

March 9, 2014
First Sunday of Lent



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

21590 State Highway 47, Isle, MN 56342

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Pastor: Rev. James Raisanen

Church Secretary: Mary Kramer

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, March 9, 2014

First Sunday in Lent

Praise Team

INTRODUCTION

Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.

CALL TO WORSHIP: "Dance With Me"

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

OPENING HYMN: "Just As I Am/Jesus Take All of Me" CCLI # 6366049r

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Come, let us acknowledge our sin and seek God's face,
that we may live.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
we confess that we have turned away from you and from our neighbors,
and in toward ourselves. We have sought security in possessions and the place of
power in relationships. We have trusted ourselves most of all.

**Turn us back to you, O God. In your mercy, forgive our sinfulness
and cleanse us from guilt and shame. Guide us on the path of freedom
that is your gift to us in Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

Hear for yourselves:

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

In the waters of baptism grace abounds for you and for all.

God turns to you in love and puts away every sin, every wrong turn,
for the sake of + Jesus, the one God sent to save the world.

Amen.

GREETING

Sisters and brothers in Christ, beloved children of God:
grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

PRAISE TEAM ANTHEM: “That is Why We Praise Him” CCLI# 2668576

BAPTISM: Crosby Martin Webster Tofteland

FIRST READING:

Genesis 2:15-17

Human beings were formed with great care, to be in relationship with the creator, creation, and one another. The serpent's promise to the first couple that their eyes would be opened led, ironically, to the discovery only that they were naked.

Chapter 2

The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

PSALM

Psalm 32

Refrain: Mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD. (Ps. 32:10)

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**

Refrain: Mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD. (Ps. 32:10)

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

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

GOSPEL:

Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, he endures the testing of the evil one.

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone,

but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple,

saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

SERMON:

"The Babcock B-300 or Roast Duck"

OFFERING & OFFERTORY HYMN: “Put Your Hand in the Hand” CCLI# 279691

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life.

Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERSESSION

Returning to the Lord, our God, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

Let us pray for the whole Christian church. (*Pause*) Instruct and teach your church in the way that it should go so that it worships and serves only you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Let us pray for the well-being of creation. (*Pause*) Renew all waters, lands, and skies to reflect your glory and guide us to be respectful in how we use all earthly resources. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Let us pray for all nations and peoples. (*Pause*) Grant justice where there is inequity, peace where there is conflict, and wisdom for all who lead (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Let us pray for all in need. (*Pause*) Provide caring communities for all who are burdened by guilt, shame, addiction, and illness (*especially*). Preserve them from all trouble. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Let us pray for this assembly. (*Pause*) Keep all who worship in this place steadfast in your word. Fill with your Spirit all who are preparing for baptism. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Let us give thanks for the faithful departed whose transgressions are forgiven and who now rejoice in heaven. (*Pause*) Lead us in their path. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Into your hands, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER – LED BY THE PRAISE TEAM

BLESSING

May the God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is your light.

Thanks be to God!

CLOSING HYMN: “Awesome God” CCLI# 41099

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LITTLE Crosby Martin Webster Tofteland will be baptized this morning. His parents are Erik and Allissa Tofteland and his sponsors are Nicholas & Jennifer Tofteland and Jordan & Emilie Yancey. Let us lift this little one and his family in prayer to God.

LOVE LIKE JESUS-PRAY the focus for March is prayer. Our Lord Jesus taught us to pray. This Lenten season, learn more about prayer and how Jesus prayed to His heavenly father. On the tables in the fellowship hall are samples of prayers for you to take home to encourage your prayer life.

PERSONAL CARE KITS- Lutheran World Relief offers Personal Care Kits to third world countries in need. Bethesda WELCA would like us all to help send personal care kits to Lutheran World Relief for distribution. Each kit is to contain: One light or medium weight towel, dark in color, 52” x 27”, 2 bath sized bars 4-5 oz of soap in original wrapping, one adult sized tooth brush in original packaging (toothbrush multi packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business sized paper envelope). No plastic. One sturdy comb, no packaging, one metal nail clipper, packaging removed. You can purchase every item, wrap in the towel and tie. Return to church and place by the donation sign for Personal Care Kits.

ROBERT ROBINSON IN CONCERT-founder of the Twin Cities Community Gospel Choir and former headline singer with Lori Line, will be singing a benefit concert in Onamia, MN at the Holy Cross Center Saturday March 15, 2014. The Bethany church youth are raising money for their 2014 Mission Trip. Appetizers/desserts/beverages will

be served at 5:30 pm. The concert will begin at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$20.00 for the preconcert snacks and the concert. Tickets for the concert only are \$15.00. Tickets are available at the door.

LENTEN SUPPER STARTS THIS WEDNESDAY at 5:30 with worship service to follow at 6:30. SIGN UP SHEETS are in the entry. Choose your time to volunteer. Your help is needed to set up the serving line and tables for the pot luck or cleanup after the pot luck supper is finished.

DINNER & SILENT AUCTION-March 15th, 2014. Benefit for Shara Martineau. Noon-4 PM at the Bridge Tavern North on Hwy 6, Crosby, MN call (218) 838-0412 if you would like more information. Check the notice on the board in the fellowship hall. Tickets are \$10.00 per person.

SEND CARDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT-

New address for Audrey Kullberg is: Audrey Kullberg Room #W2327, Sister Kenny Rehabilitation Institute, 800 E 28th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55407-3799.

Doris Reinhard is back at home recovering from her hip replacement.

Darwin has been discharged from the Princeton Hospital and is home.

Ruth Hamman will be in Aicota through the end of March. Her address is Ruth Hamman, Aicota Health Care Center, 850 2nd St NW, Aitkin, MN 56431.

ALL THINGS NEW-A North Heights Original Easter Production Final Year. The cost is \$33.50 per person. This includes the ticket and bus transportation cost. There will be a stop for a meal on the return trip. Each one is responsible for their own meal expense. The bus can pick us up right here at Bethesda. We need 47 people to sign up, pay and agree to go. There is a signup sheet in the fellowship hall for you to indicate which date you prefer to attend. You can choose April 5th or April 12th. If you have no preference and both dates work indicate that also. Contact Jan Phillips for questions and to pay your ticket price.

AITKIN COUNTY CARE & ANGELS is hosting a workshop to teach care givers how technology can help them. The class is March 18th from 10:30-12:00 noon at the Aitkin Library 110 1st Ave NE, Aitkin, MN. Questions call Callie or Tricia @ 218-927-1383.

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK OF MARCH 9 – MARCH 15 , 2014

Music: Praise Team

Greeters: Roy & Char Berg

Ushers: Bill & Cheri Johnson

Lector: Darlene Christensen

Coffee Servers: Don & Donna Myre, Bev Wedig, Marlys LeClaire

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday 9:00 am - 78 Ash Wednesday 6:30 pm - 65

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda March 9 thru March 15, 2014

Sunday 03/09 9:00 am Crosby Tofteland Baptism/Communion

Monday 03/10 7:00 pm AA & Alanon

Tuesday 02/11 8:00 am Pastor's Tech Study Onamia
9:00 am Quilter's

Wednesday 02/12 8:30 am Bible Study
9:30 am Hardanger
11:00 am Bible Study
5:30 pm Pot Luck
6:30 pm Lenten Service

Thursday 02/13 8:00 pm R.O.M.E.O.S
12:30 pm Fun Timers

Friday 02/14 10:00 am Bone Builders