

# Sunday, February 8, 2015

## Fifth Sunday after Epiphany / Lectionary 5



### **BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO**

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

Pastor: Rev. James Raisanen

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Church Secretary: Mary Braun

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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**INTRODUCTION**

*In Isaiah it is the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars—it is that God who strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (diakonia). Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up to health and diakonia. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.*

**OPENING HYMN: “Change My Heart, O God”**

**ELW#801**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**HYMN “They Will Know We Are Christians by Our Love”**

**CCLI#26997**

**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, 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.**



*Refrain: The LORD heals the brokenhearted. (Ps. 147:3)*

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God!

How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem, and gathers the exiles of Israel.**

<sup>3</sup>The LORD heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

<sup>4</sup>**The LORD counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names. R**

<sup>5</sup>Great is our LORD and mighty in power; there is no limit to God's wisdom.

<sup>6</sup>**The LORD lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground.**

<sup>7</sup>Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make music upon the harp to our God,

<sup>8</sup>**who covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the mountains. R**

<sup>9</sup>God provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they cry.

<sup>10</sup>**God is not impressed by the might of a horse, and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,**

<sup>11</sup>but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD, in those who await God's steadfast love.<sup>20c</sup> Hallelujah! R

## GOSPEL:

**Mark 1:29–39**

*Everywhere Jesus goes, many people expect him to set them free from oppression.*

*Everywhere he goes, he heals them and sets them free. Disease, devils, and death are running for their lives. The forces that diminish human life are rendered powerless by Jesus.*

<sup>29</sup>As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. <sup>30</sup>Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. <sup>31</sup>He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

<sup>32</sup>That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. <sup>33</sup>And the whole city was gathered around the door. <sup>34</sup>And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

<sup>35</sup>In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. <sup>36</sup>And Simon and his companions hunted for him. <sup>37</sup>When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." <sup>38</sup>He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." <sup>39</sup>And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

**SERMON:** “Jesus Heals Body and Soul”

**OFFERTORY HYMN:** “Dance with Me”

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever.  
You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine.  
Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious  
presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
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.*

Everlasting God, deepen your church's commitment to proclaiming the gospel, that many will hear, respond, and share in its blessings. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Creator of earth's foundations, restore lands, forests, and oceans recovering from natural disasters. Protect and preserve all animals and humans who live in these places. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Everlasting God, rule over the nations and guide their paths toward the fulfillment of your purpose, nurturing the common good, protecting the weak, providing justice, and caring for the needy. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Strength of the powerless, lift up the weary and wounded, give endurance to those whose struggle is unrelenting, heal the sick, and relieve the pain of those who suffer (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Searching God, expand the welcome and witness of this congregation's outreach ministries (*especially*). We pray for all those served by these ministries, and for all visiting with us today. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Unsearchable God, you are always more than we can understand or imagine. Guide us to follow in faith where the saints have led until we join them at your throne. 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 THE PRAISE TEAM**

### **BLESSING**

God the Father, light-creator; God the Son, Light from Light; and God the Holy Spirit, light-revealer, bless you and + give you peace.  
**Amen.**

### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**CLOSING HYMN: “LOVE THE LORD”**

**CCLI# 2893570**

**“JESUS IS THE ROCK”**

**CCLI# 5336582**

**It has been great having you join us for worship! Please come again.**

## **THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK**

Music: The Praise Team  
Greeters: Marge Garbo & Marlys LeClaire  
Ushers: 9:00 am — Harold & Ardis Kendall  
Lector: 9:00 am — Darlene Christensen  
Hospitality Hosts: Bill & Cheri Johnson, Diane Sandberg

*Thank you for your service!*

Response to God's Word Last Week/Month

Attendance: Sunday, February 1, 2015: 96

## **THIS WEEK AT Bethesda February 2 through February 8, 2015**

Monday	2/9	7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	2/10	8:30 am	Pastor's Text Study
		9:00 am	Quilters
		1:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle
Wednesday	2/11	8:00am	Bible Study
		9:30 am	Hardanger
		11:00am	Bible Study
Thursday	2/12	8:00am	ROMEOS
		12:30 pm	Fun Timers
Friday	2/13	10:00 am	Bone Builders
Sunday	02/15	9:00 am	Worship

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Attendance Registry** Please sign and pass the attendance registry which you will find in the pew. This is a new process we are trying. This will replace the green cards. Information will be gathered for Evangelism.

**Learning Opportunity for Everyone in our Congregation** Bishop Patricia Lull from the Saint Paul Area Synod will be the keynote speaker on “Discipleship Today”, along with a variety of practical workshop options to attend. Saturday, March 14, 1-4 pm, Grace Lutheran Church in Mora. There is no charge plus coffee and refreshments will be served.

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

**Ash Wednesday Potluck and Service** There will be a potluck on Wednesday, February 18, at 5:30pm and Service at 6:30pm and every Wednesday during Lent.

**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.

**2014 Year End Statements** Please note that your yearend statements are available on the table in the fellowship hall. Please remember to pick up your statement if you haven’t already.