

March 24th, 2013
PALM/PASSION SUNDAY



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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Pastor: Rev. James Raisanen

Church Secretary: Evelyn Richter

Parish Nurses: Darlene Christensen, RN, C 320-684-2846

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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, March 24, 2013

Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday

INTRODUCTION

The voice of the suffering savior, Jesus, can be heard in the prophet Isaiah's words and the pleading of the psalm. We are invited into the agony of our Lord in the extended reading of the story of Jesus' passion. In the second reading, we who have put on Christ in holy baptism are urged to let the mind of Christ be our own. Lent leads us to this holy moment. Embrace it.

CALL TO WORSHIP by Bell Choir: "Ring Joy"

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,
we give you thanks and praise.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,
we give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,
we give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

GATHERING

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL: Luke 19:28–40

Glory to you, O Lord.

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!"

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

Praise to you, O Christ.

BLESSING OF PALMS

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these branches

and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PROCESSION

Let us go forth in peace,
in the name of Christ. Amen.

Refrain

**All glory, laud, and honor to you, redeemer, king,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.**

You are the king of Israel and David's royal Son,
now in the Lord's name coming, our King and Blessed One.

Refrain

The company of angels are praising you on high;
creation and all mortals in chorus make reply.

Refrain

The multitude of pilgrims with palms before you went.
Our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present.

Refrain

To you, before your passion, they sang their hymns of praise.
To you, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

Refrain

Their praises you accepted; accept the prayers we bring,
great author of all goodness, O good and gracious king.

Refrain

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THE DAY INTRODUCTION

As we now enter into the contemplation of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and meditate on the salvation of the world through his sufferings, death, burial, and resurrection, let us pray.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

BELL CHOIR ANTHEM: “Simple Gifts”

FIRST READING: Philippians 2:5–11

Paul quotes from an early Christian hymn that describes Jesus' humble obedience in his incarnation as a human being, even to death, and his exaltation and glory as Lord of all.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness. And being found in human form,
he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father

PSALM: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Refrain: This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good; God's mercy endures forever.

Let Israel now declare, "God's mercy endures forever."

Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.

This is the gate of the LORD; here the righteous may enter." R

I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

By the LORD has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Hosanna! O LORD, save us! We pray to you, LORD, prosper our days!

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD. We bless you
from the house of the LORD. R**

The LORD is God and has given us light. Form a procession with branches up to the
corners of the altar.

**You are my God, and I will thank you; you are my God, and I will exalt
you.**

Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;

God's mercy endures forever. R

GOSPEL: Luke 22:14—23:56

Please read during your Holy Week Devotions

HYMN: "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed" # 337 ELW

SERMON

HYMN: "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" # 351 ELW

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.

Form in the church the mind of Christ, that we may empty ourselves for the sake of the world you love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Open the ears of civil authorities, that they may hear the voices of those facing insult and degradation, and those who cry out for bread and shelter. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Rescue the earth from abuse and pollution, and bring an end to famine, disease, terror, and bloodshed. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Bless the Jewish people as they celebrate Passover, and grant that the religions of the world may grow in mutual understanding and respect. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Draw near to all who feel abandoned, or who face alienation, death, or illness this holy week (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Teach us to walk the way of the cross, that we may be a community of forgiveness and mercy. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be made.

We remember all the martyrs and saints who at death were commended into your merciful hands. Bring us, with them, to the joy of the resurrection. 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and grant you his peace.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN:

“Ride On, Ride On in Majesty”

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THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK OF MARCH 24TH, 2013

Organist: Marlys Beavers
Greeters: Chuck & Elsa Carlson
Ushers: 8:30 Ruth Hamman, Les Bolke, 10:00 Marilyn Andrews, Judy Seifert
Lectors: 8:30 Ruth Hamman, 10:00 Evie Richter
Coffee Servers: John & Grace Iverson, Dennis & Lynne Meidlinger

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD LAST WEEK (3/17/13)

Attendance: 8:30 – 97 10:00—42
Offering: \$ 2,908.50 Building Fund: \$ 180.00

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

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

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA MARCH 24TH THRU MARCH 30TH, 2013

Mon., Mar. 25 th	7:00 p.m.	AA & Alanon
Tues., Mar. 26 th	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	9:30 a.m.	Bells
Wed., Mar. 27 th	8:30 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:30 a.m.	Hardanger
	11:00 a.m.	Bible Study
Thurs., Mar. 28 th	8:00 a.m.	R.O.M.E.O.S.
	1:00 p.m.	Funtimers
	6:30 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Communion Service
Fri., Mar. 29 th	9:00 a.m.	Good Friday Service of the Nails

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

Thurs., March 28th – **Maundy Thursday Communion Service** at 6:30 p.m.

Friday, March 29th – **Good Friday Service of the Nails** at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, March 31st – **Easter Sunday Services** at 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Coffee & Cake will be served between services.

March 24th (today) there will be a **Pancake Breakfast** at the **Wealthwood Rod & Gun Club**. 8 a.m.- 1 p.m. See bulletin board for details.

March 30th “**Burst of Spring**” **Arts & Craft show** will be held at McQuoid’s Inn. For details see bulletin board.

There will be **no Easter Breakfast** this year due to a lack of volunteers. There will be coffee and cake served between services.

Friday, April 5th is the **Aitkin Community Ed bus trip to Plymouth Playhouse** – Ring of Fire. \$65 includes bus, theater ticket and chicken buffet lunch. Pick up at church will be about 9 a.m. Signup sheets with more information in the entry.

GLORY BAPTIST CHURCH is having their **2nd Annual “Declare His Glory” women’s day event** on Saturday, April 13th. For more information, a complete notice is posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

MARGE BUTCHER former member of Bethesda is now residing in Florida. She was instrumental in starting the Bethesda Veggie Stand and in making jelly. She would appreciate receiving cards. Her picture and address are on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

The **FIRST ANNUAL RUN FOR THE CAMPS** will be held May 4th beginning and ending at Zion Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids, MN. This is a 5K Run/2 Mile Walk. For more information see the poster on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.