

Sunday, November 1, 2015

All Saints Day



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 & Mary Kramer-Long

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

On this day we celebrate the heart of our faith: the gospel of Christ—the good news—that makes us free! We pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to unite the church today in its proclamation and witness to the world. In the waters of baptism we are made one body; we pray for the day that all Christians will also be one at the Lord's table.

OPENING HYMN: “My God, How Wonderful Thou Art” #863 ELW

ANNOUNCEMENTS

On this All Saints Day, we remember our church members who have passed away this last year:

Dec. 5, 2014	Mary Englund	June 28, 2015	Maxine Pearson
July 16, 2015	Betty Sandell	Sept. 26, 2015	Hunter Stellmach (infant)
Oct. 9, 2015	Harlow Dickenson	Oct. 25, 2015	Lloyd Jarson

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, whose name is majestic in all the earth, who rescues and heals in every time of trouble, who does all things well.

Amen.

Let us come before God, seeking forgiveness and life.

Silence is kept for reflection

Steadfast and saving God,
have mercy on us. We confess to you all the ways we turn from you and harm one another. In your compassion, forgive our sins and heal our hurts. Bring forth from us a harvest of righteousness, the fruits of gentleness and peacemaking, the sheaves of wisdom and justice; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

In the name of ✚ Jesus, the Son of God, receive mercy and find grace in your time of need. Your transgressions are forgiven; God's love is healing balm for your wounds. Rejoice, for God raises you up to new life in Christ.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM: “I Lift My Heart”

First Reading: Romans 3:19-28

Paul’s words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and the other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ’s death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God.

²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Psalm: Psalm 24:1-6

The Earth is the Lord's and all that is in it.

¹ The earth is the LORD'S, and fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein,

² **for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.**

³ Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place? **R**

⁴ **He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.**

⁵ He will receive blessing from the LORD and righteousness from the God his salvation.

⁶ **Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of God of Jacob. R**

GOSPEL: JOHN 8:31-36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

³³ They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

³⁴ Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

SERMON HYMN "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" #631 ELW

SERMON: "Gods Pattern for Sainthood"

OFFERTORY HYMN: "Blest Be the Tie that Binds" #656 ELW

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

Made alive with God in Christ, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

Reforming God, renew the covenant you have made with your people. Write your law on our hearts so that all we say and do proclaims the grace you have shown us. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Reinvigorate those places that have become desolate and barren through human intervention or natural disaster. Breathe new life into plants, animals, and watersheds.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Reconcile the nations to one another. Where long-standing disputes remain, raise up new generations to foster understanding. Bring peace where there is deep-rooted conflict.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Revive those who live under the weight of anxiety, despair, or illness (*especially*). Carry their burdens, and uplift them by your compassionate Spirit. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Redeem your church from self-serving sins. Turn our hearts to people outside our walls, and transform our communities into places where all may find redemption and hope.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

As we remember the witness of your saints, we pray you remember your promise of mercy for us. Reunite us with all your holy ones when you come in fullness. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Gather these concerns and all who are in need into your abundant care, O God, remembering your promise of mercy, through 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

We give you thanks, O God, that you welcome us to your table and satisfy our deepest hunger and thirst. By your gifts of word and holy meal, strengthen us to take up the cross as we go about our callings in this world, following after Jesus Christ, our servant Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

Like children in the arms of Jesus, receive blessing: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.
Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN: “For All the Saints” #422 ELW

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

Offerings for September General: \$ 16,450.25 Building Fund: \$ 1,005.00

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Music: Marlys Beavers & Choir
Greeters: Sandy & Dick Pullen
Ushers: 8:30 am- Ron & Joanie Melhop 10:00 am- Dick & Sue Stebbins
Lector: 8:30 am- Judy Siefert
Hospitality Hosts: Roleks & Kendalls
Communion Servers: Valerie Benton, George and Kathy Larson

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, October 25: 8:30am 112 10:00am: 38

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA

November 2 – November 8

Monday	11/2	1:00 pm 7:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle AA/Alanon
Tuesday	11/3	10:00-12:00 9:00 am	Pastor Text Study Crafters
Wednesday	11/4	8:30 am 9:30 am 11:00 am 6:00 pm 6:15 pm 7:00 pm	Bible Study Hardanger Bible Study Choir Practice Cantata Practice Praise Team
Thursday	11/5	8:00 am 10:30 am 12:30 pm 5:30 pm	Romeos Worship & Music Fun Timers Bell Choir Practice
Friday	11/6	10:00 am	Bones
Saturday	11/7	1:00-4:00pm	Foot Care
Sunday	11/8	8:30 am 10:00 am	Worship Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENDANCE REGISTRY Please sign and pass the new attendance registry folders which you will find in the pew.

FOOT CARE program will be held on Saturday, November 7th in the Nurses Office, from 1:00pm-4:00pm. Please call the Church Office at 320-684 2123 between 11:00am – 3:00pm for an appointment. The Foot Care program will be held the 1st Saturday afternoon of each month.

WELCA is in need of a co-chair. This is a 2 year term. The first year s mainly spent observing and the second year as chair. Basically all this involves is making the agenda and leading the meetings. There are only 6 meetings a year. Please consider this opportunity to serve. Without co-chairs WELCA will cease to continue and the organization is a vital part of the functioning of the church. If interested please contact Elsa Carlson 218-678-3408.

KNOWLEDGDE BITES Topic for this month is “Minnesota’s Lost Towns” presented by Rhonda Fochs, Author and Retired History Teacher. It will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2015 at 2:00pm at Light of the Cross Lutheran Church in Garrison (2 blocks west of Super Valu). All are welcome.

WOMEN’S CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON is Saturday December 5th at 11:00 am. It is at church. Mark your calendar and watch for signup sheet.

THANK YOU! To all the men and women of the church who helped with this year’s Holiday Bazaar. Thank you for helping setup tables, craft making, baking cookies and treats, working the day of the bazaar, and cleanup. It would not be the success it is without all of you!

BAZAAR SALE Today left over merchandise from the Bazaar will be on sale in the Fellowship Hall. Get your Holiday shopping done early this year.