

May 11, 2014
Fourth Sunday of Easter



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

21590 State Highway 47, Isle, MN 56342

Phone: 320-684-2123 (1-877-684-2123) Fax: 320-684-2836

E-mail address: blcmalmo@frontiernet.net

Church Web Site: 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, May 11, 2014
Fourth Sunday of Easter

Mother's Day
Praise Team

INTRODUCTION

Today is sometimes called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus is called the "gate" of the sheep in today's gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us in the midst of the world's violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God's tender care to all creation.

CALL TO WORSHIP: "Come, Now is the Time to Worship" CCLI #2430948

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

OPENING HYMN: "You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore" WOV #784

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord + Jesus Christ, by whose Spirit we have been reborn to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

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

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

God of all power, you called from death our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep. Send us as shepherds to rescue the lost, to heal the injured, and to feed one another with knowledge and understanding; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

PRAISE TEAM ANTHEM: “Mighty to Save”

FIRST READING:

Acts 2:42-47

Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was outpoured on God's people. This new community is founded on the teachings of the apostles and sustained in the breaking of the bread.

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Refrain: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps 23:1)

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

You restore my soul, O LORD,

and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; for you are with me;**

your rod and your staff, they comfort me. R

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. R**

GOSPEL:

John 10:1-10

Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Good shepherds bring people to life through Jesus, but those who avoid Jesus are dangerous to the flock.

Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

SERMON:

OFFERING & OFFERTORY HYMN:

“Grace Flows Down”

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth.

Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERSESSION

Made alive in Christ and filled with his Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

Gracious God: Your voice sings in the church. Bless our worship, that sharing bread in communion, we also share abundantly with people in every place. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your voice sings in creation. Preserve pastures and city parks, oceans and local water sources, so that nature provides life and protection for all creatures. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your voice sings among the nations. Curb the desire for vengeance; turn us from dishonest speech and deceitful living; lead us in your truth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your voice sings among those in need: the poor, the homeless, the suffering, the afflicted, the ill and hospitalized (*especially*); for those who will die this day. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your voice sings in our homes. Open the hearts of those who provide mothering care, that Christ's love would be revealed in the generosity shown to all our children. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for the saints (*especially*) who, having followed your voice in this life, now dwell with you forever, joining their voices in endless praise. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER – spoken by all

BLESSING

The God of all grace, who has called you to eternal glory in Christ, restore, support, strengthen, and + bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN: “We Are Marching”



THOSE SERVING TODAY

Music: Praise Team

Greeter: Marlys LeClaire

Ushers: 8:30 am Don & Donna Myhre 10:00 am Jerry & Carolyn Morris

Lectors: 8:30 am Lynn Hansen 10:00 am Mary Kramer

Coffee Servers: Family & Friends of Irene Long

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday 8:30 am - 82 10:00 am - 27

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda May 11 thru May 17, 2014

Sunday	05/11	8:30 am & 10:00 am	Worship/ Birthday Coffee for Irene Long
Monday	05/12	9:00 am 1:00 pm 7:00 pm	Women's Devotions Clean Craft Room AA & Alanon
Tuesday	05/13	8:00 am 9:00 am 6:30 pm	Pastor's Text Study Onamia Quilter's Bible Study-Rick Warren's <u>What on Earth am I Here For?</u>
Wednesday	05/14	8:30 am 9:30 am 11:00 am 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Bible Study Hardanger Bible Study Choir Praise
Thursday	05/15	8:00 pm 12:30 pm	R.O.M.E.O.S Fun Timers
Friday	05/16	9:00 am 10:00 am	Stewardship Meeting Bone Builders
Saturday	05/17	9:00 am	Strategic Planning

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL June 16-20, 2014. We offer VBS from 9 am - 11:30 am. Wilderness Escape, Where God Guides and Provides. Registrations have been mailed to families who came before. Blank registrations are on the table in the fellowship hall. Interested in volunteering? Contact Joanne Stueven, Elsa Carlson, Barb Forrester. You can come all week or just a morning. It is a lot of fun for kids and adults.

TRINITY LUTHERAN IN MILACA invites us all to Syttende Mai Buffet Luncheon, Friday May 16, 2014 11:00 - 1:00 pm. Check the board in the fellowship hall for more details.

MISSING one stainless steel, large bowl. We used them when we made jelly. Mine has the letters EC on the bottom. I would like everyone who brought a bowl to check theirs at home. If you find an EC let's just exchange. Elsa Carlson (218) 678-3408.

CHURCH COUNCIL next Sunday 11:15 am.