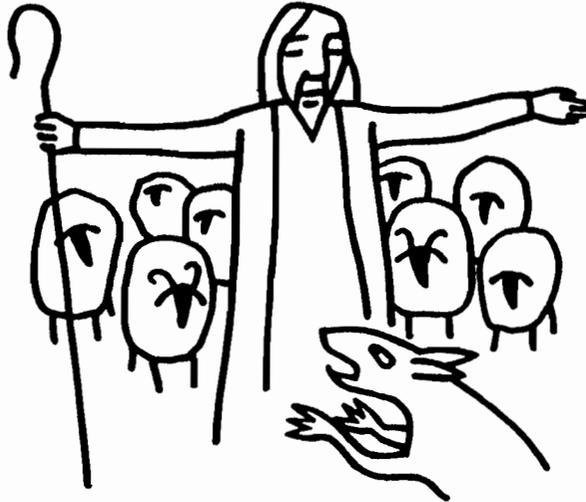


April 29th, 2012
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Service of Blessing, Prayer and Healing



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO
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Church Web Site: blcmalmo.org
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

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INTRODUCTION

Today's service of Blessing, Prayer and Healing is a time for reflection, forgiveness and healing in our lives. It is a time to thank God for the many blessings He has given us and to make our requests known to Him. During the prelude, please spend a few moments in silent prayer to prepare your hearts to receive His healing power.

PRELUDE: A time for silent prayer

PRESENTATION BY SUSIE MODROW

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" # 836 ELW

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: Let us confess before God and those present our sins against God and others.

Congregation: **Have mercy upon us, O God, for having abused the power of prayer, for using it so often to ask for things for ourselves, and not using it to express our gratitude. Forgive us for being selfish and forgetting to pray for those in need of healing. Pardon us wherein we are carrying larger burdens than necessary, because we have relied upon our own weak strength instead of seeking Your power through prayer. Forgive us, and renew us, in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Leader: May the Holy Spirit strengthen and lead us as we live our lives.

Congregation: **Amen. Hallelujah**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

All: **Living God, today we pray for our brothers and sisters who are in need of your healing whether it be of body, mind or spirit. Grant comfort in suffering to all who are in need of healing. When they are afraid, give them courage; when afflicted give them patience; when dejected, give them hope and when alone assure them of the support of their brothers and sisters in Christ. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen**

**Blessed be Your name
When the sun’s shining down on me
When the world’s all as it should be
Blessed be Your name.**

**Blessed be Your name
On the road marked with suffering
Though there’s pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name.**

**Every blessing You pour out
I’ll turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in, Lord
Still I will say**

**Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name**

**Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name**

**You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord, blessed be Your name**

**Every blessing You pour out
I’ll turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in, Lord
Still I will say**

**Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be your glorious name**

**Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
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**Blessed be Your glorious name
Blessed be Your glorious name**

FIRST READING: Acts 4:5–12

Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he is able to proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is

'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

PSALM: Psalm 23

Refrain: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me. R**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. R**

GOSPEL: John 10:11–18, 27

In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away — and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father." My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN: **“God, Whose Almighty Word”** **# 673 ELW Vs 1, 3 & 4**

SERMON

HYMN: **“You Are Mine”** **# 581 ELW Vs 1, 3 & 4**

OFFERING/OFFERING PRAYER

All: God, giver of every good and perfect gift, we thank you for the daily blessings of life. May these gifts bring hope and healing to a world in need. Amen

PRAYER OF HEALING

A part of our work as a congregation is to pray for the sick. Prayer for the sick is an important Christian discipline and a biblical injunction. We want it to be a part of our worship program.

A theology of wholeness and wellness, however also would include a work of thanksgiving and support for those who are healthy and are seeking to be good stewards of all God’s blessings.

Leader: Teach us, O God, how to walk in paths of wholeness and hope.

Congregation: **Help us to care for those among us who are sick, and to challenge**

those who are well to embrace the fullness and vigor of life that you bring.

Leader: Let those who are lonely or sorrowing be comforted and called back into community.

Congregation: Let those who are depressed or suffering from mental anguish be helped through compassionate care and support.

Leader: Let those who are facing illness of body be encouraged and assisted as they seek to recover or be released from their pain.

Congregation: Let those who are healthy celebrate with joy.

Leader: Let those of us who are able honor your creation through thankful enjoyment of nutritious food, clear air and water and vigorous exercise.

Congregation: Let us rejoice in the splendid variety of your creation.

All: Help us to be a healthy and healing congregation, O God, a place where all are free to live fully in body, mind and spirit. This we pray in your precious name. Amen

TIME OF BLESSING, PRAYER AND LIGHTING OF CANDLES

You are invited this morning to come forward to receive a blessing and the sign of the cross in oil on your hand to strengthen you in your faith walk. You can also light a candle as you say a prayer. If you have a special prayer request you can record it on paper and place it in the basket on the altar. These will be offered up to God.

LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ fill you with every spiritual blessing.
Amen

May the God of faithfulness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. Amen

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen

DISMISSAL

May the Lord walk beside you to comfort you

May the Lord walk above you to watch over you

May the Lord walk behind you to keep you safe

May the Lord walk before you to show you the way

CLOSING HYMN: "God Be with You Till We Meet Again" # 536 ELW Vs 1 & 3

Report from Stewardship Committee

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Men's golf starts this Monday (April 30th) at 10:00 a.m. at the Wealthwood Golf Club and continues every Monday throughout the summer. Come join us!

Come celebrate **Irene Long's 95th birthday** May 6th at 2 p.m. The party is in Bethesda's Fellowship Hall. You can send a card to PO Box 75, Isle, MN 56342.

You're Entirely Welcome, a book about Irene Long's memories, the early history of Malmo and Bethesda Lutheran Church will be on sale at her birthday party. The family respectfully asks that local interested buyers wait for the second printing and not take their copy at the party. A sign up sheet will be available in the narthex and at the party for you to reserve your copy.

JELLY MAKING DAY is May 7th. Sign up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall.

We will be starting **new Bible/Book Studies** in the coming weeks so won't you consider joining us for some interesting discussion. The 11:00 a.m. study on Wednesdays will be doing the Gospel of John. The R.O.M.E.O.S. Men's Study will be doing Tony Dungee's Quiet Strength at 8:00 a.m. on Thursdays. The 8:30 a.m. Women's Study is continuing with their study of Loving Jesus.

NEW MEMBERS will be received on Sunday, May 22nd. If you or anyone you know is interested in joining in fellowship with us, contact Pastor Jim.

NEEDED: Church Treasurer. As Jenny has submitted her resignation to the church council we are in the process of seeking a replacement. Contact Council President Sandy Pullen if you are interested or have questions.

FOOT CLINIC will be taking place on May 3rd from 9 a.m. – noon.

May 12th begins **Saturday Eve Worship Services** at 5 p.m.

June 18-22 are the dates for our **Vacation Bible School**.

Independence Day Worship with John Koziol, Jr. will be held June 30-July 1.

The annual **Beef & Corn Feed** will be July 20th this year.

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK OF APRIL 29TH, 2012

Organist: Marlys Beavers
Greeters: Skip & Lynn Hansen
Ushers: 8:30 Les Bolke, Betty Sandell. 10:00 Darrell Kelly
Lectors: 8:30 Lynn Hansen, 10:00 Wally Swensen
Coffee Servers: Judy Wozney, Marlys LeClaire, Jean Berens, Dolores Block

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD LAST WEEK (4/22/12)

Attendance:	8:30 – 124	10:00 – 111	
Offering:	\$ 2, 794.00	Building Fund:	\$ 650.00

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

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

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA APRIL 29TH THRU MAY 5TH, 2012

Mon., Apr. 30 th	10:00 a.m.	Mission & Evangelism
	11:00 a.m.	Life Touch Directory Rep.
	7:00 p.m.	AA & Alanon
Tues., May 1 st	9:30 a.m.	Bells
Wed., May 2 nd	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
Thurs., May 3 rd	8:00 a.m.	R.O.M.E.O.S.
	10:300 a.m.	Worship & Music
	1:00 p.m.	Funtimers