

Sunday, September 30th, 2012
Eighteenth 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

Someone is casting out demons in Jesus' name who isn't part of Jesus' own circle, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN:

“Jesus Loves Me!”

595 ELW

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

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.

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.

Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

ANTHEM: “What A Wonderful World” sung by Darwin Bruesewitz

FIRST READING: James 5:13–20

Marks of the Christian community include praying for those who are sick and in need, celebrating with those in good health, restoring those who have strayed, confessing sins to one another, and offering forgiveness to each other.

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

PSALM: Psalm 19:7–14

Refrain: The commandment of the LORD gives light to the eyes. (Ps. 19:8)

The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

**The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear
and gives light to the eyes.**

The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

**More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb. R**

By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is great reward.

**Who can detect one's own offenses?
Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer. R**

GOSPEL: Mark 9:38–50

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice. His disciples are slow to realize that these words apply to them as well as to others.

John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for

them up and anoint them with your healing presence. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of wisdom, your teaching is perfect and sure. Bless schools and universities, students and teachers, that they may be sources of your knowledge and truth. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be made.

O Lord, our strength and our redeemer, we give you thanks for teachers who have made your word known to us. Increase our knowledge of you until that day when the fullness of your truth is revealed. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Hear our prayers, faithful God, and renew us by your Spirit, that we may joyfully love and serve you and one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN:

“Soon and Very Soon”

439 ELW

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2012

Organist: Marlys Beavers
Greeters: Wally & Bev Swensen
Ushers: Chuck & Elsa Carlson
Lector: Ruth Hamman

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD LAST WEEK (9/23/12)

Attendance: 8:30 – 101 10:00 – 32
Offering: \$ 2,528.01 Building Fund: \$ 145.00

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

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

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA SEPTEMBER 30TH THRU OCTOBER 6TH, 2012

Mon., Oct. 1st 9:00 a.m. Women's Devotions at Pat Becker's
 7:00 p.m. AA & Alanon
Tues., Oct. 2nd 9:30 a.m. Bells
Wed., Oct. 3rd 9:30 a.m. Hardanger
 6:00 p.m. Choir
 7:00 p.m. Praise Team
Thurs., Oct. 4th 10:30 a.m. Worship & Music
 1:00 p.m. Funtimers

BETHESDA'S ANNUAL MEETING will be conducted **today at 10:00 a.m.** following our 9:00 a.m. Worship Service. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall.

Thank you to Darwin Bruesewitz for providing our Anthem this morning.

Please note that the meeting date for **Women's Devotions** has changed. We will meet tomorrow, Monday, October 1st at 9:00 a.m. at Pat Becker's home.

NO Wednesday Bible Studies during the month of October and **NO R.O.M.E.O.S.** the first two weeks of October. **R.O.M.E.O.S.** will begin again on October 18th at 8:00 a.m.

Hardanger will be held October 3rd, 10th & 17th. It was omitted from the newsletter.

We still need **Coffee Servers** for October 7th, November 11th, 18th & 25th.

POLKA SERVICE will take place on Sunday, October 21st.

WELCA – Fall Gathering – Heartland Conference – The Fall Gathering is Saturday, October 6th at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Hillman. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex, if you are interested in attending this conference. As it gets closer, we can discuss car pooling. All women are welcome to attend.

BETHESDA'S FALL BAZAAR will be Saturday, Oct. 27th from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Next Sunday is the first Sunday of the month and we will be passing the **BLESSING BOX**. If you feel God has been extra good to you, give back as you are able.

COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS:

(Check Community Bulletin Board in Fellowship Hall for more information)

Author Angela Foster will be presenting **Writing From Real Life** Writing Workshop on Saturday, October 13 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. at the Aitkin Public Library. Call 218-927-2339 to pre-register.

VARIETY SHOW-October 6th at 7 p.m. at Light of the Cross Church in Garrison.

Skål Klubbeen, a traditional Scandanavian folk orchestra, will perform at the Isle High School on October 12th.

Corrine Becker was part of the 2012 Homecoming royalty at McGregor High School.

Lyle Nyberg was one of a group of students from the Aitkin H.S. Spanish Club that travelled to Costa Rica.