

**Sunday, November 9, 2014**  
**Twenty Second Sunday after Pentecost**



**BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO**

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

Pastor: Rev. James Raisanen

Parish Nurses: Darlene Christensen, RN 320-684-2846

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Kathy Berland RN ANP 320-495-3988

Prayer Chain Contacts Char Berg 320-684-2102 or Judy Forester 218-676-2667

Church Secretary: Mary Kramer

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

***MISSION STATEMENT***

*We will LIVE and SERVE through FAITH*

*we will ACT with LOVE and KINDNESS*

*we will GIVE hope and SUPPORT to all.*

**Hearing Assistance is available during the service.**  
**Please notify usher if you would like assistance**



The grass withers, the flower fades,  
but the word of our God will stand forever.  
Through the living Word, + Jesus Christ,  
God forgives your every debt, your every sin,  
and gives you a new heart and a new spirit.

**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, when the day of wrath comes we have no hope except in your grace. Make us so to watch for the last days that the consummation of our hope may be the joy of the marriage feast of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**PRAISE TEAM ANTHEM**

**“Wonderful, Merciful, Savior”**

**CCLI# 106879**

**FIRST READING:**

**1 Thessalonians 4: 13 – 18**

*Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.*

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel’s call and with the sound of God’s trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

**PSALM**

**Psalm 70**

*Refrain: You are my helper and deliverer; O Lord, do not tarry. (Ps 70:5)*

Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O LORD, make haste to help me.

**Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded;**

**Let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced. R**

Let those who say to me “Aha!” and gloat over me turn back because of their shame.

**Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; let those who love your salvation say forever, “Great is the LORD!”**

But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God.

You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry. **R**

**GOSPEL:**

**Matthew 25:1-13**

*Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times. .*

Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. Then the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us. ' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

**SERMON:**

**“Running Over the Cat”**

**OFFERING & OFFERTORY SONG: “Sanctuary”**

**CCLI # 24140**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF INTERSESSION**

Remembering the saints who have gone before us and giving thanks for God's blessings, we pray for the church, all in need, and God's good creation.

*A brief silence.*

Holy God, we desire your wisdom and instruction. Fill our gatherings with your spirit of joy, that the church's daily work be life-giving. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Word of life, as you spoke this good creation into being, guide our actions and help us renew and protect the earth's resources. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Judge of the nations, guide us to bring down barriers so peace will flow over all nations like an ever-flowing stream. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Healer of our every ill, teach us to be watchful for people who need healing, especially for people whose needs are easily overlooked. (*Especially we pray for . . .*) Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Righteous Teacher, guide our congregation that we will, in all circumstances, encourage one another with words of peace, forgiveness, and mercy. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Eternal One, we give you thanks for all the saints who lived and died in faith. Grant us one day to know also the full measure of your eternal life. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and hopes, Good Shepherd, and bring us safely into all joy and peace, through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER-led by the Praise Team**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is your light.

**Thanks be to God!**

**CLOSING HYMN:**

**“We are Marching”**

**CCLI # 320947**

**Great to have you join us for worship! Please come again.**

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**THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK**

Sunday Music: Praise Team

Greeters: Jerry and Pat Becker

Ushers: 8:30 am Dick and Sandy Pullen  
10:00 am Marilyn Andrews, Judy Seifert

Lector: 8:30 am Dale Seims

Altar Care: Shirley and Lloyd Lilienthal, Judy Wuorio

Hospitality Hosts: Warren and Gale Rolek

***Thank you for your service!***

Response to God’s Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, November 2nd 8:30 am – 85, 10:00 am – 51

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda November 9<sup>th</sup> through November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Monday 11/10 9:00 am Women's Bible Study at Becker's  
7:00 pm AA & Alanon

Tuesday 11/11 8:00 am Pastor's Text Study, Onamia  
9:00 am Quilter's  
1:00 am Double Deck Pinochle  
7:00 pm Faith, Health and Wellness

Wednesday 11/12 8:30 am Bible Study  
9:30 am Hardanger  
11:00 am Bible Study  
2:00 pm 4 H Informational Meeting  
6:00 pm Choir  
7:00 pm Praise Team

Thursday 11/13 8:00 pm R.O.M.E.O.S  
12:30 pm Fun Timers  
6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice

Friday 11/14 10:00 am Bone Builders

Sunday 11/16 8:30 am Early Service Communion  
10:00 am Second Service Communion

**Newsline Articles are Due! November 20<sup>th</sup> !**

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Thank You!** To all who helped with our Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Event. We put together over 50 boxes last Sunday. We had five families bring their young children to help assemble. Thank you to Cheri and Bill Johnson for cooking and serving our pancake and sausage breakfast, to Marilyn Andrews, Mary Kramer and Steve Long for serving and cleanup. And thank you to Laurie Westerlund of Sunrise Cafe for donating our breakfast! Thank you to Darlene Christensen for donating the milk and Coordinating Operation Christmas Child. One can still donate items and cash to help with postage until November 16<sup>th</sup>.

**The Church Choir Needs You!** Check it out on Wednesday night 6:00 -7:00 pm. Practice has begun for the Christmas Cantata. Every voice contributes to our performance.

**Knowledge Bites** Gansters in Minnesota during the 1920's & 30's. Presenter is Alan Bohme, Researcher in MN State Lore. Light of the Cross Lutheran Church, Garrison. Tuesday, November 11, 2014 at 2 PM. Free. Treats and Beverages Served.

**Double Deck Pinochle** Join us on Tuesdays 1:00 pm at church. It is great fun! If you want to learn how to play, we'll be happy to teach you.

**Women's Christmas Luncheon** is Saturday December 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am. It is at church. Mark your calendar and watch for signup sheet.

**Church Christmas Dinner** It is time to plan to gather for our Church Christmas Dinner. This is Monday, December 8, 2014 at 6:00 pm. It will be held at the Pine Inn. There will be a sign up sheet next week and more details.

**Navigating the Holidays** This presentation will be offered November 20, 2014 at 10:00am at church. The presenter is Sue Lyback, Mille Lacs Hospital Social Worker. The focus of this presentation is offering support for people who have lost a loved one or maybe a caregiver for someone who is nearing the end of their life. All are welcome.

**Thanksgiving Service** will be held November 26, 2014 at 6:30 pm. Let us gather to offer our praise and thanks!