

Sunday, January 11, 2015

Baptism of Our Lord



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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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

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Praise Team

INTRODUCTION

Our re-creation in baptism is an image of the Genesis creation, where the Spirit/wind moved over the waters. Both Mark's gospel and the story in Acts make clear that it is the Spirit's movement that distinguishes Jesus' baptism from John's. The Spirit has come upon us as upon Jesus and the Ephesians, calling us God's beloved children and setting us on Jesus' mission to re-create the world in the image of God's vision of justice and peace.

CALL TO WORSHIP: “We Three Kings” #646 WOV

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

OPENING HYMN: “Wonderful, Merciful Savior”

CONFESSİON AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who spoke light into creation,
who calls us to listen and follow,
who sends us to shine like stars.

Amen.

Let us come before God, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy and merciful God,
**we confess that we have sinned
against our sisters and brothers
and against you.**

We cherish the values of this world.

We cause others to stumble.

The earth is wounded by our excess.

Have mercy, O God.

**Forgive us, renew us,
and raise us up on eagles' wings,
that we may do your will
with courage and delight. Amen.**

Hear the voice from heaven: "You are my own, my beloved."
God gives power to the weary and strengthens the powerless.
Be cleansed, be healed, for in the name of + Jesus Christ,
I declare to you the forgiveness of your sins and the revealing of God's reign.
Amen.

GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

ANTHEM: “Hallelujah”

FIRST READING:

Genesis 1:1-5

Out of chaos, God brings order. Out of the primeval darkness, God brings light. This familiar story was good news for the Israelites, who experienced much chaos in their history. It remains good news for any person living in the chaos and darkness of despair. God created and continues to create new life.

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth,² the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.³ Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.⁴ And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

PSALM

Psalm 29

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters. (Ps. 29:3)

¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
 ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;**
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
 the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

⁴**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;**
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor. R

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
 the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

⁶**the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,**
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

⁷The voice of the LORD
 bursts forth in lightning flashes.

⁸**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;**
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. R

⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe
and strips the forests bare.

 And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"

¹⁰**The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;**
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.

¹¹O LORD, give strength to your people;
 give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace. R

GOSPEL:

Mark 1:7-11

Mark's gospel reports the story of Jesus' baptism with some irony: the one on whom the Spirit descends is himself the one who will baptize others with the Holy Spirit.

⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

SERMON:

“Jesus is Baptized”

OFFERING & OFFERTORY SONG: to be announced

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

Called to know, love, and follow you, O God, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Loving God, we give you thanks for the common life we share in you. We grieve the loss of unity in Christ and beg your help in tearing down the walls of division within your church. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Your Spirit embraces all creation, giving life, growth, and beauty. Move us to receive all we touch as your gift, and to preserve your earth for the sake of all living things now and in the ages to come. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Pour the blessings of food and shelter on the poor of every land and on all those denied the abundance of creation. Let them taste your goodness and know the delight and freedom of your presence. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Speak healing and peace to the hearts of those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit (*especially*). Come to the forgotten, those separated from home and family, those near death, and those who grieve. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In the waters of baptism you claim us as beloved sons and daughters. Shower your joy on the newly baptized, those preparing for baptism, and those who will affirm their baptism. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Loving God, we give thanks for the saints of every generation who followed your beloved Son through the waters of baptism and beckoned us to come along. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Trusting your love and healing, O God, we commend to you all for whom we pray, knowing you will hear and answer, through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER led by Praise Team

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is your light.

Thanks be to God!

CLOSING HYMN: **“We are Marching”**

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

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Music: Praise Team
Greeters: Dick and Sandy Pullen
Ushers: Skip and Lynn Hansen
Lector: Val Benton
Hospitality Hosts: Elsa and Chuck Carlson; Barb and Lee Forrester

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, January 4, 2015 9:00 am – 76

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda January 11, 2015 through January 18, 2015

Monday	01/12	Men's Fishing Trip
		7:00 pm AA & Alanon
Tuesday	01/13	1:00 am Double Deck Pinochle
Wednesday	01/14	9:30 am Hardanger
Thursday	01/15	8:00 pm R.O.M.E.O.S
		12:30 pm Fun Timers
Friday	01/16	10:00 am Bone Builders
Sunday	01/18	9:00 am Sunday Service

Newsline Articles are Due! January 20th !

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Men's Fishing Trip “Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach a man to fish and he will eat for a lifetime. Give a man religion and he will be Praying for a fish!” Good Luck men!

Coffee Servers Needed Signup sheets are to the left of the serving window by the kitchen. Please check it out and take your turn.

Message to Women of Bethesda Lutheran Did you know that all women of the church are members of Women of the ELCA (WELCA)? We welcome you to attend the WELCA meeting on Wednesday, January 21 at 9:30 AM. Our focus will be to distribute the funds raised at the fall bazaar. Each year suggestions are presented as to the organizations and agencies that we wish to support. We encourage all women of our church to be part of this sharing experience.

Vacation Bible School Reserve the week of June 15-19, 2015 for our annual VBS.

Sunday Services Note that all Sunday Services will be held at 9:00 am during the months of January, February and March.

2015 Northeastern Minnesota Synod Assembly Quilt Auction is May 1-2 at Breezy Point Resort. The Synod quilt auction team has decided to expand the usual offering of beautiful quilts to ‘quilts and all things quilted!’ Create a quilt or quilt item for the auction or plan to take a spring road trip with friends and attend. Money raised goes to the ministry of the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. Contact Amy Loken at 218-525-3933, Ruth Mills at 320-679-3462 or Mary Jo Mettler at 320-279-2010.