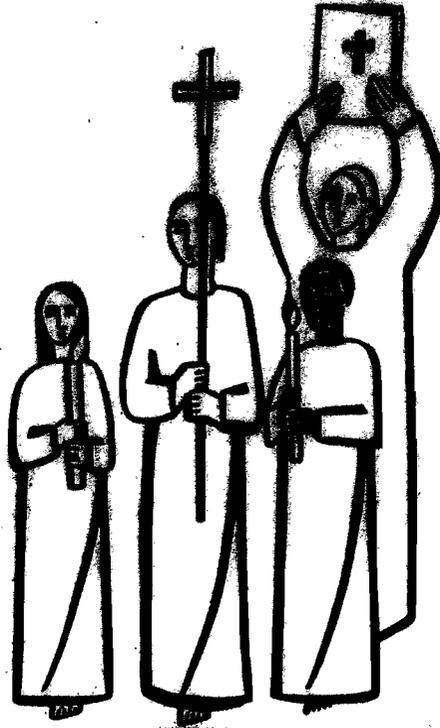


Sunday, October 28th, 2012
Reformation Sunday



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

21590 State Highway 47, Isle, MN 56342

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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

October 28th, 2012 – Reformation Sunday

INTRODUCTION

On this day we celebrate the heart of our faith: the gospel of Christ—the good news—that makes us free! Though we give thanks for the events of the sixteenth-century Reformation that brought renewal to the church of that time, we pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to unite the church today in its proclamation and witness to the world. In the waters of baptism we are made one body; we pray for the day that all Christians will also be one at the Lord's table.

Reformation Day

By the end of the seventeenth century, many Lutheran churches celebrated a festival commemorating Martin Luther's posting of the Ninety-five Theses, a summary of abuses in the church of his time. At the heart of the reform movement was the gospel, the good news that it is by grace through faith that we are justified and set free.

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP BY BELL CHOIR:

“How Great Thou Art”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN:

“O Christ the Same”

760 ELW

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

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.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive 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.

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, 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: “Thy Word”

FIRST READING: Romans 3:19–28

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and the other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For "no human being will be justified in his sight" by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

PSALM: Psalm 46

Refrain: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. (Ps. 46:7)

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,

and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;

though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;

God speaks, and the earth melts away. R

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Come now, regard the works of the LORD,

what desolations God has brought upon the earth;

behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;

who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

"Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations;

I will be exalted in the earth."

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. R

GOSPEL: Mark 10:46-52

They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

HYMN: **"Again to Your Dear Name"** **# 534 ELW**

SERMON

HYMN: **"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"** **# 335 ELW**

OFFERING & OFFERTORY PRAYER

God, giver of every good and perfect gift, we thank you for the daily blessings of life. For food and family, for friends and neighbors, for the gift of life itself we give you thanks. Bless these offerings of our treasure that they may be used wisely in your service.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As disciples of Christ Jesus called to love and serve all people, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A time for silent prayer.

God of the new covenant, in the waters of baptism you claim us as your own. Shower the church with your Holy Spirit, that the church will become one as we are one in you. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of creation, nourish the earth to provide enough food and clean water for all. Teach us to share these resources, that no one hungers or thirsts. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of peace, bring an end to conflicts and wars around the world, shatter the fear we have of people different from us, and break down all that ~~separates us from you~~ and one another. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of grace, quiet the fear and anxiety of those in need: the unemployed, homeless, persecuted, and all who are ill or suffering (*especially*). Grant them peace and healing, for you are their refuge and strength. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of freedom, make this congregation a place of forgiveness and reconciliation. Empower our faith so that we witness to your truth that liberates us from sin. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be made.

Eternal Word of life, we give you thanks for (*the apostles Simon and Jude and*) the reformers of every generation who have passed on the faith to us. Keep us steadfast in your word until we join them around your throne. 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 forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN:

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

504 ELW

Vs. 1, 2 & 4

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK OF OCTOBER 28TH, 2012

Organist: Marlys Beavers
Greeters: Skip & Lynn Hansen
Ushers: 8:30 Maynard & Kathy Bergland, 10:00 Ron & JoAnn Haglund
Lectors: 8:30 Sandy Pullen, 10:00 Wally Swensen
Coffee Servers: Rich & Karen Carron, Bruce & Sandy Carlson

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD LAST WEEK (10/21/12)

Attendance: 8:30 – 118 10:00 – 44

Offering: \$ 2,484.00 Building Fund: \$ 270.00

\$ 3,077.00 – Weekly amount needed for operating expenses.

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

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA OCTOBER 28TH THRU NOVEMBER 3RD, 2012

Mon., Oct. 29th	7:00 p.m.	AA & Alanon
Tues., Oct 30th	9:30 a.m.	Bells
Wed., Oct 31st	9:30 a.m.	Hardanger
	6:00 p.m.	Choir
	7:00 p.m.	Praise Team
Thurs., Nov. 1st	8:00 a.m.	R.O.M.E.O.S.
	10:30 a.m.	Worship & Music
	1:00 p.m.	Funtimers

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD – There is a container available in the narthex to collect donations for shoeboxes. Items needed include: school supplies (sharpeners, scissors, solar calculators, crayons, pens, pencils, glue sticks), toiletry items (toothpaste, toothbrush, combs, brushes, soap, washcloths), small toys such as balls, dolls, stuffed animals, yo-yo's, jump ropes, puzzles, t-shirts, hats, jewelry, gum and hard candy for ages 2-14. All items must be new and no liquids are accepted. The shoe boxes will be filled on Sunday, November 11th after the 2nd service. Donations are also needed to cover the \$7 cost of postage for each box. Empty shoeboxes (if possible they should be wrapped) are also needed.

November 11th has been declared **Neighborhood Care Group Sunday**. You are requested to sit with your neighbors during the coffee hour.

Don't forget to **Fall back next Sunday** as we return to regular Standard Time. Also this Sunday is a **good Sunday to replenish out coffee supply**, so if you are able, please remember a can of your favorite coffee.

WELCA—The **WELCA Christmas Luncheon** will be held Saturday, December 1st in the Fellowship Hall at 12 Noon with Kathy Hughes from the Tuscany Room providing the food and a demonstration. The cost is \$9.00 per person. Bring a friend, daughter or neighbor for lunch!!!

BETHESDA CHRISTMAS DINNER will be held on Monday, December 3rd at the Pine Inn in Glen. Please mark your calendar!!! More info will follow in the coming weeks.

Check Community Bulletin Board for the following items:

Feeling Stretched? Balance Your Life. *Powerful Tools for Caregivers* is an educational program designed to provide you with the tools you need to take care of yourself. Begins Thursday, November 1st and continues for six Thursdays at Isle IREC.

Craft & Bake Sale, Sacred Heart Church, Wahkon, November 3rd.

...Vendors Wanted ...676-1163

NEED HELP WITH YOUR ENERGY BILLS? Call Lakes & Pines Community Action Council for help. Phone 320-679-1800 or 1-800-832 6082.

Medicare Part D Open Enrollment is Oct. 15th-Dec. 7th. If you need help comparing plans for 2013 call **Senior LinkAge Line®** at 1-800-333-2433.