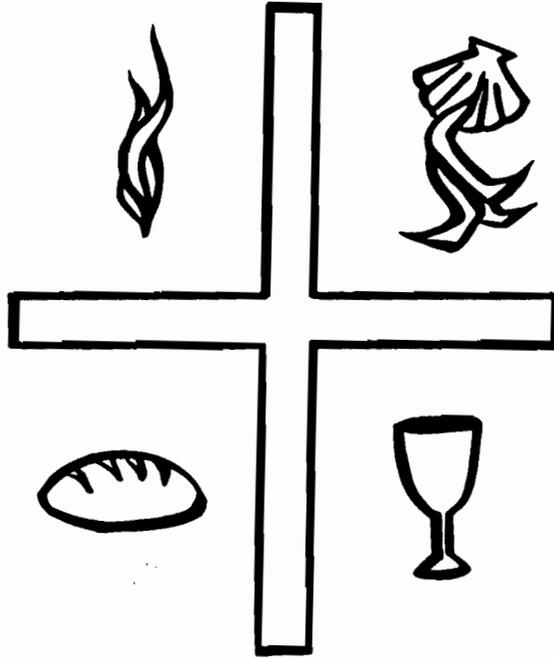


**May 20th, 2012
Seventh Sunday of Easter**



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

21590 State Highway 47, Isle, MN 56342

Phone: 320-684-2123 (1-877-684-2123) Fax: 320-684-2836

E-mail address: blcmalmo@frontiernet.net

Church Web Site: blcmalmo.org

Pastor: Rev. James Raisanen

Pastor Emeritus: Reverend Winfield Johnson

Church Secretary: Evelyn Richter

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

Patti Honnold, RN CNP 320-676-8421

Kathy Berland RN ANP 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, May 20, 2012/Seventh Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion

INTRODUCTION

The gospel for Easter's seventh Sunday is always taken from the long prayer Jesus prays for his followers in John's gospel on the night before his death, and always includes Jesus' desire that his followers will be one as he and the Father are one. This oneness is not mere doctrinal agreement or institutional unity, but mutual abiding, interpenetrating life, mutual love and joy. This oneness is the work of the Spirit whom we have received but also await. Come, Holy Spirit!

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN:

“Day By Day”

790 ELW

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

resurrection." So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

PSALM: Psalm 1

Refrain: The LORD knows the way of the righteous. (Ps. 1:6)

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

**Their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and they meditate on God's teaching day and night. R**

They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,
with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

**For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed. R**

GOSPEL: John 17:6–19

In this reading the church hears Jesus' words on the night before his death. This gospel reports the words of Jesus' prayer, a prayer for his disciples and for all who would believe in him through their words.

I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we

are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

SERMON

HYMN:

“Rock of Ages”

#623 ELW

OFFERING & OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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, righteous God, you have given us the gift of your Son. Make us one with him, and guide your people as we go out into the world proclaiming his gospel. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You have given the gift of food in your creation. Bless the labor of farmers and gardeners who till soil and spread seed. Raise up plants that will feed all humankind. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You have given the gift of reconciliation. Where there is division or conflict, send your Spirit to stir up peace. Restore unity among nations and tribes. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You have given the gift of life. Heal those who are broken in body, mind, or spirit (*especially*). Gather your people into a new day where HIV/AIDS and malaria are not known. Replace despair with hope and trust in your faithfulness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You have given the gift of ministry. Increase the spirit of cooperation among congregations and partner ministries. Lead us to use one another's gifts to do your work effectively. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be made.

All of your gifts are evident in the lives of the saints who now abide eternally with you. As we remember them, help us recognize the abundant gifts of faith you shower on us. 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.

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send

us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you, and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and grant you his peace.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN:

“Christ is Alive”

389 ELW

Vs. 1, 2 & 5

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 20, 2012

Pray for Joy Fulfilled

In today's gospel, we see Jesus praying for those he is about to leave behind. This prayer of Jesus reminds us that we are sent out into the world. We have work, God's work, to do. Our task is to live an integrated life, one that lets the light of the good news shine through us and our actions. How do we do this? We follow the model of Jesus.

Maybe you've got neighbors who are at loggerheads—how can you be a peacemaker? Your grandma is lonely and far away? Write a letter once a week or send a card. You've got a friend who has hit a rough patch? Invite the friend over for dinner and share a bottle of wine or a pot of tea. You know that people are hurting in a tough economy? Make soup or provide support for your local shelter.

If these suggestions seem too time-intensive, use the actions of Jesus in today's gospel as your model. Pray. The beauty of prayer is that you can do it anywhere. In your car, pray for your family, your boss, the people you see at the gym, the parents of your children's friends, fellow church-goers, coworkers—all people who make up the fabric of your life. When you take a break during the day, remember to pray. As you watch or read the news, pray for all those victims in today's parade of traumas. As you drift to sleep at night, pray for God's protection for us all.

Each day, pray the prayer that Jesus prayed so long ago. "I speak these things," Jesus prayed, "so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves" (John 17:13). May that joy spill over onto others, as joy invariably does. Each day, ask God to guide you as you seek to be God's love made real in the world.

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THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK OF MAY 20TH, 2012

Organist: Marlys Beavers
Greeters: Doug & Ingrid Trandahl
Ushers: 8:30 Jan Phillip & Ruth Hamman, 10:00 Jerry & Carolyn Morris
Lectors: 8:30 Pat Becker, 10:00 Sue Samuelson
Coffee Servers: Dorothy & Keith Munding, Marge Garbo,
Judy Seifert, Jackie Stockdill

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD LAST WEEK (5/12 & 5/13/2012)

Attendance: Sat. Eve. – 8 Sun. 8:30 – 86 10:00 – 37

Offering: \$1,922.00 Building Fund: \$ 285.00

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

\$ 380.00 – Weekly amount (building fund) needed for mortgage payment.

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA MAY 20TH THUR MAY 26TH, 2012

Mon., May 21 st	7:00 p.m.	AA & Alanon
Tues., May 22 nd	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	9:30 a.m.	Bells
	7:00 p.m.	Israel presentation by Pat Becker
Wed., May 23 rd	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 24 th	8:00 a.m.	R.O.M.E.O.S.
	1:00 p.m.	Funtimers (Card Games & Dominoes)
Sat., May 26 th	5:00 p.m.	Sat. Eve. Service

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW MEMBERS. Introduce yourself and welcome them as they join us in fellowship with the Lord.

FLOWER PLANTING will be done Wednesday, May 23rd at 9:45 a.m. Please join us if you're interested.

VEGGIE STAND will be open May 26th at 8:30 a.m. with plants and baked goods.

Rev. Dr. Glenn E. Myers, Professor of Church History & Theological Studies at Crown College in St. Bonifacius, MN will be doing a presentation: **Seeking Spiritual Intimacy, Journeying Deeper with Medieval Women of Faith** on Sunday, June 10th, 2012 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church in McGrath, MN. See Bulletin Board.

A presentation by Pat Becker on Israel with pictures and dialogue will be held Tuesday evening, May 22nd at 7:00 p.m. Everyone Welcome!

Saturday Evening Services at 5:00 p.m. throughout the summer months.

Upcoming Events:

June 18-22 Vacation Bible School

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

July 20 Beef & Corn Feed