

Sunday, July 22nd 2012
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost



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

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

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INTRODUCTION

Mark's gospel makes clear how great was the press of the crowd, with its countless needs to be met, on Jesus and his disciples. Yet in today's gospel Jesus advises his disciples to get away and rest, to take care of themselves. Sometimes we think that when others are in great need we shouldn't think of ourselves at all; but Jesus also honors the caregivers' need. We are sent from Christ's table to care for others and for ourselves.

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP by Bell Choir: "Wonderful Words of Life"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" # 775 WOV

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

Amen.

Pastor: Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God.

All: **We can love because God first loved us.**

Pastor: If someone says "I love God," yet hates his or her brother or sister, that person is a liar.

All: **For one cannot love God, who is not seen, if one cannot love a brother or sister, who is seen.**

Pastor: This, then, is the command Christ gave us: anyone who loves God must also love a brother or sister.

All: **O, Divine, Master, grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love.**

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.

God of eternal love, we pray you will listen as we confess our failures in love and friendship. We talk about such things as caring, community, and concern, but instead we show anger, hostility, and greed. We talk about faith, hope, and love, but instead we show injustice, distrust, and apathy. We talk about kindness, forgiveness, and gentleness, but instead we show hate, spite and selfishness. Forgive the sins of our fallen condition, the sins of our broken promises, and the sins we dare not name. In the name of Jesus who was crucified for sin, forgive us.

This is how God showed love for us: Jesus came into the world so we might have life. This is what love is. It is not that we have loved God, but that God loves us and sent Jesus to be the means by which our sins are forgiven. **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.

O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BELL CHOIR ANTHEM: "What A Friend We Have In Jesus"

FIRST READING: Ephesians 2:11–22

The author of this letter is reminding his audience that originally they were not part of God's chosen people. Through Jesus' death, however, they are included in God's household of faith, whose cornerstone is Jesus Christ.

So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called "the uncircumcision" by those who are called "the circumcision" — a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands — remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from

the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

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: Mark 6:30–34, 53–56

When Jesus sent his disciples out to teach and heal, they ministered among large numbers of people. Their work was motivated by Christ's desire to be among those in need.

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away

For this community of faith, your household. May the Spirit make of us a temple, a dwelling place for you. Let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Here other intercessions may be made.

We give thanks for (*Mary Magdalene and*) all witnesses to the risen Christ, our shepherd. Make us one, and unite us in his reconciling peace. Let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Receive our hopes and prayers, O God of mercy, for great is your faithfulness in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN:

“Alabare”

791 WOV

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK OF JULY 22ND, 2012

Organist: Marlys Beavers
Greeters: John & Grace Iverson
Ushers: 8:30 Irene Long & Steven Long, 10:00 Dick & Sue Stebbins
Lectors: 8:30 Ruth Hamman, 10:00 Carolyn Morris
Coffee Servers: Warren & Gale Rolek, Tom & Judy Forester

RESPOSE TO GOD'S WORD LAST WEEK

Attendance: Sat. – 30 Sun. 8:30 – 101 10:00 – 44

Offering: \$ 2,982.00 Building Fund: \$ 410.00

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

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

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

Mon., July 23 rd	7:00 p.m.	AA & Alanon
Tues., July 24 th	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
Wed., July 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
Thurs., July 26 th	8:00 a.m.	R.O.M.E.O.S.
	1:00 p.m.	Funtimers
Sat., July 28 th	5:00 p.m.	Worship Service

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you need **pastoral assistance** while Pastor Jim is gone during the period of July 25th thru August 10th contact the following pastors: Chris Hill (Garrison) 877-406-9101 office or 320-692-2042 home, Kris Johnson (Onamia) 320-532-3366 office or 320-532-5262 home or Elliot Malm (Holden) 320-592-0147. Or contact our **parish nurses**: Darlene Christensen 320-684-2846, Patti Honnold 320-676-8421 or Kathy Berland 320-495-3988.

Thanks to all who helped with the **Beef & Corn Feed**. It was delicious as usual.

Can you bake? Baked goodies are a real hit at the **Veggie Stand** so if you could provide something to the cause, please do so. Or if you don't bake, maybe you could consider donating sugar, flour, pecans, etc. to those who bake for the veggie stand every week—it would be greatly appreciated. (Check the bulletin board on your way into the Fellowship Hall for items you may wish to provide).

Watch for your **Neighborhood Care Group** assignments. They should be coming out when the new church directory is distributed.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Veggie Stand open every Saturday morning.

Sept. 14-15 **Jamboree**

Oct. 27 **Annual Fall Bazaar**