

Sunday, April 19, 2015

Third Sunday of Easter



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

CHOIR ANTHEM: Fall Like Rain

10:00AM SERVICE:

Today a new brother in Christ will join us in baptism. Cody Ryan Stellmach.

FIRST READING: 1 John 3:1-7

God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

PSALM (ELW): Psalm 4

The LORD does wonders for the faithful. (Ps. 4:3)

¹Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

²"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?"

³Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful; the LORD will hear me when I call.

⁴Tremble, then, and do not sin; speak to your heart in silence upon your bed. R

⁵Offer the appointed sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.

⁶Many are saying, "Who will show us any good?" Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.

⁷You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine abound.

⁸In peace, I will lie down and sleep; for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure. R

GOSPEL: Luke 24:36b–48

In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.

^{36b}"Peace be with you." ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you — that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.

SERMON HYMN: “Just a Closer Walk with Thee” #697 ELW

SERMON: “Reliable Witnesses”

OFFERTORY SONG: “Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me” #755 ELW

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

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Confident that the resurrection of Christ has defeated sin and death, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

For the church and its leaders, for those who witness to the risen Christ through speech or action, and for all children of God, that all be led to joy in the resurrection, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For stewards of creation, for farmers planting and ranchers tending to livestock, that the bounty of the earth provide for all who hunger or thirst, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For those who work to keep us safe: police officers and firefighters, military and international peacekeepers, local and national leaders; that God's peace and compassion come to us, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the distressed, rejected, bereaved, sick, and frightened (*especially*), that support for them be close at hand, and that all experience the gift of healing, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For this assembly, where the scriptures have been opened in our midst, that with boldness of heart we proclaim the joy we have in our new life in Christ, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

In thanksgiving for the witnesses of the faith who have died and are now at rest (*especially Olavus and Laurentius Petri, who led the Reformation in Sweden*), that with them we have hope in the promises of the Author of life, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Holy God, by the death and resurrection of your Son, you have granted new life, abundant renewal, and salvation. Hear our prayers for the sake of the one who has set us free, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Life-giving God, we give you thanks for nourishing us with the bread of heaven and the wine of love, Jesus our risen Savior. As you send us into the world, guard us from the power of evil, keep us in unity with all your people, and by your Spirit move us to testify to your grace in our words and actions; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

Almighty God, who raised our Lord Jesus from death, lift you up and restore you to wholeness.

Amen.

Jesus Christ, the Word of life, bless you and send you to be his witnesses.

Amen.

God the Holy Spirit, who renews the whole earth, refresh you in the gift of baptism this day and always.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

CLOSING HYMN: "My Faith Looks up to Thee" #759 ELW

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

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Music: Marlys Beaver & Choir
Greeters: Marge Garbo, Bev Wedig
Ushers: 8:30 am — Lee & Barb Forrester
10:00 am — Darrell Kelly
Lector: 8:30 am — Carolyn Morris
Hospitality Hosts: John & Grace Inverson, Jim & Donna Metteer,
Keith & Dorothy Mundingers
Communion Servers: Mary Swanson, Char & Roy Berg

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week/Month

Attendance: Sunday, April 12, 2015: 8:30 am 89 10:00 am 33

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda April 20 through April 26, 2015

Monday	4/20	7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	4/21	8:30 am	Pastor's Text Study, Onamia
		9:00 am	Quilters
		9:00 am	Stewardship Meeting
		1:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle
Wednesday	4/22	8:30 am	Bible Study
		9:30 am	Hardanger
		6:00pm	Choir Practice
		7:00pm	Praise Team
Thursday	4/23	8:00 am	ROMEOS
		12:30 pm	Fun Timers
Friday	4/24	10:00 am	Bone Builders
Sunday	4/26	8:30 am	Worship
		10:00 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.

Free Program & Lunch Triad of Aitkin County invites you to a **FREE** program and lunch on Tuesday, April 21 at 11:00am. Program: “**FRAUDS AND SCAMS TARGETING SENIORS**”. American Legion Lee Post #086 (20 First Ave NE, Aitkin, MN). Reservations for free lunch required: call or email Sandy Liepins at 218-768-3355; liepins@frontiernet.net or Ginny Ekstrand at 218-752-1111; ekstrand@frontier.com

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

Year End Statements & Envelopes There are still some yearend statements from 2014 on the table in the Fellowship hall along with offering envelopes. Please check the table and pick up your statements and/or envelopes.

Spring Salad Luncheon Malmo Evangelical Free Church will host the event on Saturday, May 2nd, at 12:00 noon. Theme: “*The Joy of the Lord is our strength*”. RSVP to: 320 684-2201 by April 30th (please leave a message), or email: malmoeffc@frontier.com See posting on bulletin board in Fellowship hall.

Memory Garden Bricks If you would like to purchase a brick to honor a loved one, orders will be taken until Memorial weekend.

New Members We receive new members the last Sunday of the month. If you are interested in membership or associate membership, please talk to Pastor Raisanen.