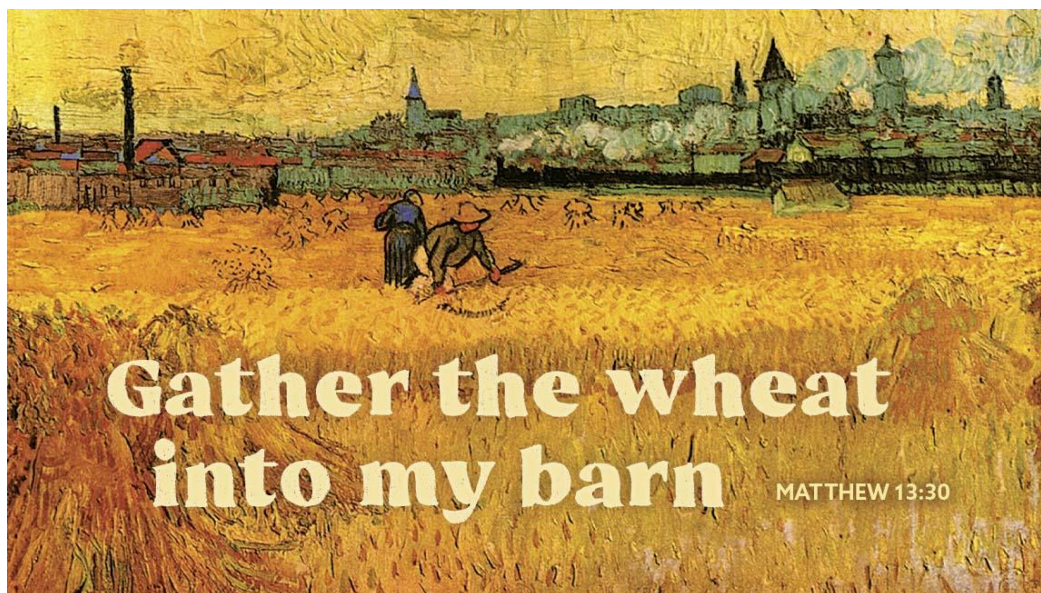

Bethesda Lutheran Church

21590 Hwy 47, Isle, Minnesota 56342

July 19th, 2026

9:00 am

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost



We are a community of faith centered in Christ and rooted in God's grace. Through worship, learning, fellowship, and service, we encourage one another in faith and seek to share God's love with our neighbors, our community, and the world.

*We're glad you're here. We are a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and celebrate the work we're able to do together.
(to learn more about the ELCA visit www.elca.org).*

Those joining worship online, whether live or later in the week, are invited to prepare their worship space by creating a home altar. You might include meaningful linens, candles, a cross, enough bread or crackers and wine or juice for everyone at your table, and anything that helps you engage more fully in worship. This altar becomes a gathering place for prayers, songs, communion, and a shared sense of God's presence in your home.

✠ **GATHERING** ✠

~ The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God. ~

~ The gathering responds together with texts in bold print ~

Good morning and welcome to worship. It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

WELCOME

LIFE TOGETHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

A full list of announcements is near the end of the bulletin.



1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things
 2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our
 3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's
 4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the
 neigh-bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work
 guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -
 fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will



or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.
 with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.
 joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.
 hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.
 Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune
 Text © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism,
 as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God, **we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy,
 and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you.**

**Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace.
 In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens,
 and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
 your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

GREETING

The immeasurable grace upon grace of Christ Jesus,
 the rich mercy and unconditional love of God,
 and the unity of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Faithful God, most merciful judge, **you care for your children with firmness and
 compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be
 rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

CHOIR ANTHEM

Words and Music by Naida Hearn Choral Arrangement by John F. Wilson © 1974 Scripture In Song (a div. of Integrity Music, Inc.) / ASCAP All rights reserved. International copyright secured. Used by permission c/o Integrity Music, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695 Sole selling Agent of this 2001 Arrangement: Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188

"Jesus, Name Above All Names"

✠ WORD ✠

~ God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song. ~

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 44:6-8

There are no other gods besides God: the word of the Lord does not fail to come to pass. We can trust in God, through whom Israel—and we—are redeemed.

A reading from Isaiah:

⁶ Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:

I am the first, and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.

⁷ Who is like me? Let them proclaim it;
let them declare and set it forth before me.

Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.

⁸ Do not fear or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!

Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM

Psalms 86:11-17

¹¹ Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

¹² **I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart,
and glorify your name forevermore.**

¹³ For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the pit of death.

¹⁴ **The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people
seeks my life; they have not set you before their eyes.**

¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

¹⁶ **Turn to me and have mercy on me;
give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.**

¹⁷ Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and
be put to shame; because you, Lord, have helped me and comforted me.

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 8:12- 25

For Paul, true spirituality means that we experience the reality of the Spirit, which enables us to pray as God's children, keeps us in solidarity with creation, and gives us unseen hope that God will liberate us and creation from bondage to death and decay.

A reading from Romans:

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God!**

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Jesus tells a parable about the coexistence of good and evil in this world. God's judgment will remove all evildoers and causes of sin, but not until the end of human history.

The gospel is announced: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

This is the story of grace flowing down. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁴[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' "

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

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

SERMON

Reverend Christina K.



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh-bor, God's will is done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow-ing, reap-ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep-ing,
 In our world-wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair-ing,
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con-found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe-keep-ing, thanks be to God.
 in the har - vests we are shar-ing, God's will is done.
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: AR HYDY NOS, Welsh traditional

Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

APOSTLES' CREED

With the church across time and space,
 let us confess our faith in Triune God who calls, equips, and sends us.

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 THE PEOPLE

*The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion,
 reflecting the wideness of God's mercy for the whole world.*

*Each petition of the prayers ends with these words: God of grace, **hear our prayer.**
 Response to the conclusion of the prayers of intercession: **Amen.***

PEACE

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

✠ MEAL ✠

~ God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ. ~

OFFERING

*In this season after Pentecost, we offer our gifts in response to God's grace.
Our time, talents, and resources support the ministry we share and help us care for our
neighbors in Christ's name. Thank you for your faithful generosity.
The offering is gathered and the table is set.*

Ways to Give:

- Give electronically through Vanco Services.
- Use the giving app by scanning the QR code.
- Recurring or one-time online options <https://app.autobooks.co/pay/bethesda-lutheran-church-of-malmo>



The gathering stands and sings ELW 465 as the gifts are brought forward.

As the Grains of Wheat

Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.
1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with - in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when
may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Refrain

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen
Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, www.giamusic.com, 800.442.3358.
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OFFERING PRAYER

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The presiding minister continues with the words of institution.

*The gathering responds: **Amen.***

THE LORD'S PRAYER

With hope, we join our voices with the voices of countless generations, languages, and communities, as we pray the words Jesus taught us, saying:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Holy Communion is a gift of grace, where we receive the presence of Jesus in bread and wine and are reminded that we are deeply loved. All who hunger for mercy and hope are welcome at this feast. Jesus is the host, and the invitation is wide. Even across time and space, God is present in these gifts, and we, the community, are present to one another.

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

COMMUNION MUSIC

"In the Fields of the Lord"

<https://theportersgate.bandcamp.com/track/in-the-fields-of-the-lord-feat-audrey-assad> [Live] · Paul Zach · The Porter's Gate · Audrey Assad Work Songs: The Porter's Gate Worship Project, Vol. 1 © 2017 The Porter's Gate/The Fuel Music

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

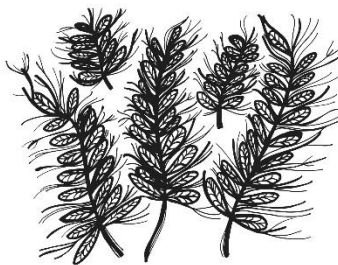
Compassionate God, **through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.**

✠ **SENDING** ✠

~ God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world. ~

BLESSING

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ✠ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always. **Amen.**





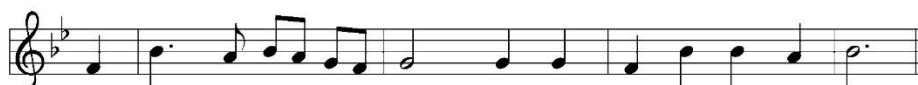
1 Sing to the Lord of har - vest your songs of love and praise;
 2 God makes the clouds drop fat - ness, the des - erts bloom and spring,
 3 Bring to this sa - cred al - tar the gifts his good-ness gave,



with joy - ful hearts and voic - es your al - le - lu - ias raise;
 the hills leap up in glad - ness, the val - leys laugh and sing.
 the gold - en sheaves of har - vest, the souls Christ died to save.



by him the roll - ing sea - sons in fruit - ful or - der move;
 God fills them with his full - ness, all things with large in - crease,
 Your hearts lay down be - fore him when at his feet you fall,



sing to the Lord of har - vest a joy - ous song of love.
 and crowns the year with good - ness, with plen - ty and with peace.
 and with your lives a - dore him who gave his life for all.

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.

Music: WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN, Johann Steurlein, 1546–1613

Musician: Tim McNabb Accompaniment Style: Soul <https://youtu.be/pBj300Tu0FM?si=ka5RHkUH1ITxcBLT>

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**

We give thanks for worshiping together today.

Wherever you are on your journey of faith, know that you are warmly welcomed here.

Return again to join us in service, prayer, and fellowship throughout the week.

Acknowledgments: Texts and hymns from sundaysandseasons.com copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License # SAS028183. New Revised Standard Version updated edition Bible Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. Cover Image Arles View from the Wheat Field (1888) by Vincent van Gogh. Photo by eburodunum. WikiArt. Public domain. Additional Liturgical texts adapted for Bethesda Lutheran by Reverend Christina Kadelbach.

LIFE TOGETHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Life together announcements reflect the shared life of our congregation by highlighting upcoming events, service opportunities, and ways we continue to grow in faith together. We invite you to read through what's ahead and participate as you are able. Your presence matters.

PRAYER & CARE Jim C.; Sherry W.; The family and friends of Pauline Gustafson (Pastor Terry Frovik's spouse) as they grieve her death.

As a community of faith, we are committed to holding one another in prayer & 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.

WELCOME Friends in Christ, we're glad you're here. Your presence is a gift to this community. If you would like us to be in touch or want to learn more about Bethesda, you're welcome to share your name in the friendship/welcome notebook.

CHILDREN WELCOME Children are a gift we celebrate and are welcome at Holy Communion. We trust that worship belongs to people of all ages. A quieter, unstaffed nursery is available through the double doors to the left when exiting the sanctuary. Children's bulletins and activity bags are available in the narthex.

WELCOME NOTEBOOK Please take a moment to sign the friendship notebook in the black folder at the end of your pew. Passing it along is a simple act of hospitality that helps us learn one another's names and extend the warmth of Christ's welcome to all.

NAME TAGS Help your neighbors, and your pastor, remember your name! Name tags make it easier to connect and grow together in community. Sticker name tags are available near the guest book at the main entrance.

FELLOWSHIP TIME All are invited to gather in the fellowship hall following worship for coffee, treats, and conversation. This is a wonderful opportunity to spend time together as a community of faith.

PASTORAL CARE Caring for one another is part of who we are. If you are hospitalized or going through a difficult time, please let Pastor Christina or our parish nurses know. We would be honored to support you.

COFFEE HOSPITALITY Coffee and conversation are part of how we care for one another. If you'd like to help serve coffee or share a treat, your presence makes a difference. Sign-up information is available, and contributions for the freezer are always welcome.

WORSHIP AT BETHESDA Join us for worship every Sunday at 9:00 am. Holy Communion is celebrated most Sundays.

FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP Flowers help to bring beauty and life into our shared worship space. If you would like to provide fresh flowers in celebration, in memory, or in honor of someone or something, please let the office know in advance or simply let us know the day of worship so we can share your dedication.

NEW MEMBERS Are you thinking about making Bethesda Lutheran Church your church home? We'd love to welcome you to our community! If you're interested in becoming a member or simply learning more, please contact Pastor Christina or the church office.

CRAFTERS Projects are simple and fun: painting base coats on wood items, beading, cutting, and more. Every little bit helps! Watch the bulletin for updates. Future Crafter Dates: July 27, Aug. 17, Sept. 21 & 28, Oct. 19th. Oct. 31 — Holiday Bazaar

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

LET'S GO FISHING Let's Go Fishing provides free fishing and nature excursions for older adults, veterans, and people of all abilities. These outings offer an opportunity to enjoy the beauty of the outdoors, fellowship with others, and a relaxing time on the water. Sign-up sheets are located on the table in the Narthex.

July Fishing Trip on Bay Lake: July, 21st at 10 a.m.

August Trips on Rice Lake: 12th at 1 p.m. -Fishing Trip | 19th at 4 p.m. -Nature Tour
Come enjoy a peaceful day on the water!

VEGGIE STAND is open on Saturdays from 7:30 AM –11:00 AM. Stop by for garden produce, baked goods, homemade jelly, and more. Proceeds support local needs. Pull up a chair, grab a coffee, and enjoy good company. We've got the chairs and coffee- just come! Gardeners and Bakers, we welcome your donations!

VINTAGE MARKET New this year! Our Holiday Bazaar will feature a Vintage Market, and we're collecting donated vintage items. "Vintage" means prior to 1970, think jewelry, art glass, vinyl records, old books, Pyrex, ashtrays, embroidered linens, advertising pieces, costume brooches, cuff bracelets, toys, and more. Contact Judie B.

BLUE JEAN REVIVAL DAY Friday, August 7th, 5:00–7:00 p.m. Cost: \$10. Give your old denim new life at this fun, creative two-hour crafting event. Bring old jeans, jackets, or other denim items, along with any special fabric you would like to use for lining a bag or purse. You are also welcome to bring buttons, lace, patches, trim, or other embellishments to personalize your project. Light refreshments and appetizers will be served.

ALUMINUM CANS As part of our shared care for creation and support for ministry, Bethesda collects aluminum cans. Please place cans in a plastic bag before dropping them off in the fenced-in area behind the shed next to the garages on the south side. Proceeds support local benevolence and help us care for neighbors in need. Thank you for helping us serve faithfully together.

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT LOAN CLOSET Bethesda has a Medical Equipment Loan Closet with walkers, wheelchairs, shower chairs, canes, crutches, and other mobility aids available to borrow at no cost. If you are in need or have clean, gently used equipment to donate, please contact the church office.

NATURE TRAIL You are invited to slow down, breathe deeply, and enjoy the beauty of God's creation on Bethesda's Nature Trail. Whether you come for a quiet walk, a moment of prayer, or simply time outdoors, the trail offers a peaceful place to rest, reflect, and reconnect with God and creation.

SAVE THE DATE Corn feed 8/22 | Outdoor Worship 8/30 | Holiday Bazaar 10/31

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD Sunday, July 12th, 2026 In-Person 90 | Online 26

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA

Sunday, July 19th | 8th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion

10:00 am Time of fellowship

Monday, July 20th

Bethesda Life-Line Newsletter Deadline

9:00 am Stewardship Team

10:00 am Council

11:30 am Pinochle

7:00 pm AA/Alanon

Tuesday, July 21st

9:00 am Chair Yoga

10:00 am Let's Go Fishing trip – Bay Lake

3:00 pm Choir Practice

4:00 pm Bell Choir Practice

Wednesday, July 22nd

9:00 am Women's Bible Study

Thursday, July 23rd

8:00 am ROMEOS (Men's Bible Study)

9:15 am Chair Yoga

Saturday, July 25th

7:30 am – 11:00 am Veggie Stand

Sunday, July 26th | 9th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion

10:00 am Time of fellowship

Bethesda Lutheran Church 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 K.

blc.reverend@gmail.com 320-684-2123

Church Secretary: Mary B.

Custodian: Ari D.

Digital Music & Sound System Coordinator: Jim C.

Parish Nurses: Darlene C., RN, Kathy B. RN ANP

Prayer Chain Contacts: Char B. or Darlene C.

Praise Team: Darlene & Jim C., Sherry W., Sheila P.

Choir Director: Sheila P.

Hand Bell Choir Director: Donna M.

July Altar Care: Sylvia T., Dianne J.

Communion Assistants: DeeAnn R., Les R., Dianne J.

Ushers: Winnie Z.; Larry, Carol P.

Greeters: Barb & Lee

Lector: Merrily J.

Hospitality: Ron, Jan, Barb, Lee, Mary B. serving

Serving on July 26th, 2026

Communion Assistants: Karen C., Kat C., Jeannine B.

Ushers: Libby & David B.

Greeters: Karen & Richard C.

Lector: Jeannine B.

Hospitality:

