

FEBRUARY 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013

First Sunday in Lent



**BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO**

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Church Web Site: [blcmalmo.org](http://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**

# Sunday, February 17, 2013/First Sunday in Lent

## Holy Communion

### INTRODUCTION

*These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues; to receive the gifts of God's grace; to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus; and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.*

### PRELUDE

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OPENING HYMN: "In the Cross of Christ I Glory" # 324 ELW**

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

**THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION:** Most merciful God, we come needing your forgiveness. We turn our backs on your unconditional love. We allow the events of our daily lives to slowly and gradually cloud our awareness of you. We are more insensitive than we are rebellious. We are more wooden than we are alive. God, shake us up, turn us around, and give us a new energy to love and follow you. Hear the prayers of our hearts, God.

*A time of silent meditation and reflection.*

**GOD'S BAPTISMAL GIFT OF FORGIVENESS:** Jesus promised he would send the Comforter, the Holy Spirit, to be with those who believe in him. Through the waters of baptism, we are given a visual reminder of this great promise; our sins have been buried and are gone forever from God's sight. Our sins have been washed away and we have been made whiter than snow. In the promise of baptism, we are reminded that we do not need to live our lives alone. We are reminded that we have a constant friend and a comforter in Jesus. Praise God for the new life we receive through baptism. **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**

**O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**BAPTISM: Jameson Fredrick Junker, son of Jason & Michelle Junker, grandson of Doug & Sheila Penoyer.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC by Randy Tofteland**

**FIRST READING: Romans 10:8b-13**

"The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart"  
(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is

justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

**PSALM: Psalm 91:1–2, 9–16**

*Refrain: God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways. (Ps. 91:11)*

You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,  
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty—  
**you will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my stronghold,  
my God in whom I put my trust." R**  
Because you have made the LORD your refuge,  
and the Most High your habitation,  
**no evil will befall you, nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**  
For God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways.  
**Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against  
a stone. R**

You will tread upon the lion cub and viper;  
you will trample down the lion and the serpent.  
**I will deliver those who cling to me;  
I will uphold them, because they know my name.**  
They will call me, and I will answer them;  
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.  
**With long life will I satisfy them, and show them my salvation. R**

**GOSPEL: Luke 4:1–13**

*After being filled with the Holy Spirit at his baptism, Jesus is led in the wilderness. Through his responses to the temptations of the devil he defines what it means to be called "the Son of God."*

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,'  
and 'On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

**HYMN:**            **“Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling”**       **# 608 ELW**

**SERMON**

**OFFERING & OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray.

**God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Returning to the Lord with all our heart, let us pray for the whole people of God, the earth, and all who cry out for healing.

*A time for silent prayer.*

For those preparing for baptism, and for all who walk amid the Lenten desert, that you lead us to hunger for your word of life. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

For all the realms of the world, and for those in authority, that they may use their power with humility. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

For desert and wilderness terrains, and for those who make pilgrimages to holy places and sacred ground. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

For those tested by illness, temptation, addiction, or inner struggle (*especially*), that you enfold them in the holy wings of your presence. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

For this assembly, that what we confess with our lips we may show forth in our lives. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be made.*

We give thanks for all our holy ancestors who journeyed through the wilderness and now dwell in your promised land of rest. May we follow them in lives of faithful service. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

Hear us according to your steadfast love, O God, and in your great compassion bring us to resurrection and rebirth in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **APOSTLE'S CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

### **COMMUNION**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten Pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayers, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

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

### **DISMISSAL**

**Go in peace. Remember the poor.  
Thanks be to God.**

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

## THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK OF FEBRUARY 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2013

Organist: Marlys Beavers  
Greeters: Carol Bakken & Irene Long  
Ushers: Lloyd & Shirley Lilienthal  
Lector: Steve Long  
Coffee Servers: Diane & Del Jones, Alene Lowe & Mark Korngable

## RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD LAST WEEK (2/10/13)

Attendance: 9:00 – 83

Offering: \$ 1,473.00                      Building Fund: \$ 200.00

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

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

## THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA FEBRUARY 17<sup>TH</sup> THRU FEBRUARY 23<sup>RD</sup>, 2013

Mon., Feb. 18 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.	AA & Alanon
Tues., Feb. 19 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
Wed., Feb. 20 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	WIC
	9:30 a.m.	Hardanger
	9:30 a.m.	WELCA
	11:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	5:30 p.m.	Potluck
	6:30 p.m.	Lenten Service
Thurs., Feb. 21 <sup>st</sup>	8:00 a.m.	R.O.M.E.O.S.
	1:00 p.m.	Funtimers (Card Games & Dominoes)

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WELCA – The February WELCA meeting is this Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>. Our speaker will be Darlene Christensen. Darlene will be demonstrating hands-only CPR and how to operate an AED. All women of Bethesda are welcome to attend. Hope to see you there!**

**For those of you who have not yet picked up your 2012 GIVING STATEMENTS and your 2013 OFFERING ENVELOPES, they are now in the Fellowship Hall on the table to the right past the coat racks.**

**COFFEE SERVERS are still needed for March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>. Please sign up.**