

May 27th, 2012  
The Day of Pentecost



**BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO**

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Church Web Site: [blcmalmo.org](http://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 27, 2012 – Day of Pentecost

## INTRODUCTION

*On the fiftieth day of Easter we celebrate the Spirit, through whom and in whom the people of God are created and re-created. Pentecost is sometimes called the church's birthday, but might more appropriately be called its baptism day, since the gift of the Spirit is the fullness of baptism. Ezekiel's vision shows the Spirit resurrecting and re-creating not just individuals but a whole people. Romans makes it clear that God is in the process of re-creating the entire cosmos; yet the Spirit is also at work in the most intimate and personal way, praying in us "with sighs too deep for words" when we do not know how to pray.*

## PRELUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CALL TO WORSHIP

**Pastor:** You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses.

**People:** **In Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth.**

**Pastor:** And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit.

**People:** And spoke the word of God with boldness.

**OPENING HYMN:** "Spirit of Gentleness"

# 396 ELW

## THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Pardon us, O Father, for ignoring Your will as revealed by Your Holy Spirit. Forgive us for following the desires of our own hearts and endeavoring to block out Your still, small voice of truth. Be merciful to us wherein we have failed You as a part of Your church universal, and have withheld the progress of Your kingdom on earth. Forgive us, through Christ we pray. Amen.**

## **GOD'S FORGIVING PROMISES**

The God of all creation has entered our human existence in the person of Jesus Christ. Through him, our sinful condition has been given new possibilities of faith and life. By his death and resurrection, the price of our sin has been paid in full and we stand before God as new people. The Holy Spirit is present with us and in us to give us power to live out this new life. By the Spirit we have life. Praise God.

**Hallelujah. 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.

**Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**BELL CHOIR ANTHEM:            “Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus”**

**THE SCRIPTURE READING:    Acts 2:1-8, 11-17, 36-38, 41 (TEV)**

**Leader:** When the day of Pentecost arrived, all the believers were gathered together in one place. Suddenly there was a noise from the sky which sounded like a strong wind blowing, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

**People:** **Then they saw what looked like tongues of fire spreading out; and each person there was touched by a tongue. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to talk in other languages, as the Spirit enabled them to speak.**

**Leader:** There were Jews living in Jerusalem, religious men who had come from every country in the world. When they hear this noise, a large crowd gathered. They were all excited, because each one of them heard the believers talking in his own language. In amazement and wonder they exclaimed.

**People:** “These men who are talking like this – they are all Galileans! How is it, then, that all of us hear them speaking in our native language? All of us hear them speaking in our own languages of the great things that God has done!”

**Leader:** Amazed and confused they all kept asking each other,

**People:** “What does this mean?”

**Leader:** But others made fun of the believers, saying,

**People:** “These men are drunk.”

**Leader:** Then Peter began to speak to the crowd. “These men are not drunk; it is only nine o’clock in the morning. This is what the prophet Joel spoke about – God says:

**People:** “I will pour out My Spirit upon all men. Your sons and your daughters will prophesy; your young men will see visions, and your old men will dream dreams.”

**Leader:** “All the people of Israel, then, are to know for sure that it is this Jesus, Whom you nailed to the cross, that God has made Lord and Messiah.” When the people heard this, they were deeply troubled and said,

**People:** “What shall we do brothers?”

**Leader:** Peter said to them, “Turn away from your sins, each one of you, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, so that your sins will be forgiven; and you will receive God’s gift, the Holy Spirit.”

**People:** Many of them believed his message and were baptized; about three thousand people were added to the group that day.

**HYMN:** “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” #752 ELW

## **SERMON**

**HYMN:** “Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory” # 890 ELW

## **OFFERING & OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**In loving response to your gracious blessing, we come with the offering of our time and treasure. May these gifts bring hope and healing to a world in need. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Enlivened in the resurrection of Jesus Christ and filled with the Holy Spirit, 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, living God, pour out your Spirit upon your people. Inspire unity in mission throughout the church. Send us out to testify to the new life the risen Christ has shown us. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Cover all of creation with your Spirit. Spark renewal in areas that have been damaged or destroyed, and make life spring forth in waters, fields, and forests. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Send your Spirit into all forms of communication. Give words that will speak compassion, and open ears to listen with care. Foster understanding among people of different nations and languages. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Put your life-giving Spirit within weary bodies, hearts, and minds. Restore those who struggle with broken relationships, personal crisis, or poor health (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Give your Spirit of encouragement and strength to all who put the good of others before themselves: military personnel, emergency workers, advocates for the poor and aging. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be made.*

As we remember the witness of the saints, gather us into faithful communities by your Spirit until the day when your Spirit gathers us all into your eternal reign. 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 God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

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.**

The God of all grace + bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

**CLOSING HYMN:**

**“O, Beautiful for Spacious Skies”**

**# 888 ELW**

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Memorial Day emerged from the grim shadows of the American Civil War. Before the close of the war, women began decorating the graves of soldiers who had died in that war. The practice quickly spread, and a few years later May 30, 1868, was designated as Decoration Day – a day for placing flowers on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers throughout the United States.

In 1882, Decoration Day became known as Memorial Day, and soldiers who died in other wars were also honored. Over the years, it has become a day when all loved ones who have died – in war and otherwise – are remembered. In 1971, the United States Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be observed annually on the last Monday in May.

On this Memorial Day, remember those who gave their lives for our country. But also pray for those who continue serving to keep America free, especially those who are in harm's way.

## **THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK OF MAY 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2012**

Organist: Marlys Beavers  
Greeters: Rollie & Joan Halvorson  
Ushers: 8:30 Jan Phillip, Nancy Hansen, 10:00 Darrell Kelly  
Lectors: 8:30 Myra Honl, 10:00 Wally Swensen  
Coffee Servers: Joyce Rimer, Kathy & Maynard Berland

## **RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD LAST WEEK (5/20/12)**

Attendance: Sat – 20 Sun 8:30 – 123 10:00 – 38

Offering: \$ 3,099.00 Building Fund: \$ 430.00

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

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

## **THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA MAY 27<sup>TH</sup> THRU JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2012**

Mon., May 28 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.	AA & Alanon
Tues., May 29 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 a.m.	Crafters
	9:30 a.m.	Bells
Wed., May 30 <sup>th</sup>	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 31 <sup>st</sup>	8:00 a.m.	R.O.M.E.O.S.
	1:00 p.m.	Funtimers
Sat., June 2 <sup>nd</sup>	5:00 p.m.	Sat. Eve. Worship Service

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**New Church Directory:** Hosts are still needed to help with registration when photographs are taken for the new church directory. Please check the sign-up sheets in the narthex.

Sign-up sheets are in the narthex between church services and during the week for times available to have your photos taken for the directory. The photos will be taken Thurs.- Sat., June 28, 29 and 30. You may also sign up on line at blcmalmo.org. The appointment schedule can be accessed under the calendar of events.

If you are NOT able to attend any of the photo sessions, but still want your picture in the directory, you may submit your own photo at a cost of \$10.

There is NO cost to have your photo taken, and you will receive a free 8"x10" photo and church directory.

**ALL CALL for Vacation Bible School helpers.** Please consider signing up and or attending a planning meeting June 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. If you are not available for the whole week of June 18-22 you may job share or help out with projects ahead of time. Learning about Bible time in Babylon will be fun for kids and adults. If you have questions, please contact Dianne Jones or Joanne Stueven.

**MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES** will be held today (Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup>) at 2 p.m. at the Malmo Cemetery and at 3 p.m. at the Lakeside Cemetery.

**Saturday Evening services** are held every Saturday throughout the summer at 5 p.m.

Next Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> (the first Sunday of the month) we will again be passing the **BLESSING BOX** in addition to our regular Sunday offering. As God has blessed you, give accordingly. Monies received are used for special projects that need to be done at our church.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**June 18-22** Vacation Bible School

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

**July 20** Beef & Corn Feed