

**Tenth Sunday after Pentecost  
July 28th, 2013**



**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, July 28, 2013/ Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

## INTRODUCTION

*Persistence in prayer evoked the admiration of Jesus and wins the attention of the Lord when Abraham intercedes for Sodom. The life of the baptized—to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus the Lord—is to be rooted in prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God’s own. "When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me."*

**PRELUDE by Bell Choir:**                    **“Prelude in C”**                    *from “A Bit of Bach”*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**OPENING HYMN:**                    **“How Great Thou Art”**                    # 856 ELW

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

### Confession (based on the Beatitudes of Luke 6)

Leader: Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the community of heaven.

**All: God, sometimes we believe all we need to gain happiness is to accumulate more things. We confess that we let our “things” get in the way.**

Leader: Blessed are you who hunger now, for you shall be satisfied.

**All: God, we sometimes think if we have food to eat we are filled. We confess we need your “daily bread” to sustain our life.**

Leader: Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

**All: God, we live in the distractions of a society filled with entertainment. We confess we carry heavy burdens which cannot be covered with laughter.**

Leader: Blessed are you when people hate you on account of Christ. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven.

**All: God, we so desire the approval of others. We confess we want it to be easy and socially acceptable to follow you. Forgive our sin and bless us with your love.**

## HEAR THE GOOD NEWS OF CHRIST:

God in Christ Jesus has forgiven our sin and turned our world upside down. The values we hold so dear have been boldly rearranged by the Son of God and we now live in a daily relationship of love for the world and each other. The life, death and resurrection of Jesus provides the means by which our sins are forgiven. We can live through the laughter and the pain of each day because God in Christ, through the Holy Spirit, blesses us. Praise God for the blessing of life. **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.

**Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**BELL CHOIR ANTHEM:**                    **“Gavotte”**                    *from “A Bit of Bach”*

**FIRST READING: Colossians 2:6–15 [16–19]**

*Paul warns his congregation in Colossae about "the empty lure" of philosophies and traditions that compromise faith. Through the gift of faith, the church is mystically connected with Christ in his death and resurrection, which is enacted in baptism.*

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.

**PSALM: Psalm 138**

*Refrain: Your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.  
(Ps. 138:8)*

I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I will sing your praise.

**I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,  
because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;  
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things. R**

When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.

**All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,  
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD.

**The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar. R**

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;  
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;  
your right hand shall save me.

**You will make good your purpose for me;  
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever;  
do not abandon the works of your hands. R**

**GOSPEL: Luke 11:1-13**

*In teaching his disciples this prayer, Jesus also reminds them to focus on God's coming reign, God's mercy, and the strengthening of the community. Jesus encourages his disciples to child-like trust and persistence in prayer.*

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you

pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

Give us each day our daily bread.

And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial."

And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

**HYMN:**                    **"Just A Closer Walk with Thee"**                    **# 697 ELW**

#### **SERMON**

**HYMN:**                    **"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"**                    **# 756 ELW**

#### **OFFERING & OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**God of all creation, we are yours and all we have belongs to you. Accept these offerings and bless their use in your work among us. 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.*

Unite your people under the banner of Christ, and give them boldness and persistence in working to fulfill your purposes throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Bless the earth with favorable weather, and encourage our efforts to join your creative work in raising plants and animals, flowers and fruit. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Watch over farmers, firefighters, gardeners, lifeguards, construction workers, police officers, and all who work outdoors to protect and provide for us. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Open our hearts to those who are lost or seeking, and help us to be caring and generous to all who ask for understanding, wholeness, and healing (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Renew our appreciation for the artists and musicians in this parish, and bless their gifts that broaden and deepen our praise and thanksgiving. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be made.*

We praise you for the lives of all your saints (*especially musicians Johann Sebastian Bach, Heinrich Schütz, and George Frederick Handel*). Bring us at the last to the fullness of death and life in Christ, in your heavenly kingdom. 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**

### **BLESSING**

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

### **DISMISSAL**

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

**CLOSING HYMN:**

**“Rock of Ages”**

**# 623 ELW**

**THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK OF JULY 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2013**

Organist: Marlys Beavers  
Greeters: Harold & Ardis Kendall  
Ushers: 8:30 Shirley Moe & Diane Sandberg, 10:00 Dennis & Audrey Bistodeau  
Lectors: 8:30 Evie Richter, 10:00 Merrill Honnold  
Coffee Servers: Chuck & Elsa Carlson, Lee & Barb Forrester

**RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD LAST WEEK (7/21/2013)**

Attendance: Sat. – 19 Sun. 8:30 – 105 10:00 – 58

Offering: \$ 3,379.00 Building Fund: \$ 310.00

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

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

**THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA JULY 28<sup>TH</sup> THRU AUGUST 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2013**

Mon., July 29 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.	AA & Alanon
Tues., July 30 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 a.m.	Crafters
	9:30 a.m.	Bells
Wed., July 31 <sup>st</sup>	9:30 a.m.	Hardanger
	6:00 p.m.	Choir
	7:00 p.m.	Praise Team
Thurs., Aug. 1 <sup>st</sup>	10:30 a.m.	Worship & Music
	1:00 p.m.	Funtimers
Fri., Aug. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Morning	Veggie Stand
	5:00 p.m.	Sat. Eve. Worship

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THANK YOU** to everyone who helped in making our **BEEF & CORN FEED** a success. Many hands make light of the work and your hands were greatly appreciated.

**THANK YOU** also to everyone who signed up to serve coffee this year. We still need **COFFEE SERVERS** for the month of September and beyond. Signup sheet is next to the kitchen serving window.

The **VEGGIE STAND** is open every morning through the month of August. Come check out what is available. And if you have veggies, baked goods, plants, etc. that you would like to donate to the veggie stand, it would be greatly appreciated.

Get prepared, the Annual Bethesda **JAMBOREE** is coming. Mark September 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> on your calendar. Invite your friends and neighbors and come join in on the fun.