

Sunday, May 17, 2015

Seventh 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

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INTRODUCTION:

The gospel for Easter's seventh Sunday is always taken from the long prayer Jesus prays for his followers in John's gospel on the night before his death, and always includes Jesus' desire that his followers will be one as he and the Father are one. This oneness is not mere doctrinal agreement or institutional unity, but mutual abiding, interpenetrating life, mutual love and joy. This oneness is the work of the Spirit whom we have received but also await. Come, Holy Spirit!

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TEMPLE TALK: “Stewardship”

Pat Becker

OPENING HYMN: “I Love to Tell the Story”

#661 ELW

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 calls us beloved children, who gathers us into one flock, who guides us into all truth.

Amen.

Let us confess our sins, trusting that God will forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful and just God,

we confess that we are captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We have not loved our sisters and brothers as you have first loved us. Forgive us, God of mercy. Let your Holy Spirit work in us to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the abundant life given in Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent the Son to atone for our sins. In the name of + Jesus Christ, I announce to you that your sins are forgiven. Let the perfect love of God cast out fear, fill you with joy, and inspire you to live for others.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in 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: Amazing Grace/My Chains Are Gone

Music gifted to the Bethesda Choir in memory of Earl H. Bruesewitz

FIRST READING: 1 John 5:9–13

God has borne witness to the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ. Whoever believes in the Son of God believes in the witness of God and has the promise of eternal life.

⁹If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. ¹⁰Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

PSALM (ELW): Psalm 1

The LORD knows the way of the righteous. (Ps. 1:6)

¹Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

²Their delight is in the law of the LORD, and they meditate on God's teaching day and night. R

³They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

⁴It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

⁶For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed. R

GOSPEL: John 17:11b–19

In this reading the church hears Jesus' words on the night before his death. This gospel reports the words of Jesus' prayer, a prayer for his disciples and for all who would believe in him through their words.

^{11b}Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

SERMON HYMN: “Abide With Me” Vs. 1,2,5 #629 ELW

SERMON: “Jesus Prays for Us”

OFFERTORY SONG: “What Wondrous Love is This” Vs. 1,2,4 #666 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 INTERCESSION

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 the ministry of the gospel throughout the world, that the Holy Spirit guide our witness to Jesus Christ as the Son of God, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the creation, for trees and fruit, clean water and air, and all inhabitants of the earth, that God raise up careful stewards of the soil, air, and water, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For local, regional, and national leaders, for those who protect us from harm, and for this community, that we be led to the truth, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the sick and those who provide healing, for the lonely and those who provide companionship, for the imprisoned and those who seek justice, for the bereaved and those who provide comfort (*especially*), that God protect all who are in need, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For those completing their studies this academic year, for those who travel and enjoy recreation, and for those gathered here and those absent, that through our joy we continually offer thanks to God, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

In thanksgiving for those who have died in the faith, that their witness to the resurrection of Christ inspire our words and our work, 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: “How Great Thou Art” Vs. 1,2,4 #856 ELW

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

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Music: Marlys Beavers & Choir
Greeters: Chuck & Elsa Carlson
Ushers: 8:30 am — Bill & Cheri Johnson
10:00 am — Marilyn Andrews
Lector: 8:30 am – Lynn Hansen
Hospitality Hosts: Jack & Paula Spetz, Lee & Barb Forrester
Communion Servers: Roy & Char Berg, Shirley Moe

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week/Month

Attendance: Sunday, May 10, 2015: 8:30 am 110 10:00 am 53

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda May 4 through May 10, 2015

Monday	5/18	7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
		9:00 am	Stewardship Meeting
		1:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle
Tuesday	5/19	8:00 am	Pastor's Text Study, Onamia
		9:00 am	Crafters
Wednesday	5/20	8:30 am	Bible Study
		9:30 am	Hardanger
		9:30 am	WELCA
		11:00 am	Bible Study
		6:00pm	Choir Practice
		7:00pm	Praise Team
Thursday	5/21	8:00 am	ROMEOS
		12:30 pm	Fun Timers
Friday	5/22	10:00 am	Bone Builders
Saturday	5/23	9:00 am	Veggie Stand Opens
Sunday	5/24	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.

Coffee Servers Needed Signup sheets are to the left of the serving window by the kitchen. Please check it out and take your turn. Still need some for May and June.

Memory Garden Bricks Orders will be taken for Memory Garden paver bricks through the first week of June. Order forms can be found in office for standard size (\$46) or large (\$75) bricks and payment is due upon delivery at summer's end. Turn completed order forms into Val Benton or place in Nature Trail/Memory Garden office mailbox.

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.

Pie & Ice Cream Social Saturday, May 30. New items are needed for the sale and live auction that is part of the event. Direct questions to Pastor Jim or WELCA member.

WANTED: 2 women to attend the 2015 convention/gathering of the NE MN Synodical Women's organization in Duluth, MN. The dates are Fri. & Sat. June 12th & 13th. Registration deadline is May 15th. Our church will pay for 2 women to attend, including lodging. This is a fun, inspirational, and informative time. The keynote speaker on Saturday will be Ilene Rice, a family therapist from Colorado, speaking about suicide prevention. More information on the WELCA bulletin board. Questions to Pat Becker, Barb Forrester and Elsa Carlson.

Lawn Mowing Schedule is on the entry table. Please pick a week to mow. Thank you!

Veggie Stand Our Veggie Stand will open for one weekend only beginning on Saturday, May 23rd, at 9:00am. If you have plants to share or bake this week, please remember an offering for the Veggie Stand.

WELCA Meeting & Presentation We will be having a guest speaker, Connie Nelson at the May WELCA meeting. Coffee will be served at 9:30 and Connie's presentation will begin at 10:00am. Connie has written a book called "Stolen Years" and it is a true story about domestic abuse and survival. The WELCA meeting will follow the speaker's presentation.