

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 14th, 2013



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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Pastor: Rev. James Raisanen

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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, July 14, 2013/Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Service led by the Praise Team

INTRODUCTION

To love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind is to reflect God's mercy in responding to one's neighbor. That mercy found its most profound expression in the "gospel that has come to you"—namely the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. That gospel mercy comes to us again today: at the font, at the altar, and from the pulpit. It is very near to you.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

“God Bless America”

See Insert

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Words, end of this document

SONG # 1:

“America the Beautiful”

Hymn # 411 ELW

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Creator God, we gather as your children in need of forgiveness.

All: **We have all sinned against you in thought, word, and deed.**

P: For the times we have failed to put you first in our hearts,

All: **God, forgive our lack of faith.**

P: For the people we have failed to help because of our selfishness,

All: **God, forgive our lack of concern.**

P: Most merciful God, forgive our sins, and hear the prayers of our hearts.

(A time of silence to ask god to forgive our sins.)

HEAR THE GOOD NEWS OF EVERLASTING LIFE!

God has heard our prayers and forgives our sin. We are no longer held captive by the chains of sin. We are free to fly like the eagle, released from the bonds of death. Jesus loves us! This is all we need to know, for we do not receive the keys to the community of God because of our great faith, or by our kind deeds. It is because Jesus died on the cross and rose victorious over death that we have become heirs to everlasting life. Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Lord God, your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care. Hear the cries of everyone in need, and turn our hearts to love our neighbors with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING: Colossians 1:1–14

The letter to the Colossians was written to warn its readers of various false teachings. The first part of the letter is an expression of thanks for the faith, hope, and love that mark this community, including a prayer for strength and courage from Paul.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

PSALM: Psalm 25:1–10

Refrain: Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths. (Ps. 25:4)

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths. R

Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.

Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.

You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies. R**

GOSPEL: Luke 10:25–37

Jesus is challenged to explain what is involved in obeying the greatest commandment. Jesus tells a parable rich in surprises: those expected to show pity display hard hearts while the lowly give and receive unexpected and lavish mercy.

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on

the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

SONG #2: **“This Land is Your Land”** **See Insert**

SERMON

OFFERTORY SONG: **“Lord, Heal Thy World Today”** **See Insert**

OFFERING & OFFERTORY PRAYER

In loving response to your gracious blessing, we come with the offering of our time and treasure. May these gifts bring hope and healing to a world in need. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Confident in God's compassionate rule and enduring love, let us lift up the needs of the church, the world, and all of creation.

A time for silent prayer.

Empower those who witness to the gospel, that their actions may bear fruit and help others to know your grace. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Watch over all that is vulnerable and weak in this world: new life, frail bodies, fading strength. Help us feel your presence through all of life's seasons. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Incline your ear to the voiceless and powerless, refugees and victims of terror, and bring compassion to the hearts of those in power. Make us instruments of your peace. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Open our arms to all our neighbors: the hungry, poor, and homeless; the friendless and the outsider; the elderly and children; and all who suffer in body, mind or spirit (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Give us patience with each other as we work together extending your mercy to our neighborhoods through our ministries. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be made.

Grant that we may share in the inheritance of all your saints in light (*especially*), claiming the hope laid up for us in heaven by the work of Christ. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of mercy, hear the cries of your people, and answer us according to your steadfast love; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

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.

CLOSING HYMN: “Battle Hymn of the Republic” See Insert

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK OF JULY 14TH, 2013

Music Praise Team
Greeters: John & Grace Iverson
Ushers: 8:30 Keith & Dawn Kellen, 10:00 Ron & JoAnn Haglund
Lectors: 8:30 Dawn Kellen, 10:00 Darlene Christensen
Coffee Servers: Bill & Cheri Johnson, Dennis & Audrey Bistodeau

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD LAST WEEK (7/7/13)

Attendance: Sat. – 121 Sun. 8:30 – 43 10:00 – 95

Offering: \$ 4,132.86 Building Fund: \$ 655.00

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

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

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA JULY 14TH THRU JULY 20TH, 2013

Mon., July 15 th	7:00 p.m.	AA & Alanon
Tues., July 16 th	9:00 a.m.	Crafters
	9:30 a.m.	Bells
Wed., July 17 th	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
	6:00 p.m.	Choir
	7:00 p.m.	Praise Team
Thurs., July 18 th	8:00 a.m.	R.O.M.E.O.S.
	1:00 p.m.	Funtimers
Fri., July 19 th	10:00 a.m.	Bone Builders
Sat., July 20 th	Morning	Veggie Stand Open
	5:00 p.m.	Sat. Eve. Service

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BEEF & CORN FEED will be Saturday July 27th from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Invite your friends and neighbors and come enjoy a fine meal.

The **VEGGIE STAND** is open Saturday mornings through July & August. Come get some of our delicious sweet corn and baked goods. If you can help by providing baked goods, it would be greatly appreciated.

COFFEE SERVERS are needed for August 18th and the entire month of September. Please sign up on the board next to the kitchen serving window. Thank you.

Don't forget there is **GOLF** every Monday at 10:00 a.m. at Wealthwood Golf Course. Come join us!

We are still seeking someone to take charge of securing people for the **GREETER'S LIST**. Contact Evie at the church office.

The Northeastern Minnesota Synod will be sponsoring a **CHOIR CONCERT TOUR TO RUSSIA** in May. If you are interested in this wonderful opportunity to sing the praises of our Lord and help build mission outreach, please consider applying. There is a flyer on the bulletin board in the Fellowship hall. Information is also available on www.nemnsynod.org or speak to Pat Becker.

The next **CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING** will be held on Sunday, July 21st at 11:00 a.m.

Ladies, remember that Wednesday, July 17th is our **WELCA meeting** at 9:30 a.m.

SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE at 5:00 p.m. at Bethesda throughout the summer.

SATURDAY GOSPEL CONCERTS every Saturday evening at 7:00 p.m. this summer at the Malmo Evangelical Free Church. Next Saturday features the Paul Durocher Family.

GOD BLESS AMERICA

God Bless America, land that I love,
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with the light from above.

From the mountains to the prairies

To the oceans white with foam.
God Bless America my home, sweet home,
God Bless America, my home, sweet home!

This Land is Your Land

CHORUS:

This land is your land, this land is my land

From the California, to the New York Island.

From the Redwood forest, to the Gulf stream waters.

This land was made for you and me.

1. As I went walking that ribbon of highway,
I saw above me that endless skyway,
I saw below me that golden valley,
This land was made for you and me.
2. I roamed and rambled and followed my footsteps,
To the sparkling sands of her diamond deserts,
And all around me a voice was sounding,
This land was made for you and me.
3. When the sun comes shining and I was strolling,
And the wheat-fields waving, and the dust clouds
Rolling, a voice was chanting and the fog was
Lifting, This land was made for you and me

CHORUS:

LORD, HEAL THY WORLD TODAY

- 1. Lord, heal Thy world today, Lord this is what I pray, Lord heal Thy world; Begin within my life, Healing all sin and strife, With love and mercy rife, Lord, heal Thy World.**
- 2. My country is the world; My flag with stars impearled, fills all the skies. All the round earth I claim, Peoples of every name; And all inspiring fame, My heart would prize.**
- 3. Lord, heal Thy world today, Lord this is what I pray, Lord heal Thy world; begin within my life, Healing all sin and strife, With love and mercy rife, Lord, heal Thy world. A-men**

(Music to "My Country Tis Of Thee")

BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC

1. My eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord, he is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored. He has loosed the Fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword, His truth truth is Marching on.

CHORUS: Glory, glory hallelujah! Glory, glory hallelujah! Glory, glory hallelujah! His truth is Truth is marching on.

2. I have seen him in the watch fires of a hundred circling camps, they have builded him an alter in the evening dews and damps. I can read his righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps, His day is marching on.

CHORUS:

3. He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat, he is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment seat. Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer Him! Be jubilant, my feet! Our god is marching on.

4. In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea, with a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me. As He died to make men holy, let us die to make men free, while God is marching on.

CHORUS: