

**April 27, 2014**  
**Second Sunday of Easter**



**BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO**

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Church Web Site: [blcmalmo.org](http://blcmalmo.org)

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, April 27, 2014**  
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**INTRODUCTION**

*In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.*

**ANOUNCEMENTS:**

**OPENING HYMN: “Holy, Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty” #413 ELW**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the life beyond all death, the joy beyond all sorrow, our everlasting home.

**Amen.**

Rejoicing in Christ's victory over sin and death,  
let us come before God who calls us to repentance.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of life,

**by the resurrection of your Son you make everything new.**

**Newness scares us, and we confess to shutting our doors in fear.**

**We have not listened to voices that challenge us.**

**We have resisted the Holy Spirit moving us in new directions.**

**Our hearts are slow to believe your promises.**

**Forgive us, O God, and renew us to embrace without fear the new life you have given us in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

People of God:

Christ is alive, and death has lost its power. Through the waters of baptism you have been born anew by the living word of God. Know that your sins are forgiven in + Jesus' name and that the Spirit of the risen Christ is alive in you both now and forever. **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**

**Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **FIRST READING**

**ACTS 2:14A, 22-32**

*After the Holy Spirit came to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to his death according to God's plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned.*

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know — this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

**PSALM**

**Psalm 16**

*Refrain: In your presence there is fullness of joy. (Ps. 16:11)*

Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;

I have said to the LORD,

"You are my Lord, my good above all other."

**All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,  
upon those who are noble among the people.**

But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.

**I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,  
never take their names upon my lips. R**

O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.

**My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night after night.

**I have set the LORD always before me;**

**because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. R**

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

**For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the pit.**

You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore. **R**

**GOSPEL:**

**John 20:19-31**

*The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.*

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."



Healing God, you breathe hope into rooms of despair. Be with the sick, the lonely, the grieving, and those in any need (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of welcome, you are with this assembly as we worship. Bless all those who God draws to this community and be with those who cannot be present this day. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God of life, with you all things are possible. With the saints (*especially*) make us live in hope, trusting that though we do not see, we believe. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers, merciful God, and dwell in us richly, through Jesus Christ, our life and our redeemer.

**Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

### **BLESSING**

God the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth and forevermore.

**Amen.**

### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is your light.

**Thanks be to God!**

**CLOSING HYMN:**

**“I Love to tell the Story”**

**# 661 ELW**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**NE MN SYNOD GATHERING** will be start May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and ends noon May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at Breezy Point. Pastor with our congregations' representatives Gail and Warren Rolek will attend and represent our congregation. We look forward to their report.

**PLEASE RETURN YOUR JELLY JARS or extras you have at home!** We are making jelly on Tuesday May 5<sup>th</sup> at 9am. Everyone is welcomed to come and help. We have fun and we sure do make delicious jelly!

**MALMO EV. FREE CHURCH SPRING SALAD LUNCHEON** is on

Saturday May 3, 2014 at 12:00 pm. Speaker is Pat Wilke. RSVP 320-684-2201 before April 30, 2014. Just leave a message. The theme is "New Life in Christ". All are welcome!

**SILENT AUCTION** May 5 -9. Auction ends at 3:30 pm, Held at Aicota Multi-Purpose Activity Room, Aicota Health Center. Proceeds go to Team Aitkin.

**LOVE LIKE JESUS-Encourage.** The focus for April is to encourage. Our Lord Jesus taught us to encourage one another and build up one another. How might you encourage someone this week? Here's a suggestion-Take time to phone Darwin. His cell number is (320) 630-4852. He thinks his cell phone isn't working because it doesn't ring! Check the board in the office for others to contact with a call or send a card.

**LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF. Thank you for the 12 Kits and the many dresses and pants** that have been donated! Bethesda WELCA would like us to send more. 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. Patterns are available and material for the pillow case clothes. With a little sewing the fabric can be turned into a lovely little dress or cool pants. Make a difference.

**JOIN CHOIR!** Come Wednesday 6:00 pm. Our new director Bill will be there!

## Those Serving Today

Music: Marlys Beaver

Greeters: Donna & Jim Metteer

Ushers: Ron & Joanie Mehlhop

Lector: Sue Samuelson

Coffee Servers: Jackie Stockdill & Friends

*Thank you for your service! Visitors Welcome! Come again!*

## Response to God's Word Last Week April 20, 2014 Easter Sunday

Attendance: Sunday 8:00 am - 128      10:00 am- 141

## This week at Bethesda April 27, 2014 – May 4, 2014

Sunday      04/27      9:00 am      Worship

Monday      04/28      9:00 am      Stewardship Committee Meeting  
7:00 pm      AA & Alanon

Wednesday 04/30      8:30 am      NO Bible Study  
9:30 am      Hardanger  
11:00 am      NO Bible Study  
6:00 pm      Choir Practice  
7:00 pm      Praise Team

Thursday    05/01      8:00 pm      NO R.O.M.E.O.S  
10:30 am      Worship & Music  
12:30 pm      Fun Timers

Friday      05/02      5:00 pm      NE MN Synod Gathering  
10:00 am      Bone Builders

Sunday      05/04      8:30 am      and 10:00 am      Worship with Communion  
Coffee Fellowship between services.  
12:00      Noon NE MN Gathering Concludes