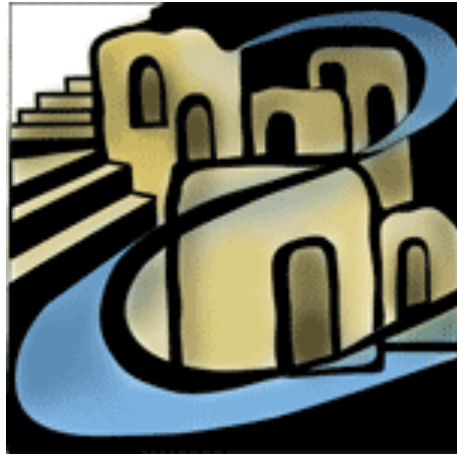


May, 18 2014
Fifth Sunday after Easter



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 18, 2014
Fifth Sunday of Easter/Communion

INTRODUCTION

As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As First Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN

“My, Lord, What a Morning”

#627 WOV

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever
AMEN

CHOIR ANTHEM: “ Down to the River to Pray”

FIRST READING: **Acts 7:55-60**

Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.

But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. Look, he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

PSALM

Psalm 31:1-5, 15, 16

Refrain: Into your hands, O LORD, I commend my spirit (Ps. 31:5)

In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;
deliver me in your righteousness.

Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.

Be my strong rock, castles to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold;
for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

**Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,
for you are my tower of strength. R**

Into your hands I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.

**My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.**

Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love. **R**

GOSPEL:**John 14:1-4**

On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

SERMON HYMN: **“All Things Bright and Beautiful”** **#767**
WOV

SERMON: **“For Troubled Hearts”**

OFFERTORY HYMN **“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”** **#660 WOV**

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.

God our salvation: you have made us your living stones in the waters of baptism. We pray for the church and its leaders; for the newly baptized; for missionaries around the world. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God our home: your Spirit dwells with creation. We pray for the earth; for clean water and air; for the earth's foundation; for the lands all creatures inhabit. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God our way: you call us to paths of justice. We pray for nations and leaders; for courts and legislatures; for strife torn communities; for our enemies. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God our refuge: you deliver us in times of trouble. We pray for the rejected and persecuted; for neglected infants and children; for the sick (*especially*); for all in need. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God our shelter: you draw all people to yourself. We pray for those who are homeless and those with inadequate housing; for all who come to this building seeking a safe haven. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God our life: you prepare a place for us. We give thanks for the witness of your saints. Lead us also in Christ's way and truth. 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.

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Loving God,
by your Spirit we are born anew, and you nourish us like newborns with this holy food, by which we grow into salvation.
Give us grace to live as your risen daughters and sons, shining in the world with your marvelous light, until you gather all creation to the heavenly table where Christ reigns in glory forever.
Amen.**

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. Christ is your light.

Thanks be to God!

CLOSING HYMN: “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love” #765 WOV

THOSE SERVING TODAY MAY 18 , 2014

Organist: Marlys Beaver
Greeters: Diane Sandberg and Jan Phillip
Ushers: 8:30 am Les Bolke and Nancy Hansen 10:30 am Darrel Kelly
Lector: 8:30 am Steve Lackner 10:30 am Lynn Hass
Coffee Servers: Warren & Gail Rolek and Jerry & Pat Becker

Thank you for your service!

Response to God’s Word Last Week

Attendance:
(05/11/2014) 8:30 am – 84 10:00 am - 58

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda May 18 thru May 24, 2014

Sunday	05/18	11:00 am	Church Council
Monday	05/19	10:00 am	Golf
		7:00 pm	AA & Alanon
Tuesday	05/20	8-11am	Pastor’s Text Study
		9:00 am	Crafter’s
Wednesday	05/21	8:00 am	- Noon WIC
		8:30 am	Bible Study
		9:30 am	Hardanger
		9:30 am	WELCA
		11:00 am	Bible Study
		6:00 pm	Choir
		7:00 pm	Praise Team
Thursday	05/22	8:00 pm	R.O.M.E.O.S
		1:00 pm	Fun Timers

Friday 05/23 10:00 am Bone Builders

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PANCAKE BREAKFAST Wealthwood Rod & Gun Club Sunday May 18th 8am -1pm. Featuring Rollie's Famous Syrup, Krusteaz Pancakes, new Eggbake, French Toast and Sausage. Adults \$7.00, \$3.00 children under 12 years. One half of proceeds benefit the Garrison Fire & Rescue. They are also collecting food for the local food shelves.

GOLF (FINALLY) starting Monday May 19, 2014 at 10 am at Wealthwood Golf course. All welcome.

THANK YOU SO MUCH I thank everyone for my cards, nice gifts and all who came to celebrate my birthday last Sunday, from Irene Long.

PERSONAL CARE KITS- They are due June 8th, 2014. 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.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL is scheduled for June 16-20, 2014. Send in your registrations and invite all 4-12 year olds to come. Adults are needed for teachers, shop keepers, music, help with sets and many other opportunities. Contact Joanne Steuven, Elsa Carlson or Barb Forrester. Know you can volunteer all week or a day or two.