

June 16th 2013
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
HAPPY FATHER'S DAY



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO
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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, June 16, 2013/Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion

INTRODUCTION

The enormity of our sin is surpassed only by the mercy of God. We come, repentant, to the table of the Lord. In the body and blood of Jesus, in the announcement of our absolution, all our sins are forgiven. "Happy are they ... whose sin is put away." Happy are we.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: **"Great Is Thy Faithfulness" # 733 ELW**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

WE CONFESS WE ARE A BROKEN PEOPLE: We confess we live in a world broken apart by selfishness and self-centeredness. We feel isolate by loneliness and betrayed by broken promises. Sin has shattered our existence and we know the despair of trying to "fix it" on our own. God, we confess we are a broken people in a broken world. We need to know your forgiving grace. We need to feel your everlasting love. God of love, create a heart of wholeness within us.

WE HEAR THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS: People of God, our Creator knows us and loves us. God knows our brokenness and desires to give us a heart of wholeness. In Jesus Christ, our shattered world is restored and we are given the gifts of grace and forgiveness. The cross is empty and the tomb is open. Christ's victory over the death provides forgiveness for our sin and hope for all eternity. New life begins today! New love begins right now! Praise God for life and love. **Praise the Lord God! 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.

O God, throughout the ages you judge your people with mercy, and you inspire us to speak your truth. By your Spirit, anoint us for lives of faith and service, and bring all people into your forgiveness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM: “We Remember You”

FIRST READING: Galatians 2:15–21

Paul preaches on the power of God's grace to make us faithful. We are made right with God through Jesus Christ alone, through no work of our own. As a result, Christ's life has become our whole identity.

We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; yet we know that a person is justified not by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. And we have come to believe in Christ Jesus, so that we might be justified by faith in Christ, and not by doing the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law. But if, in our effort to be justified in Christ, we ourselves have been found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again the very things that I once tore down, then I demonstrate that I am a transgressor. For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I do not nullify the grace of God; for if justification comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing.

PSALM: Psalm 32

Refrain: Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin. (Ps. 32:5)

Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!

While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.

For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

R: *Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.*

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

You are my hiding place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.

R: *Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.*

Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;

who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.

Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

R: *Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.*

GOSPEL: Luke 7:36—8:3

Through a dramatic encounter of rich and poor, righteous and sinner, Jesus teaches the relationship between receiving mercy and responding with a lavish outpouring of love. Jesus also provokes his host by claiming authority to forgive sins.

Chapter 7

One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table. And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him — that she is a sinner." Jesus spoke up and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Teacher," he replied, "speak." A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. When they could not pay, he canceled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?" Simon

answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the greater debt." And Jesus said to him, "You have judged rightly." Then turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little." Then he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

Chapter 8

Soon afterwards he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. The twelve were with him, as well as some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, and Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their resources.

HYMN: "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

#773 ELW

PRESENTATION BY PASTOR NELSON LUFAFA



OFFERING & OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of our life and our resources, we bring these gifts with thankful hearts for all you have done for us. Bless the labor of our minds and hands. We pray that our gifts would create community and justice would be done for all people. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing in the good news of God come near, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A time for silent prayer.

O God, we pray for the church, that knowing your mercy in Christ Jesus, we might show forth your great love. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the earth and all its creatures: for wilderness and farmland, cities and towns; for oceans, lakes, and streams. Give us wisdom to live well upon this beautiful earth. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for our whole human family, created in your image, and yet divided by race and class, gender and creed. Gathers us around your table of mercy. Forgive us our sins and heal our divisions. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for all who are bowed down, for those neglected or abused, frightened or despairing. We pray for all who cry out for healing and hope (especially). Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for all who love and nurture children, especially fathers and grandfathers, godfathers and uncles. Bless them in their vocation to raise up our children in love. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be made.

We give you thanks for all who have gone before us and now find their rest in you. Hold us in your mercy, until we are reunited in your great love. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O God of compassion, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your great mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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

LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

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

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN: “Give to Our God Immortal Praise!” # 848 ELW

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO PASTOR LUFABA from Uganda as he once again visits our congregation.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY to all fathers, those here at Bethesda, and all around the world.

WELCA—Women of Bethesda. Our In-Kind Focus Project for Lutheran World Relief will be a donation to Lutheran World Relief's Quilt and Kits Shipping Fund. During this month there will be a basket on the table in the Narthex for your contribution.

MEMORY GARDEN BRICKS—Bethesda's Memory Garden Committee will be taking orders for new bricks until the end of June. Forms are available in the Memory Garden mailbox or contact Val Benton or Evie Richter. Bricks will be placed in the garden at summer's end.

COFFEE SERVERS needed for next Sunday, June 23rd and into the summer. Please sign up on the bulletin board next to the kitchen serving window.

NO BELL PRACTICE on Tuesday, June 18th. **BELL PRACTICE** will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 25th and Saturday, June 29th instead.

Malmo Evangelical Free Church is once again offering **Gospel Concerts** every Saturday at 7:00 p.m. thru August. See poster on bulletin board to see who will be there on any given week.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – June 17th thru June 21st. 9:00 – 11:30 a.m.

CELEBRATION OF FREEDOM – John Koziol, Jr. & friends will be here on Saturday, July 6th at 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, July 7th at 10:00 a.m. for this special service. At 8:30 a.m. there will be our regular Sunday morning worship service.

VEGGIE STAND will be opening on the morning of Saturday, July 6th and the rest of the Saturday mornings throughout the summer.

BEEF & CORN FEED will be Saturday, July 27th.

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK OF JUNE 16TH, 2013

Organist: Marlys Beavers
Greeters: Dennis & Lynn Meidlinger
Ushers: 8:30 Chuck & Elsa Carlson, 10:00 Darrell Kelly
Lectors: 8:30 Phil Bray, 10:00 Carolyn Morris
Coffee Servers: Phil & Barb Bray, Dick & Sandy Pullen

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD LAST WEEK (6/9/2013)

Attendance: Sat. – 21 Sun. 8:30 – 122 10:00 – 25

Offering: \$ 2,975.00 Building Fund: \$ 540.00

(\$515.00 in offerings & \$90.00 Building Fund given through the Simply Giving Program were omitted from the total giving in last week's bulletin.)

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

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

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA JUNE 16TH THRU JUNE 22ND, 2013

Mon., June 17 th	9:00 – 11:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Vacation Bible School AA potluck AA & Alanon
Tues., June 18 th	9:00 – 11:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 5:30 p.m.	Vacation Bible School NO BELL PRACTICE Council meeting
Wed., June 19 th	9:00 – 11:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Vacation Bible School Choir Praise Team
Thurs., June 20 th	9:00 – 11:30 a.m.	Vacation Bible School
Fri., June 21 st	9:00 – 11:30 a.m.	Vacation Bible School
Sat., June 22 nd	5:00 p.m.	Sat. Eve Worship Service

LAVISH LOVE

The woman who anoints Jesus might as well have had a scarlet "A" pinned to her blouse. She wore many negative labels. Even to be a woman in first-century Palestine meant she was barely human. Simon the Pharisee, on the other hand, wore his roles like medals on his chest: educated, literate, male, religious, upstanding citizen, dinner host.

From his abundance, Simon shares little. He is too impressed with himself and too set on impressing others to pay attention to anyone else. Self-consumed and preoccupied, he takes exception to the woman. He says to himself, "If this man [Jesus] were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him" (Luke 7:39). We have to wonder if he often speaks to himself, since few others are worthy of his words. Meanwhile she bathes, kisses, and anoints Jesus with tears and oil.

The two provide a sharp contrast: one extravagant and the other stingy; one who comes to Jesus with a heart full of joy, while the other shows little interest in his guest.

Simon sees only the sin of the woman, as if one person can be more full of sin than another. He takes no notice of her generosity or her willingness to serve Jesus. By telling a parable, Jesus moves our attention from the sin of the woman to the generosity of God, who forgives more abundantly than we can imagine.

We encounter this generous, abundantly-forgiving God every time we gather for worship, every time we return to the cleansing, healing waters of our baptism, every time we receive the gift of forgiveness and life in the bread and wine of communion. Come, be welcome to this place, this font, this table, where God meets us, mends us, and sends us in peace.

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STAO Uganda

Currently, STAO's primary needs are focused on school fees and supplies for the children in the Agape School as well as 3 toilets for the girls' section of the Agape Home and one toilet for the boys' area. At present, the kids are using outdoor latrines which are failing.

Here are some interesting Uganda numbers to give you an idea of just **some** of STAO's operating costs

The toilets plus plumbing installation would be \$ 6000

Primary school uniforms 3 of them for \$ 40

Primary (6 yrs -12) school fees and books
for a 3 month semester \$ 60

High school fees and uniforms
for a 3 month semester \$ 92

University tuition and supplies for 2 semesters \$ 300

STAO has 159 students...

82 primary and 77 high school/college

There is no government support.

Agape school has 9 teachers

Their salary..... .\$60 per month or \$ 720 a year

2,500 Ugandan shillings equals one US dollar

Monthly electricity bill for STAO is \$200

The monetary units in Uganda are shillings

A loaf of bread in Jinja costs \$1 (USD)

Milk is taken directly from cows, boiled and served

Clothes are washed in outdoor basins and hung to dry.

Hopefully a new ambulance (\$25,000) or a used one can be obtained within Uganda. This will mean seriously injured or ill folks can be driven to the hospital as opposed to having to walk there.

So many challenges ahead for STAO

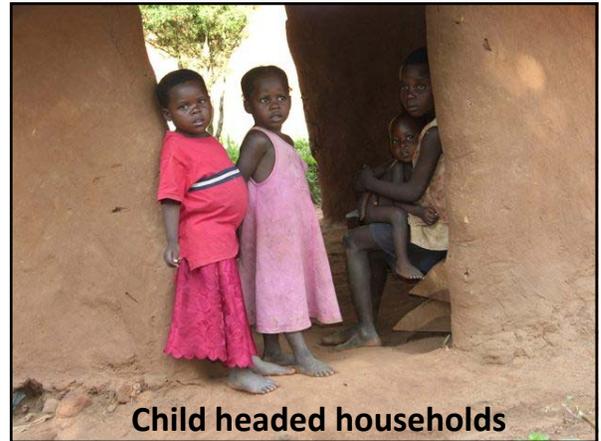
.....and for Uganda !

SAVE THE AIDS ORPHANS UGANDA

Pastor Nelson Lufafa

OUR MISSION

STAO Uganda is a life giving ministry whose mission and mandate is to uphold the sanctity of human life and endeavoring to meet the physical, spiritual and emotional needs to the HIV/AIDS orphans and widows facing welfare problems.

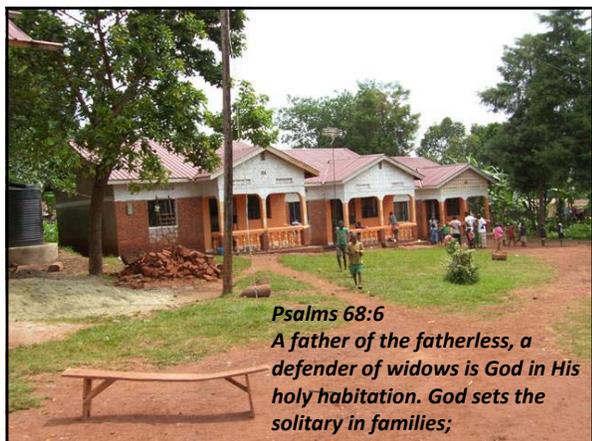


Child headed households



HIV/AIDS Care and Counseling







Victoria Junior Academy



Victoria Junior Academy Classes



With your help we can reach more orphans with the love of Jesus. We invite you to join with us and be part of Save The Aids Orphans Uganda



For further inquiries contact:

Websites:
www.staouganda.org
www.stao.no
www.staogiver.no
www.aiduganda.no

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Facebook: pastor Nelson Lufafa