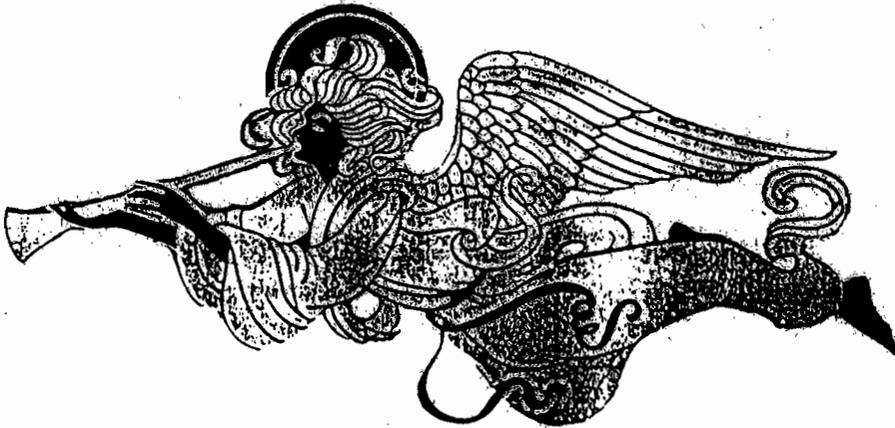


December 9th, 2012

Second Sunday of Advent

CANTATA



King of Love

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

OFFERING & OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord lift up his countenance and + grant you his peace.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

270 ELW

CANTATA PARTICIPANTS

Sopranos

Carol Bakken

Pat Becker

Jeannine Bruesewitz

Kathy Carlson

Laurina Tofteland

Tenors

Kathy Berland

Maynard Berland

Mike Merrell

Dennis Meidlinger

Jim Raisanen

Randy Tofteland

Lyle Nyberg

Altos

Val Benton

Char Berg

Darlene Christensen

Joanne Groth

Basses

Jim Christensen

Doug Kloss

Wally Swensen

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK OF DECEMBER 9TH, 2012

Organist: Marlys Beavers
Greeters: Dennis & Lynne Meidlinger
Ushers: 8:30 Wayne & Janice Olson, 10:00 Darrell Kelly
Coffee Servers: Steve & Melody Lackner, Mark & Alene Korngable

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD LAST WEEK (12/02/12)

Attendance: 8:30 – 109 10:00 – 50

Offering: \$ 3,064.25 Building Fund: \$ 1,085.00
Blessing Box: \$ 209.04

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

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

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA DECEMBER 9TH THRU DECEMBER 15TH, 2011

Sun., Dec. 9 th	8:30 & 10:00 a.m.	Christmas Cantata
Mon., Dec. 10 th	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Women's Devotions at Jan Phillipp's AA & Alanon
Tues., Dec. 11 th	9:30 a.m.	Bells
Wed., Dec. 12 th	8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Bible Study Hardanger Bible Study Choir Praise Team
Thurs., Dec. 13 th	8:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	R.O.M.E.O.S. Funtimers

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the Cantata! We appreciate all the hard work that you put into bringing us this wonderful music. Keep up the good work. God Bless You All.

This is the last Sunday to submit names of local people who you feel could use help from our **Bethesda Secret Santa**. Put the names in the wooden box in the narthex.

Between Services today the **Quilters & Jelly Makers** will be selling their wares so stop and check them out during the Coffee Hour.

2013 OFFERING ENVELOPES are in the Fellowship Hall and ready to be picked up so please do so. Thank you.

Mary Ellen would like to sell her two **Christmas cactus plants** that are on display in the Fellowship Hall. If you are interested, you can see Dianne Jones. Make a donation in the collection plate.

OLD LOG THEATER – JANUARY 10TH. Information & signup sheet are on the table in the Narthex. The bus will pick up at Bethesda at 9AM.

AITKIN COUNTY OPERATION CHRISTMAS deadline is today (December 9th). The Hat & Mitten Tree are in the Narthex. Everything must be new. You can put toys, games, personal items & games under the tree also. Any question, call Bonnie Mickelson at 218-927-3485.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES will be at 3:30 & 5:00 p.m. on December 24th.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE will be at 10:00 a.m. on December 25th (one service only) followed by a potluck dinner. If you find yourself alone this Christmas Day, why not join others in the same situation. Plan to participate! Bring your favorite dish. Ham will be provided.

December 30th Sunday Service will be at 10:00 a.m. (one service only).

THE WISDOM OF ADVENT LISTENING

The peace that all of creation longs for comes not by ways of the world but by a road less traveled, journeyed in response to the voice of the Lord. John resonated with that voice in the wilderness, where crowds came out to be baptized by him. His was a baptism of repentance: turning from self-centered ways to God's path of self-giving. John points to Jesus as our prime example: when we live in harmony with life as revealed by Jesus Christ, valleys are filled, mountains made low, and the rough ways are made smooth for the way of peace.

The peace Christ brings is not the *absence* of hardship and suffering but the *presence* of God's love and forgiveness. In Christ, God's love will often meet us when and where we least expect it. Where are the dark valleys in your life? What are the mountains and rough places you face? Who are the people you find troubling? John challenges us to prepare the way for the truth of God's Word made flesh. A voice cries out in hope, challenging you to open your whole life to God's peace, reconciling with self and others.

In the wisdom of Advent listening, we let the voice of the Lord speak into the depths of our being to renew and restore our souls. More than a doctrine, salvation is a relational experience we are blessed to have with God and others, through faith in Jesus Christ. Now is the time to listen for the voice crying out to us all, "Prepare the way of the Lord" (Luke 3:4). Today no matter who you are or where the Lord finds you, listen and receive the salvation of God!

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