

August 4th, 2013
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost



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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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, August 4, 2013/Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion

INTRODUCTION

Today's texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the "unhappy business" of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the "things that are above." To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord's supper and the encouragement of God's word.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: "O Master, Let Me Walk with You" # 818 ELW

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

WE ADMIT OUR NEED FOR LIFE: God of life, we need your life. We trade our lives for a cheap imitation which leaves us empty and wanting. We reject the life you offer in favor of our own manufactured pleasures. We sell out to the vendors of this world and wonder why our life is empty. God of life, forgive the sins of our lifelessness and bring us to yourself again.

WE HEAR THE WORD OF LIFE!: Our God is life, the creator of all life, the sustainer of all life, and the giver of life eternal. Real life is found in trusting God for everything. God gave the life of Jesus, who took our place on the cross of death in order that we might live. Jesus conquered death and offers eternal life to each of us who trust him. Praise God for the possibility of new 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.

Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING: Colossians 3:1–11

Life in Christ includes a radical reorientation of our values. Just as the newly baptized shed their old clothes in order to put on new garments, so Christians are called to let go of greed and take hold of a life shaped by God's love in Christ.

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things — anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

PSALM: Psalm 49:1–12

Refrain: My mouth shall speak of wisdom. (Ps. 49:3)

Hear this, all you peoples; give ear, all you who dwell in the world,
you of high degree and low, rich and poor together.

My mouth shall speak of wisdom, and my heart shall meditate on understanding.

I will incline my ear to a proverb and set forth my riddle upon the harp.

Refrain: My mouth shall speak of wisdom.

Why should I be afraid in evil days, when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds
me,

the wickedness of those who trust in their own prowess, and boast of their great riches?

One can never redeem another, or give to God the ransom for another's life;
for the ransom of a life is so great that there would never be enough to pay it,
in order to live forever and ever and never see the grave.

**For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish
and leave their wealth to those who come after them.**

Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation to generation, though they had named lands after themselves.

**Even though honored, they cannot live forever;
they are like the beasts that perish.**

Refrain: My mouth shall speak of wisdom.

GOSPEL: Luke 12:13–21

In God's reign, the "rich will be sent away empty." Jesus uses a parable to warn against identifying the worth of one's life with the value of one's possessions rather than one's relationship with God.

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

HYMN: "O Jesus, I Have Promised"

810 ELW

SERMON

OFFERING & OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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.

Protect churches living under persecution, and erase the lines of country, race, and class that separate us from their struggle. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Teach us to treasure and nurture the world around us, and reawaken our sense of wonder at the miracle and brevity of life. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Advance wisdom and diplomacy among nations, that we may recognize our interdependence and work together for the good of all. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Give hope to those weighed down by fear and worry: the unemployed, the depressed or suicidal, those who are ill, in pain, or in any way overwhelmed (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Transform us by your gifts of bath, meal, and story that we will find riches in giving and sharing all that we have and enjoy. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be made.

Set our minds on things above and at the last, join us with our faithful departed brothers and sisters (*especially*) and bring us to eternal life in 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.

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.

WORD OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.**

CLOSING HYMN:

“Lead On, O King Eternal!

805 ELW

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK OF AUUST 4TH, 2013

Organist: Marlys Beavers
Greeters: Wayne & Janice Olson
Ushers: 8:30 Lloyd & Shirley Lilienthal, 10:00 Jerry & Carolyn Morris
Lectors: 8:30 Joyce Rimer, 10:00 Laurina Tofteland
Coffee Servers: Jackie Stockdill, Judy Siefert, Darwin & Jeannine Bruesewitz

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD LAST WEEK (7/28/13)

Attendance: Sat. – 20 Sun. 8:30 – 97 10:00 – 48

Offering: \$ 2, 726.51 Building Fund: \$ 1,435.00

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

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

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA AUGUST 4TH THRU AUGUST 10TH, 2013

Mon., Aug. 5 th	7:00 p.m.	AA & Alanon
Tues., Aug. 6 th	9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	Crafters Bells
Wed., Aug. 7 th	9:30 a.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Hardanger Choir Praise Team
Thurs., Aug. 8 th	8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. 1:00 p.m.	Foot Care Funtimers
Fri., Aug. 9 th	10:00 a.m.	Bone Builders
Sat., Aug. 10 th	Morning 5:00 p.m.	Veggie Stand Sat. Evening Service

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today the first Sunday of the month is **BLESSING BOX SUNDAY**. As the good Lord has given to you in abundance let us give likewise to the work of the church. The monies received are used for the church “Wish List” and for those unexpected needs of the church such as breakdown of major equipment that is not in the budget.

CHOIR MEMBERS – Please note the change of time for choir practice for the month of August. Choir will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays instead of 6:00 p.m.

On September 18th at 9:30 a.m. **WELCA** presents Jean Prickett, Parish Nurse at First Lutheran Church of Aitkin to tell “How to Create a Healthy Home”.

NEW PHONE NUMBER: Judy Wuorio’s new number is 1-612-308-5662. Please add to your church directory.

RON HASS is in the Onamia Hospital. He would like company or you can call him at 320-515-0194. Please remember Ron in your prayers.

NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 11TH the **PRAISE TEAM** will lead the worship service which will be an outdoor service at the memory garden weather permitting. Please bring your own lawn chair.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH of Wahkon is holding their **BAZAAR** on Sunday, August 11th. Mass at 10:00 a.m. with a Roast Beef and Ham Dinner from 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. An Auction & Raffle Drawings will also be held in the afternoon.

GOLF—10:00 a.m. on Mondays at Wealthwood Golf Course.

JAMBOREE—Bethesda’s Jamboree will be held Friday & Saturday, September 13th & 14th. Invite your friends and neighbors and come enjoy a great show.

“GOD’S WORK. OUR HANDS.” SUNDAY will be September 8th. Think about what you can do to make the world a better place. See article in August newsletter.