Bethesda Lutheran Church

21590 Hwy 47, Isle, Minnesota 56342

November 8th, 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. Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the Lamb.

WELCOME

LIFE TOGETHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

STEWARTSHIP UPDATE

Look what love can do!
BELOVED.
Love Begins Here
Beloved. Loving. Community.

Before we give, serve, or do anything, we're already beloved by God. That's where our story begins. God's love is a gift freely given, poured into our lives through grace. And that divine love has a wonderful way of spilling over into the lives of others.

Just look around Bethesda. Think about the people who have welcomed you, prayed with you, encouraged you, made you laugh, or reminded you that you belong. Think about the ways this congregation has been part of your life and the lives of our neighbors. Each of those moments tells a story of God's love at work.

Today we're celebrating stewardship, not simply as something we give, but as a way of living in response to all that God has given us. Our time. Our talents. Our financial offerings. Our care for one another. All are gifts through which God's love can be shared.

Where have you experienced God's love through Bethesda?

Perhaps it was a moment in worship, a newfound friendship, a helping hand, or a quiet act of kindness. Carry that memory with you this week giving thanks for the people who shared God’s love. And remember: You, too, are part of the story.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT | Look what love can do!
Today is a celebration of stewardship, giving thanks for God's generosity and the many ways love comes to life through the ministry we share. Rooted in grace, we offer our time, talents, and financial gifts in grateful response to all we have received in Christ.

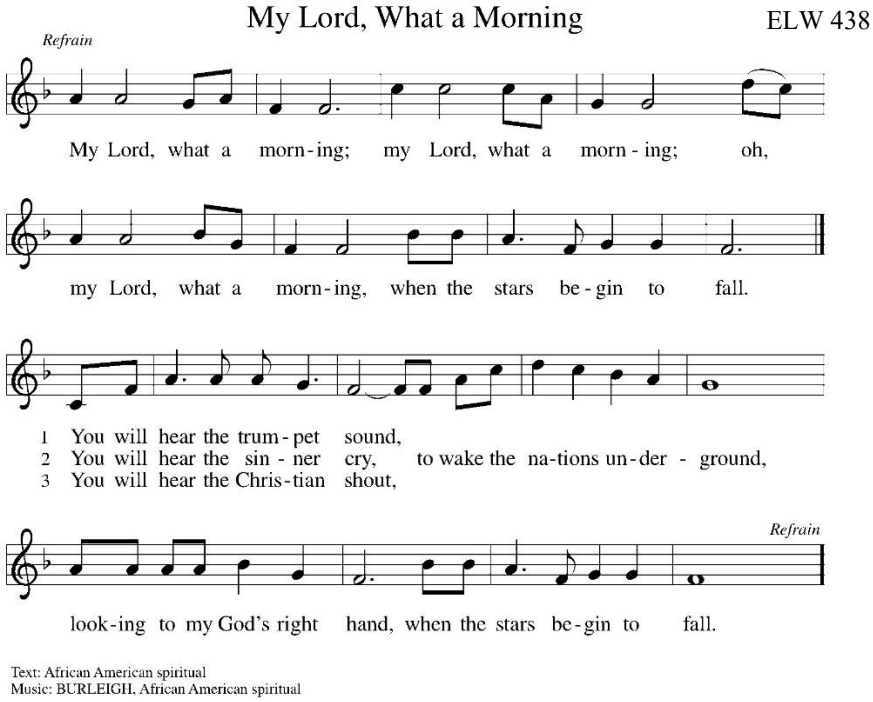
Gathered by God's grace, we are beloved children of God,
called to share the love we have received in Christ.
God's love is the beginning of all we do.

Blessed with different gifts, we offer our time, talents,
and resources in service to one another and our neighbors.
Through our gifts, God's love takes shape in the world.

Together, we are Bethesda Lutheran Church, a community of faith,
growing in generosity and sharing in God's work.
With grateful hearts, we celebrate what love can do!

Spiritual Gift Surveys are on the tables in the Fellowship Hall. Please take one home and fill them out and return them to the office.

GATHERING HYMN



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, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God, **we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.**

Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you. **Amen.**

PRAYER

O God of justice and love, **you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, 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**.

☩ WORD ☩

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

SCRIPTURE READING

Amos 5:18-24

In the days of Amos, people thought that the day of the LORD would be a time of great victory, but Amos announced that it would be a day of darkness, not light. He said liturgy is no substitute for obedience. The LORD demands justice and righteousness in the community.

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why do you want the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, not light,
19 as if someone fled from a lion
and was met by a bear
or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall
and was bitten by a snake.
20 Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
21 I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them,
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
24 But let justice roll down like water
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

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

PSALM Psalm 70

1 Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O LORD, make haste to help me.
2 **Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded;**
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.
3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me
turn back because of their shame.
4 **Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;**
let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the LORD!"
5 But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

13 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 15 For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. 16 For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

GOSPEL Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.

The holy gospel according to Matthew. This is the story of grace flowing down.
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 1 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young
women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish,
and five were wise. 3 When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, 4 but
the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5 As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them
became drowsy and slept. 6 But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the
bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' 7 Then all those young women got up and trimmed
their lamps. 8 The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are
going out.' 9 But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you
had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' 10 And while they went to buy
it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding
banquet, and the door was shut. 11 Later the other young women came also, saying,
'Lord, lord, open to us.' 12 But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' 13 Keep
awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

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

SERMON Reverend Christina K.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning

ACS 949



Text: African American spiritual
Music: KEEP YOUR LAMPS, African American spiritual

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
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

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus 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.

COMMUNION MUSIC

When Peace, like a River
It Is Well with My Soul

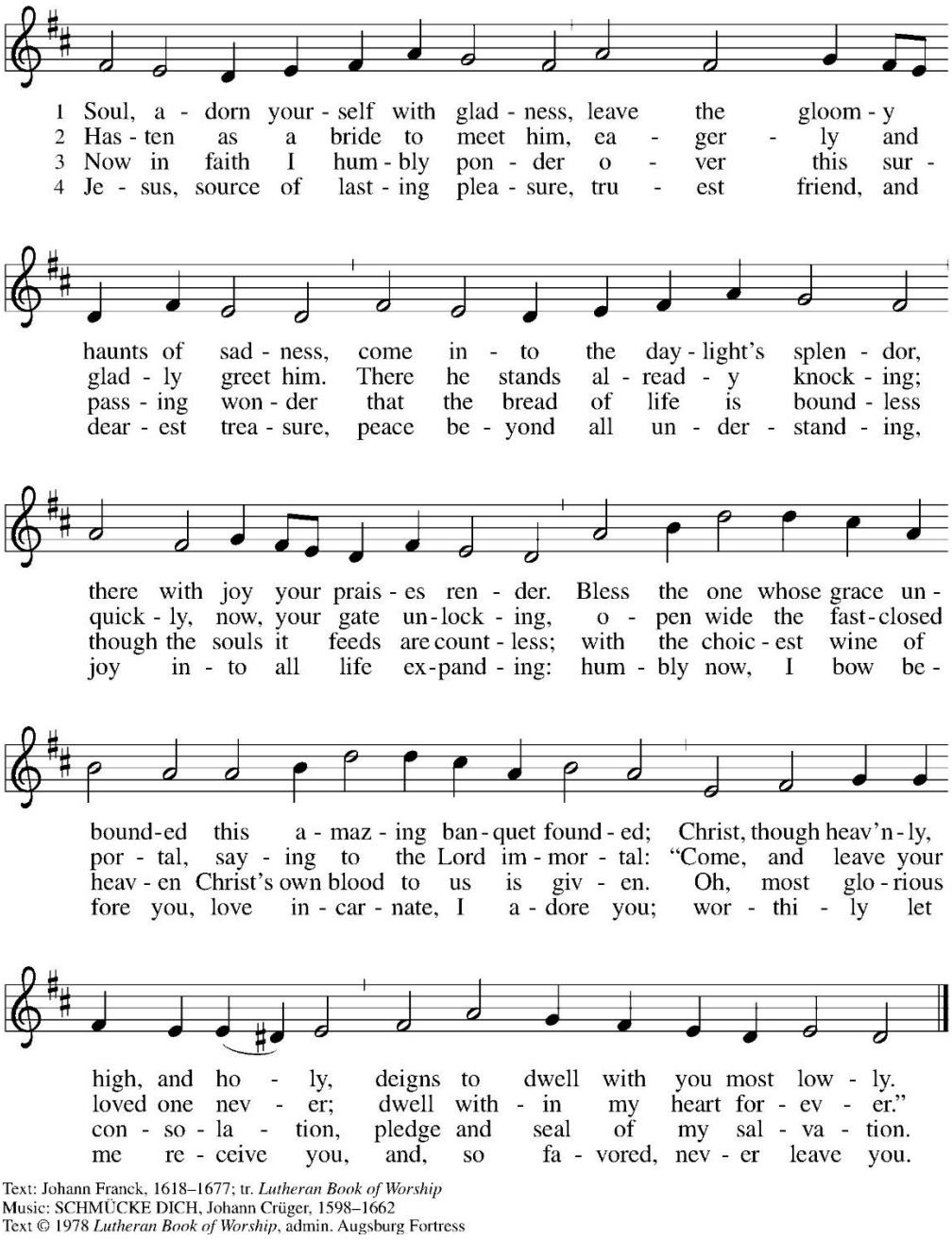
ELW 785



Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828-1888
Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838-1876

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

ELW 488



Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: SCHMÜCKE DICH, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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. ~

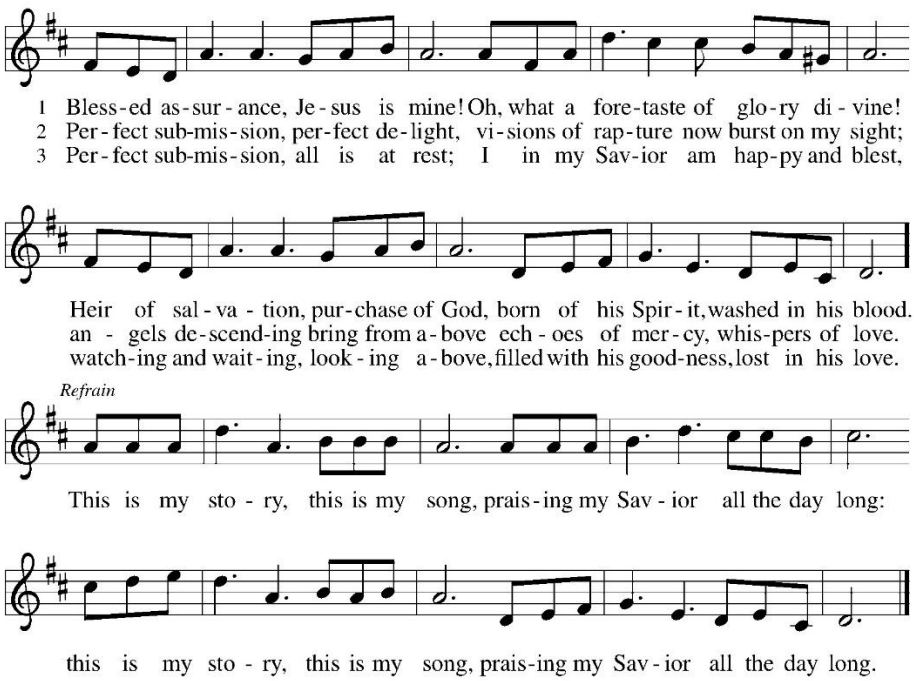
BLESSING

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

SENDING HYMN

Blessed Assurance

ELW 638



Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Encourage one another. **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.

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: Female holding vintage lantern. Photo by skaman306. Copyright © 2025 Getty Images Plus via Getty Images/Moments Collection. Used by permission. Additional Liturgical texts adapted for Bethesda Lutheran by Reverend Christina Kadelbach.

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.; Beth R.; 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.

THANKSGIVING IN A BAG Thank you to everyone who participated in Thanksgiving in a Bag! Your generosity, together with Faith Lutheran Church in Isle, supports the Isle Food Shelf's efforts to help local individuals and families enjoy a Thanksgiving meal.

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 will be taken in support of World Hunger Month. To help prepare food, contact the church office.

BETHESDA APPAREL Show your Bethesda spirit with apparel featuring our new church logo! Sweatshirts, hoodies, zip-up jackets, T-shirts, and polo shirts are available for purchase through our online store. **Orders must be placed by November 15th** and can be paid for online with a credit card. All orders will be delivered to the church for pickup after the sale closes. Ordering instructions are available on the tables in the Fellowship Hall and on Bethesda's Facebook page. You can also shop directly at: https://bethesdalutheranchurch-malmo-apparel.itemorder.com This is not a fundraiser, but simply an opportunity to celebrate our Bethesda community.

FIRST AID, CPR, CHOKING & AED TRAINING Be prepared. Be confident. Be ready to make a difference! Join the South Aitkin Area First Responders for a FREE hands-on training session covering essential lifesaving skills, including First Aid, CPR, choking response, and AED use. **Tuesday, December 1st | 1:00–3:00 PM Bethesda Lutheran Church | The Fellowship Hall.** Emergencies can happen anywhere, at any time. Knowing how to respond can make all the difference. Come gain valuable knowledge, build confidence, and learn skills that could help save a life. **Everyone is welcome!**

DRAFT CONSTITUTION The proposed church constitution will be presented for congregational approval at our Annual Meeting on December 13th. Congregation members are encouraged to review the document before the meeting. To receive a copy, please contact the church office to request an electronic version by email or a printed copy.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING Sunday, December 13th, following worship.

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD Sunday, November 1st, 2026 In-Person 82 | Online 25

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA

Sunday, November 8th | 24th Sunday after Pentecost
9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion
10:00 am Time of fellowship
Monday, November 9th
8:30 am Women's devotions
10:00 am Property team
11:30 am Pinochle
7:00 pm AA/Alanon
Tuesday, November 10th
9:00 am Chair Yoga
3:00 pm Choir Practice
4:00 pm Bell Choir Practice
Wednesday, November 11th VETERANS DAY
9:00 am Women's Bible Study
Thursday, November 12th
8:00 am ROMEOS (Men's Bible Study)
9:15 am Chair Yoga
Sunday, November 15th | 25th Sunday after Pentecost
9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion
10:00 am Time of fellowship





Today, we give thanks for those in our Bethesda community who have served or are currently serving in the armed forces. We honor their service and the sacrifices made by them and their families. We pray for the safety and well-being of all who serve, remembering especially those affected by war and conflict, and ask God to lead us in the ways of peace, justice, and healing throughout the world.

NAME	BRANCH	YEAR	AREA
Ron Aho	Navy	58 – 64	
Ron Anderson	Army	49 - 53	Korea
John Ansell	Army	2003- 12	Iraq twice
Maynard Berland	Army		
Jim Birk	Army	71 – 72	Germany
Chuck Carlson	USMCR	55 – 63	
Richard Carron	Army	68 – 70	Vietnam
Wayne Danielson	Army	62 – 64	Germany
Marty Dressely	Navy	8 years	
Jack Feyo	Navy	60 – 66	Bearing Sea
Tom Forester	Army	64 – 66	Ethiopia
Lee Forrester	Air Force	65 – 69	Bermuda
Ron Haglund	National Guard	53 – 61	
Rollie Halvorson	Army	48 – 51	Korea
Dennis Hennessy	Army	69 – 71	States
Delano Jones	Army	66 – 68	Vietnam
Ron Keil	Navy	75 – 79	Vietnam
Keith Kellen	Navy	65 – 69	Vietnam
Darrell Kelly	National Guard	60 – 64	
Melody Lackner	Army	74 – 76	Germany
Larry Liljenquist	USMC	89 – 93	Gulf War
Michael Lofgren	Marines	66 – 70	
Jim Magedanz	National Guard	66 - 72	
Jim Metteer	Army	69 – 71	Vietnam
Troy Nyberg	USMC	4 years	
Dick Norlander	Army	66 – 69	Korea
Wayne Olson	National Guard	57 – 63	
Larry Pantsari	Army	70-71	Vietnam
Cliff Roberts	Marines	55 – 62	
Jerry Schewe	Army	63 – 65	Germany
Sally Stay	Army	4 years	Iraq
Dick Stebbins	Air Force	64 – 78	
Butch Stephenson	Navy	64 – 67	Vietnam
Dave Stueven	Army	69 – 72	
Wally Swenson	Army	53 – 56	
Bob Walrod	Marines	67 – 68	Vietnam



Deceased Veterans from Bethesda



Spanish American
Martin Gudim
George Gudim

World War I
Arthur Andren
Ed Johnson
Walt Pedersen
Joe Samson

World War II

Bob Beavers	Glen A. Johnson	Ivan Peterson
Les Bolke	Lloyd Jarson	Sam Reinhard
Dennis Brooks	Norm Jorgenson	Swan Roseberg
Ernest Burman	Fred Knudsen	Daniel Samson
Leonard Goldman	Lloyd Lilienthal	Peg Schaefer
Wilbur Gorham	Gottfred Long	Dale Siems
Dick Grip	Richard Moe	
Walt Groehler	Shirley Olson	Dale Williams
Lawrence Hjort	Harland Pedersen	
Donald Johnson	Clarence Peterson	

Korean War Vietnam & Other

Maynard Bakken	Owen Heins	Bill Schaefer
Jerry Becker	John Iverson	Lloyd Schaefer
Roy Berg	Ted Jaszcak	Ken Skogquist
LeRoy Bondeson	Rev. Winfield Johnson	George Smith
Harlow Dickinson	Bill Johnson	Delmer Swanson
Marlyn Eklund	Earl Julien	Norman Swedberg
Gordon Elling	Gary Miller	Al Wedig
Roy Gosselin	Tom Mjelde	Darrel Westerlund
Melvin Hamman	Jerry Morris	Howard Westerlund
Douglas Hansen	Donald Olson	Fredrick White
Richard Henrickson	Don Rimer	Randy Zahradka
Richard Holmquist	Joann Roeker	
Merrill Honnold	Sam Samuelson	
Owen Heins	Alfie Sandell	



Bethesda Lutheran Church blcmalmo.org
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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: Darlene C., Sheila P., Jeannine B.
Ushers: Libby & David B.
Greeters: Sandy & Dick P.
Lector: Kat C**.**
Hospitality: Barb & Lee F.

Serving on November 15th | 25th Sunday after Pentecost
Communion Assistants: Libby B., David B., Dianne J.
Ushers: Barb & Lee F.
Greeters: Mary B & Jenny S.
Lector: Karen C.
Hospitality: Pastor Christina