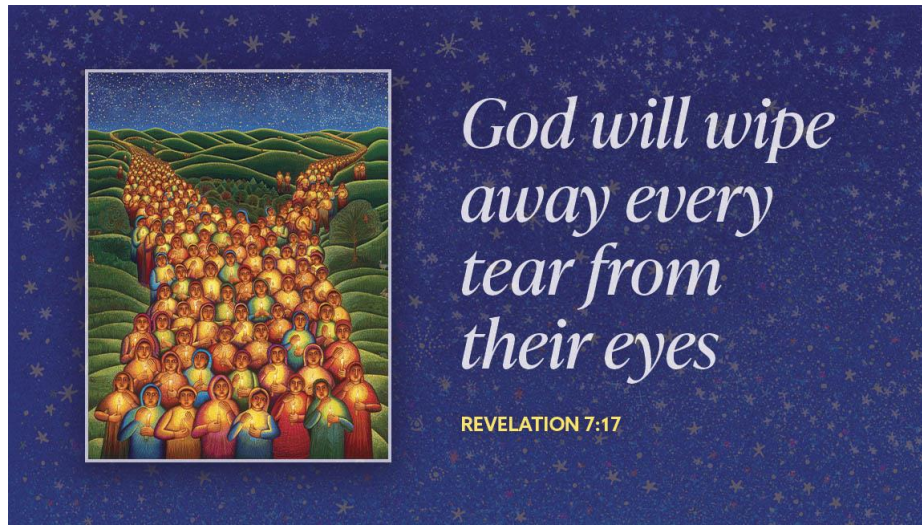

Bethesda Lutheran Church

21590 Hwy 47, Isle, Minnesota 56342

November 1st, 2026

9:00 am



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. All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

WELCOME

LIFE TOGETHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

BLESSING BOX | ISLE FOOD SHELF THANKSGIVING MEALS

Today's blessing box gifts support the Isle Food Shelf's Thanksgiving in a Bag program, helping our neighbors enjoy a Thanksgiving meal. As the blessing box is passed, we join together in song.



1 For all the saints who from their la - bors rest, who
 2 Thou wast their rock, their for - tress, and their might; thou,
Stanzas 3-5 below.
 6 But then there breaks a yet more glo - rious day: the
 7 From earth's wide bounds, from o - cean's far - thest coast, through



thee by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, thy
 Lord, their cap - tain in the well - fought fight; . .
 saints tri - um - phant rise in bright ar - ray; the
 gates of pearl streams in the count - less host, . .



name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.
 thou, in the dark - ness drear, their one true light.
 King of glo - ry pass - es on his way.
 sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost:



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



3 Oh, blest com - mu - nion, fel - low - ship di - vine, we fec - bly strug - gle,
 4 And when the strife is fierce, the war - fare long, steals on the ear the
 5 The gold - en eve - ning bright - ens in the west; soon, soon to faith - ful



they in glo - ry shine; yet all are one in thee, for all are
 dis - tant tri - umph song, and hearts are brave a - gain and arms are
 ser - vants com - eth rest; . . . sweet is the calm of par - a - dise the



thine. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 strong.
 blest.

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897
 Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958
 Music from *The English Hymnal* outside the USA © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

PRAYER

Gracious God, **all good gifts come from you. Bless these offerings, that our neighbors may be nourished and know your loving care. Open our hearts to share your abundance, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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.**

READING

"For Those Who Walked with Us"
 By Jan L. Richardson

LITANY OF THE SAINTS

The presiding minister begins the Litany of the Saints. The gathering responds:

We remember, O God, those of Bethesda Lutheran who have died since last All Saints' Day. We give thanks for their lives, for the love we shared, and for your grace that held them throughout their days.

We give thanks for their lives and entrust them to your eternal care.

A bell rings following the reading of each name.

Beloved members who passed away since All Saints' Day 2025

✝ Sandy Miller 11/22/2025

✝ Timothy Dooley 1/1/2026

✝ Matthew David Brown 1/11/2026

✝ Loretta Westerlund 1/14/2026

✝ Sam Samuelson 3/15/2026

✝ Marilynn Cierzan 3/15/2026

We pause now to name aloud or in our hearts those who have gone before us whose memory remains a blessing to us.

*You are invited to speak the names of loved ones who have died,
or remember them silently in your heart.*

We celebrate, O God, those who have come to the waters of baptism, washed in your grace and claimed as your beloved children.

We rejoice in God's promise that claims them as beloved children and joins us together in the body of Christ.

(Reading of the names of those baptized since last All Saints' Day)

✝ Graham 11/23/25

✝ Evelyn 7/26/26

✝ Eva 8/2/26

We welcome, O God, the new members of Bethesda, those who have joined us in the journey of faith, becoming part of this family of believers.

May we grow together in faith, encourage one another in love, and share in the work of your kingdom.

(Reading of the names of new members received since last All Saints' Day)

✝ Rocky and Cindy V.

Holy and gracious God, **we give you thanks for the great communion of saints, united in Christ through the waters of baptism and held forever in your love. For the lives we remember, the new life we celebrate, and the community of faith we share, we give you thanks. Strengthen us to live faithfully, love generously, and reflect your grace in the world, until that glorious day when all are gathered in your eternal embrace. Through Jesus Christ, our resurrection and our life. Amen.**

✝ **WORD** ✝

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

SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 7:9-17

The book of Revelation is written to seven churches in western Asia Minor during a time of great oppression. Today's reading is a response to the question asked in 6:17: "Who is able to stand?" The writer gives the faithful the assurance of God's protection and a vision of victory.

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!"

¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶They will hunger no more and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat,

¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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

PSALM

Psalm 34:1-10,22

¹I will bless the LORD at all times; the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.

²**I will glory in the LORD; let the lowly hear and rejoice.**

³Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD; let us exalt God's name together.

⁴**I sought the LORD, who answered me and delivered me from all my terrors.**

⁵Look upon the LORD and be radiant, and let not your faces be ashamed.

⁶**I called in my affliction, and the LORD heard me
and saved me from all my troubles.**

⁷The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear the LORD and delivers them.

⁸**Taste and see that the LORD is good; happy are they who take refuge in God!**

⁹Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD, for those who fear the LORD lack nothing.

¹⁰**The lions are in want and suffer hunger,
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.**

²²O LORD, you redeem the life of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.

SCRIPTURE READING

1 John 3: 1-3

A saint is one who has been set apart by God for God's purposes. God, out of divine love, set us apart to be the children of God. Our holy hope is that we shall see God as God really is.

¹ See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

² Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

³ And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

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

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-12

In the Beatitudes, Jesus provides a unique description of those who are blessed with God's favor. His teaching is surprising and shocking to those who seek wealth, fame, and control over others.

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

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

¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

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

SERMON

Reverend Christina K.



Shall We Gather at the River

ELW 423



1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,
3 Ere we reach the shin-ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;
4 Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv - er, soon our pil-grim-age will cease;



with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow-ing by the throne of God?
we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day,
grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro-vide a robe and crown.
soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful riv - er;



gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899
Music: HANSON PLACE, Robert Lowry

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*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, in your mercy. **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

*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 as the gifts are brought forward.

OFFERING PRAYER

Eternal God, **our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*The presiding minister continues with the words of institution. The gathering responds: **Amen.***

THE LORD'S PRAYER

United with the saints of every time and place, let us pray with the confidence that Christ has taught us: **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.

In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in.
Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS | LIGHTING A CANDLE

As we come forward to share in Holy Communion today, you are invited to light a candle. We light these candles in thanksgiving for the saints in our lives, those who have gone before us, those who walk beside us today, and those yet to come. Come to the table, where all the saints are made one in Christ.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Come, Heavy-Laden

The Reverb Collective | By Lacey Brown

[youtube.com/watch?v=NnMoadjDV-I&source_ve_path=OTY3MTQ&embeds_referring_euri=https%3A%2F%2Fthereverbcollective.com%2F](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NnMoadjDV-I&source_ve_path=OTY3MTQ&embeds_referring_euri=https%3A%2F%2Fthereverbcollective.com%2F)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God, **we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. Amen.**

✠ **SENDING** ✠

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

BLESSING

*The presiding minister leads the blessing. The gathering responds: **Amen.***

Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In



1 Oh, when the saints go march-ing in, oh, when the
2 Oh, when the Lord in glo-ry comes, oh, when the
3 Oh, when the new world is re-vealed, oh, when the
4 Oh, when they gath-er round the throne, oh, when they
5 And on that hal-le-lu-jah day, and on that



saints go march-ing in, O Lord, I want to be in that
Lord in glo-ry comes, O Lord, I want to be in that
new world is re-vealed, O Lord, I want to be in that
gath-er round the throne, O Lord, I want to be in that
hal-le-lu-jah day, O Lord, I want to be in that



num-ber when the saints go march-ing in.
num-ber when the Lord in glo-ry comes.
num-ber when the new world is re-vealed.
num-ber when they gath-er round the throne.
num-ber on that hal-le-lu-jah day.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: WHEN THE SAINTS, African American spiritual

DISMISSAL

Led by the saints before and among us, go forth in faith and love,
living each day as a gift of God's grace. **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.

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LIFE TOGETHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Life together announcements reflect the shared life of Bethesda 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 Ron and Jan A.; Jim C.; Lynn V.; Sherrie W.; Caregivers.

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.

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.

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

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.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY meets most Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Join us as we dive into the lectionary texts for the upcoming week. New participants are always welcome.

WOMEN'S DEVOTIONAL Join us the second Monday of each month at 8:30 am in the Fellowship Hall for a time of scripture, reflection, and fellowship (next gathering is November 9th). Together we study using *Gather*, the magazine of Women of the ELCA, Through God's Word and shared conversation, we grow in faith and are equipped for ministry and action in our congregation, community, and world. All women are welcome — come as you are.

ROMEOS meets Thursdays at 8 am; men gather in the Fellowship Hall for coffee, conversation, and prayer as we read and reflect together. We're currently reading Richard Rohr's *The Tears of Things: Prophetic Wisdom for an Age of Outrage*. All men are welcome. Contact Wally to learn more.

THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to and attended the Holiday Bazaar | Vintage Market. Your gifts, time, and presence made this gathering a wonderful expression of community. We are grateful for your generosity and support!

BUDGET REQUEST FORMS Please submit all budget request forms by Friday, November 6. Completed forms may be placed in the Stewardship inbox in the church office. Thank you for your timely response!

ANNUAL COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS Please submit your committee reports by Friday, November 6th, in preparation for our Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, December 13th, following worship. Completed reports may be emailed to blcmalmo@gmail.com. Thank you for your timely submissions!

THANKSGIVING IN A BAG Bethesda is partnering with Faith Lutheran Church in Isle to support the Isle Food Shelf's Thanksgiving in a Bag program. Together, we can help local individuals and families enjoy a Thanksgiving meal without easing the strain on their budgets. Each bag includes the ingredients for a traditional Thanksgiving dinner and a Teal's Market gift card. To participate, please take a tag from the bulletin board in the narthex, purchase the item listed and return to Bethesda by November 8th.

BLESSING BOX Your generosity through today's blessing box helps provide Thanksgiving meals for local individuals and families through the Isle Food Shelf's Thanksgiving in a Bag program.

LADLES OF LOVE Join us at Bethesda on Wednesday, November 18, from 5–6:30 p.m. (or until gone!) for homemade soups and biscuits. Take-home containers will be available. A freewill offering supports local food shelves in recognition of World Hunger Month. To help prepare food, contact the church office.

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD Sunday, October 25th, 2026 In-Person 58 | Online 24

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA

Sunday, November 1st | All Saints Day

9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion

10:00 am Time of fellowship

Monday, November 2nd

11:30 am Pinochle

7:00 pm AA/Alanon

Tuesday, November 3rd

9:00 am Chair Yoga
3:00 pm Choir Practice
4:00 pm Bell Choir Practice

Wednesday, November 4th

9:00 am Women's Bible Study
10:00 am Strategic Planning Meeting

Thursday, November 5th

8:00 am ROMEOS (Men's Bible Study)
9:15 am Chair Yoga

Sunday, November 8th | 24th 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.

November Altar Care: Winnie Z., Barb F.

Communion Assistants: Dennis H., Jeannine B., Karen C.

Ushers: Carol & Larry P.

Greeters: Judie B. & Jenny S.

Lector: Jeannine B.

Hospitality:

Serving on November 8th | 24th Sunday after Pentecost

Communion Assistants: Darlene C., Sheila P.,

Ushers: Libby & David B.

Greeters: Sandy & Dick P.

Lector:

Hospitality: Barb & Lee F.