

April 22nd, 2012
Third Sunday of Easter



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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Pastor: Rev. James Raisanen

Pastor Emeritus: Reverend Winfield Johnson

Church Secretary: Evie Richter Youth: Susie Modrow

Parish Nurses: Darlene Christensen, RN, C 320-684-2846

Patti Honnold, RN CNP 320-676-8421

Kathy Berland RN 320-495-3988

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

MISSION STATEMENT

We will grow spiritually and in numbers as we serve Christ. We will reach out and address the hurts and hopes in our community. We will maintain a church home that is reverently joyous and extend a welcome to all who seek to join us in our mission.

Hearing Assistance is available during the service.

Please notify usher if you would like assistance

Sunday, April 22, 2012/Third Sunday of Easter

INTRODUCTION

The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Lord's day. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures: the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

Day of the Creation (Día de la Creación) (LLC)

This observance invites us to notice and give God thanks for the wonders of the created universe. As stewards of that creation, we are also challenged to be careful in our use of it.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

OPENING HYMN:

“I Love to Tell the Story”

661 ELW

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion

**forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
Amen.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC: “God Will Make a Way” Randy Tofteland

FIRST READING: Acts 3:12–19

After healing a crippled man, Peter preaches to the people how God’s promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ’s death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus’ name.

When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous

One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.

PSALM: Psalm 4

Refrain: The LORD does wonders for the faithful. (Ps. 4:3)

Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;
you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

**"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;
how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?"**

Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful; the LORD will hear me when I call.

Tremble, then, and do not sin; speak to your heart in silence upon your bed. R

Offer the appointed sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.

Many are saying, "Who will show us any good?"

Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.

You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine abound.

In peace, I will lie down and sleep; for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure. R

GOSPEL: Luke 24:36b–48

In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.

"Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you — that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

HYMN: **“Jesus Loves Me”** **# 595 ELW**

SERMON

HYMN: **“Children of the Heavenly Father”** **# 781 ELW**

OFFERING

10:00 a.m. Service -- AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Today we welcome into our adult fellowship those who are reaffirming their baptismal vows: Holly Grap, Mallory Hanson, Sam Hanson, Will Petersen, Eddy Simonson.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Enlivened in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we pray for the life of the church, for those in need, and for all of God's creation.

A time for silent prayer.

Holy, reconciling God, open our hearts and minds to receive you in the scriptures and in holy meal. Send us forth for the healing and redemption of the world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Renew areas of your creation where cold and dormancy is giving way to warmth and new life. Reveal your life-giving action throughout all of creation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Usher in peace where lawlessness and disorder reign. Send your calming Spirit to ease tensions and to encourage ways of living beyond conflict and oppression. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Answer the cries of those who are ailing, who are brokenhearted, and who seek your mercy (*especially*). Deliver them from affliction, and turn their cries to shouts of praise. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Be present at celebration tables, increasing the joy of those who gather for birthdays, weddings, and parties. Be present at empty tables, filling the hungry and the lonely with hope. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be made.

Remembering the lives of the saints who shared their faith with us, guide us by your Spirit to live in truth, as we long for the day when we shall live in your fullness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Trusting in your abundant mercy, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray into your care, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN:

“Rise Up, O Saints of God”

669 ELW

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK OF APRIL 22ND, 2012

Organist: Marlys Beavers
Greeters: Shirley Moe & Judy Seifert
Ushers: 8:30 - Jan Phillipp & Barb Bray, 10:00 - Darrell Kelly
Lectors: 8:30 – Joyce Rimer, 10:00 – Joan Petersen
Coffee Servers: Dick & Pam Norlander, Shirley Moe, Dick & Sue Stebbins

RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD LAST WEEK (4/15/12)

Attendance: 8:30 – 116 10:00 – 50
Offering: \$ 3,743.05 Building Fund: \$ 1,060.00

\$ 3,846.00 – Weekly amount needed for operating expenses.

\$ 580.00 – Weekly amount (building fund) needed for mortgage payment.

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA APRIL 22ND THRU APRIL 28TH, 2012

Sun., Apr. 22 nd	9:00 a.m.	Faithful Families
	4:30 p.m.	NYG Bible Study
Mon., Apr. 23 rd	7:00 p.m.	AA & Alanon
Tues., Apr. 24 th	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	9:30 a.m.	Bells
Wed., Apr. 25 th	8:30 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:30 a.m.	Hardanger
	11:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	6:00 p.m.	Choir
	7:00 p.m.	Praise Team
Thus., Apr. 26 th	8:00 a.m.	R.O.M.E.O.S.
	1:00 p.m.	Funtimers
Sat., Apr. 28 th	2:00 p.m.	Dessert Thanks – Youth Fundraiser

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS TODAY GO TO OUR CONFIRMANDS: Sam Hanson, Mallory Hanson, Holly Grap, Will Petersen and Eddy Simonson. God's Blessings to you all.

NEW MEMBERS will be received on Sunday, May 20th. If you would like to join us or if you know of anybody who would, please contact Pastor Jim. Orientation meeting will be held on Saturday, May 19th at 10 a.m.

COOKING SAFELY FOR A CROWD class will be held at Zion Lutheran Church in Milaca from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. on April 25th. RSVP at 320-983-3368. See further information on the Bulletin Board in the Fellowship Hall.

MALMO EVANGELICAL CHURCH has invited the Bethesda Women to attend their Salad Luncheon on May 5th at noon. The theme is New Life in Christ. Debbie Baxter will be the guest speaker. RSVP by April 27th at 320-684-2201.

Photos will be taken at Bethesda on June 28th, 29th & 30th for a new **PICTURE DIRECTORY** so plan on making an appointment to get your photo in the directory. Watch for further information as to when appointments will be made.

Upcoming Events:

May 6 – Irene Long Birthday Party

May 12 – First Saturday Evening Service at 5 p.m.

May 20 – New member Sunday

June 18-22 – Vacation Bible School

June 28, 29 & 30 – Church Picture Directory

June 30-July 1 – Independence Day – Independence Day Worship with
John Koziol, Jr.

July 20 – Beef & Corn Feed