READING:

Genesis 32:22-31

Returning to the home he had fled many years before after stealing his brother’s birthright and his father’s blessing, Jacob wrestles all night long with a divine adversary who ultimately blesses him and changes his name to “Israel,” a name that means “he wrestles with God.”

²² The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴ Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob’s hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, “Let me go, for the day is breaking.” But Jacob said, “I will not let you go, unless you bless me.” ²⁷ So he said to him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Jacob.” ²⁸ Then the man said, “You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed.” ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, “Please tell me your name.” But he said, “Why is it that you ask my name?” And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, “For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved.” ³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

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

PSALM: 121

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

² **My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.**

³ The LORD will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

⁴ **Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;**
⁵ the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;
⁶ **the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**
⁷ The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.
⁸ **The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.**

SCRIPTURE READING

2 Timothy 3:14—4:5

The writer of this letter continues his instruction of Timothy, his younger colleague in ministry, by emphasizing the importance of faithful teaching despite opposition.

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have known sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the person of God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

^{4:1} In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you:
² proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵ As for you, be sober in everything, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

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

GOSPEL

Luke 18:1-8

This is the story of God's unconditional love flowing down.

Glory to you, O Lord

Jesus tells a parable of an unjust judge who is worn down by a widow's pleas. Jesus is calling God's people to cry out for justice and deliverance. For if an unethical judge will ultimately grant the plea of a persistent widow, how much more will God respond to those

who call.

¹ Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ² He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³ In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my accuser.’ ⁴ For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’ ” ⁶ And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸ I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

This is the story of grace upon grace that covers us. ~ **Praise to you, O Christ**

SERMON

SERMON HYMN:

“I’m Going on a Journey”

ELW #446

YouTube Video – Mary Munson

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "I'm Going on a Journey". It consists of six staves of music in a single system, written in a treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The tempo is marked as quarter note = 120. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first line of music is for the first verse, and the second line is for the second verse. The lyrics are: "1 I'm go-ing on a jour-ney, and I'm start-ing to-day. My head is wet, and I'm on my way. Christ's mark is on me; it's on you, too; it says he loves me, and he loves you, too! 2 I'm be-com-ing this day a saint of God. It real-ly does-n't mat-ter what roads I trod, Wher-ev-er I go, God's been there, too. God's love has touched me and will car-ry me through."

3 There are oth-er saints who have said a-men. They'll
 keep me faith-ful to my jour-ney's end. A - long the way
 I want to be the kind of per-son that God set free.

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

Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church universal. O God, who unites the church across the globe, bring unity and peace to a world divided by hatred and opposition. Turn our hearts toward the gospel of Jesus Christ. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We pray for creation. O God, who made heaven and earth, draw us to the beauty of the whole creation. Turn us toward a right relationship with the entire cosmos. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We pray for all nations, states, cities, and towns. O God, you rule over all the earth. Grant our elected officials (*names of officials*) humility in their decision-making for the sake of the entire world. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We pray for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. O God, who heals and strengthens, our help comes from you in times of need. Support, comfort, and heal those who suffer (*especially*). God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We pray for (*name of congregation*). O God, who guides this congregation, encourage us to share the good news of Jesus Christ. Nurture our relationships with the community, that we serve and advocate for those who come to us in need. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We offer thanksgiving for the faithful departed. O God, whose promises never end, we thank you for all the saints who have shown us the way of your Son, Jesus Christ (*especially*). God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

May Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, fill you with love, mend you with mercy, and grant you peace.

And also with you.

We are changed by Christ's peace and now we have the holy opportunity to extend that peace to others. Share a sign of Christ's peace with others.

The gathering is seated.

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

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Lord of the harvest,

we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER – Lead by The Praise Team

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.

Come to this meal of mercy.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God,

through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

BLESSING

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ✝ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: “Lead on, Good Shepherd”

CCLI# 7209206

YouTube Video - Patrick Mayberry

Well I've been turned 'round, but I've never been lost
Seen the water get troubled, but we walked across
When my knees were shaking, You held my hand
Turning my problems, to a promised land

Lead on, Good Shepherd, I'll follow all my days
There ain't nothing sweeter than to watch You make a way
You've walked me through the valley, but You never steered me wrong
So lead on Good Shepherd, lead on

Seen some mighty deep canyons that You brought me through
Seen some mighty big mountains, that just up and moved
Glory, glory hallelujah, yeah, that's my song
Walking with my Father into the great unknown

Lead on, Good Shepherd, I'll follow all my days
There ain't nothing sweeter than to watch You make a way
You've walked me through the valley, but You never steered me wrong
So lead on Good Shepherd, lead on

Step by step, day by day, lead me on, Lord I pray
Road gets dark, walk by faith, lead on Good Shepherd Repeat

Lead on, Good Shepherd, I'll follow all my days
There ain't nothing sweeter than to watch You make a way
You've walked me through the valley, but You never steered me wrong
So lead on Good Shepherd, lead on

Step by step, day by day, lead me on, Lord I pray
Road gets dark, walk by faith, lead on Good Shepherd Repeat

Lead on, Good Shepherd
Lead on

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

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: Gary & Brenda Sjerven

Greeters: Mary Braun & Winnie Zahradka

Lector: Dennis Hennessy

Hospitality: Barb & Lee Forrester

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Sunday, October 12, 2025: In Person: 9:00am 73 Online: 12

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