

Sunday, July 5, 2015
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

21590 State Highway 47, Isle, MN 56342

Phone: 320-684-2123 (1-877-684-2123) Fax: 320-684-2836

E-mail address: blcmalmo@frontiernet.net

Church Web Site: blcmalmo.org

Pastor: Rev. James Raisanen

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

Patti Honnold, RN CNP 320-676-8421

Kathy Berland RN ANP 320-495-3988

Prayer Chain Contacts Char Berg 320-684-2102 or Judy Forester 218-678-2667

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

Jesus does great deeds of power and gives his disciples authority over demons. Yet none of this power is unilateral; it all must be received by faith. Jesus asks his disciples to go out without money or supplies, so that they will be dependent on how others receive them. When we are sent from the assembly to witness and to heal, we are asked to be vulnerable, to be dependent on the reception of others. The Spirit always operates in the between: between Jesus and his Abba, between Jesus and us, between you and me, between us and those to whom we are sent.

OPENING HYMN: “Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory” #890 ELW

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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, the creator of wind and rain, field and ocean, the bread of life coming down from above, the power at work within us and this world.

Amen.

Before God and in the company of our sisters and brothers, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God and Father of all,

we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have thought better of ourselves than others. We have told lies, said hurtful things, acted in ways we wish we could take back, and looked the other way when action was needed. In your mercy, O God, forgive us, cleanse us, and heal us, for the sake of Jesus, our Savior.

Amen.

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; everything has become new! In Christ, + you are a new creation: your sins are taken away and you are made new. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

FIRST READING: 2 Corinthians 12:2–10

Christians do not boast of their own accomplishments. Rather, Christian boasting focuses attention on how the power of Christ is present in our lives, especially in times of weakness and vulnerability. No matter what our circumstances in life, Christ's grace is sufficient for us.

²I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven — whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. ³And I know that such a person — whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows — ⁴was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. ⁵On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. ⁶But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, ⁷even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. ⁸Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, ⁹but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. ¹⁰Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

PSALM (ELW): Psalm 123

Our eyes look to you, O God, until you show us your mercy. (Ps. 123:2)

¹To you I lift up my eyes, to you enthroned in the heavens.

²As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to you, O LORD our God, until you show us your mercy. R

³Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy, for we have had more than enough of contempt,

⁴too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, and of the derision of the proud. R

GOSPEL: Mark 6:1–13

At home and abroad, Jesus and his disciples encounter resistance as they seek to proclaim God's word and relieve affliction.

He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ²On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! ³Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. ⁴Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." ⁵And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

SERMON HYMN

“This is My Song”

#887 ELW

SERMON:

“True Freedom”

OFFERTORY HYMN:

“Praise and Thanksgiving”

#689 ELW

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

Gathered by the Holy Spirit and fed by the word, we come together as the people of God to pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, we pray for the church throughout the world, that you guide it in all its endeavors and inspire it to proclaim the gospel with boldness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for earth and sky, seas and deserts, plant and animal habitats, that your good creation thrive and flourish. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for leaders eager to show mercy, that your justice spreads to all nations and that all may celebrate freedom from oppression. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for those who live with chronic pain or disease that leaves no outward sign, for those who grieve, and for all those who are sick or hospitalized (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for this assembly, for those who are visiting, those who are travelling, and those who cannot be with us today, that all experience Christ's presence and peace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We remember with gratitude the saints who endured persecutions for the sake of Christ. Uphold us also with your all-sufficient grace until we join them at the heavenly banquet. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Into your hands, loving God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the grace of Jesus our Savior.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

Almighty and merciful God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you this day and forevermore.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in love, as Christ loved us.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN: "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies" #888 ELW

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

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Music: Saturday: John Koziol, Jr. & Friends
Sunday - 8:30: Marlys Beavers
10:00: John Koziol, Jr. & Friends

Greeters: Jack & Paula Spetz

Ushers: 8:30 am — Judy Wozney, Winnie Zahradka
10:00 am – Dick & Sue Stebbins

Lector: 8:30 am — Mike Macioch

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Saturday, June 27, 2015 5:00pm: 13
Sunday, June 28, 2015 8:30am: 101 10:00am: 42

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA

July 6 thru July 12

| | | | |
|-----------|------|--------------|---------------------|
| Monday | 7/6 | 1:00 pm | Pinochle |
| | | 7:00 pm | Alanon & AA |
| Tuesday | 7/7 | 8:30-10:00am | Pastor's Text Study |
| | | 9:00 am | Crafters |
| Wednesday | 7/8 | 8:30 am | Bible Study |
| | | 9:30 am | Hardanger |
| | | 11:00 am | Bible Study |
| | | 1:30 pm | 4H |
| | | 6:00 pm | Choir Practice |
| | | 7:00 pm | Praise Team |
| Thursday | 7/9 | 8:00 am | Romeos |
| | | 12:30 pm | Fun Timers |
| | | 6:00 pm | Hand Bell Choir |
| Friday | 7/10 | 10:00 am | Bone Builders |
| Saturday | 7/11 | 8:00-11:00am | Veggie Stand |
| | | 5:00 pm | Worship |
| Sunday | 7/12 | 8:30 am | Worship |
| | | 10:00 am | Worship |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENDANCE REGISTRY Please sign and pass the new attendance registry folders 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.

LAWN MOWING SCHEDULE is on the entry table. Please pick a week to mow.

Thank you!

HELPING HANDS MINISTRY Please pick up and fill out the yellow forms at the church entry if you have some free time to help out church members in need.

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 people for July 19th and August 9th and beyond.

CAN YOU HELP? The church has two very expensive problems that need to be addressed; the replacement of parts of our sound system and the repair of our parking lot. With the Jamboree approaching in September and winter closing in soon after that, both of these problems have approaching deadlines. The total costs for these projects are still being finalized, but the repairs could be as high as \$25,000 or more. Therefore we obviously need to begin fundraising now to see if we can afford to begin these projects soon. If you can help, please use the Building Fund line on your giving envelopes for your financial gifts towards these needs. Thank you in advance. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. God Bless.

WANTED: Church Treasurer for our church. Duties include paying bills, maintaining records and providing monthly reports to Council. Approximately 20 hours/month required. Basic accounting and financial record keeping and fundamental computer knowledge required. If you have these skills and would like to make a difference for our church, contact the church secretary for full job description and application form.

BEEF & CORN FEED Our annual Beef & Corn Feed will be held on Saturday, July 25th from 4:30pm – 7:00pm

KNOWLEDGE BITES Light of the Cross Lutheran Church program for this month is the *History of Garrison* by Joe Fellegy, Mille Lacs Historian. Church is 2 blocks west of Super Value in Garrison. Tuesday, July 14, 2015 at 2:00pm. Open to the community, everyone is welcome, treats and beverages served.

SENIOR SURF DAY Seniors are invited to a free session on learning to surf the internet. These classes are geared to seniors who have little or no experience with computers. We will go over navigating web pages, determining if a website is secure, using search engines, and accessing useful internet sites for seniors. Space is limited and pre-registration is required, contact Senior LinkAge Line® at 1-800-333-2433. Call to find out when a class will be offered at your public library in the future!

Date: Wednesday July 15th

Time: 1pm-3pm

Location: Mora Public Library

Sponsored by: Mora Public Library & Central MN Council on Aging