

Sunday, January 17, 2016
Second Sunday after Epiphany



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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Pastor: Rev. James Raisanen

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Church Secretary: Mary Kramer & 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 Sundays after Epiphany continue to celebrate the revelation of the glory of God to us as it was made known to the magi and to those on Jordan's banks at the baptism of Jesus—today using wedding imagery. Our God rejoices over God's people "as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride." By the power of the Spirit there are gifts galore for everyone. In Christ Jesus the best wine is saved for last. Taste and see.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

OPENING HYMN: "He Reigns"

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who creates us and forms us, who redeems us and calls us, who unites us and sends us.

Amen.

Gathered in God's presence, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty and loving God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We seek our own way. We divide the body of Christ. In your mercy, cleanse us and heal us. Let the words of our mouths, the thoughts of our hearts, and everything that we do be filled with faith, hope, and love.

Amen.

Hear the voice of Jesus: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to proclaim release to the captives." In the name of ✚ Jesus Christ, I proclaim to you that your sins are forgiven and you are released. The joy of the Lord is your strength, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit are yours forever.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”

Sung By: Randy Tofteland

FIRST READING:

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

The congregation at Corinth experienced division as people were comparing one another's spiritual gifts, thinking some to be superior to others. Paul invites this fractured community to trust that God's Holy Spirit has gifted them all perfectly for their mission together.

¹Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed.

²You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says “Let Jesus be cursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

PSALM

Psalm 36:5-10

We feast upon the abundance of your house, O LORD. (Ps. 36:8)

⁵Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens, and your faithfulness to the clouds.

⁶**Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep; you save humankind and animals, O LORD. R**

⁷How priceless is your love, O God! All people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

⁸**They feast upon the abundance of your house; you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

⁹For with you is the well of life, and in your light we see light.

¹⁰**Continue your loving kindness to those who know you, and your favor to those**

who are true of heart. R

GOSPEL:

John 2:1-11

Turning water to wine at the wedding at Cana is described as the first of Jesus' signs. Through many such epiphanies, Jesus reveals that he bears God's creative power and joyful presence into the world.

¹On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ²Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. ⁹When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." ¹¹Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

SERMON HYMN:

"Shout to the Lord"

SERMON:

"An Extraordinary Wedding Gift"

OFFERTORY SONG:

"Faith of our Father"

ELW# 812

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.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERSESSION

Giving thanks for God's great gifts, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

You enliven your church. Inspire the body of Christ to rejoice in and make good use of the various gifts and vocations with which you have entrusted it. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You are the fountain that brings forth life. Guide us to be good stewards of all plant and animal life entrusted to our care. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In your light we see light. Shine on the path for all nations to seek peace, justice, and the well-being of all your children. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You are a refuge to those in peril. Grant help, healing, and wholeness to all who are in need of your care. We pray especially for Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Bless the leaders of this assembly. Help them to use their gifts in this community to the glory of your holy name. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for the faithful departed who have gone to join the marriage feast that has no end (*especially Antony of Egypt and Pachomius, renewers of the church*). May their lives inspire us to trust always in your promise of eternal life. 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.

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**

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**We thank you, O God, that you have fed us at your banqueting table with bread and wine beyond compare, the very life of Christ for us. Send your Spirit with us now, that we may set the captive free, use your gifts to build one another up, and in everything reflect your glory revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

BLESSING

God Almighty send you light and truth to keep you all the days of your life. The hand of God protect you; the holy angels accompany you; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

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

CLOSING HYMN: “All Hail the Power of Jesus” ELW# 634

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

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Music: Randy Tofteland
Greeters: Wayne & Janice Olson
Ushers: Dick & Sandy Pullen
Hospitality Hosts: Bev Ferdelman, Judy Wuorio, Lois Johnson
Communion Servers: Lee & Barb Forester, Judie Birk

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week/Month

Attendance: January 10, 2016: 82

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda

January 18th - January 24th 2016

Monday	1/18	Martin Luther King Day 1:00 am Double Deck Pinochle 7:00 pm AA/Alanon
Tuesday	1/19	8:00 am Pastor's Text Study
Wednesday	1/20	Newsletter Articles Due 8:00-12:00 WIC 8:30 am Bible Study 9:30 am Hardanger 6:00 pm Confirmation
Thursday	01/21	8:00 am ROMEOS 12:30 pm Fun Timers
Friday	01/22	9:00 am Council Meeting 10:00 am Bone Builders
Sunday	01/24	9:00am Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

TODAY'S MUSIC Much of the music you will hear today came from Darwin's music library and was donated to our church by Jeannine. Please take a moment after service

today to fill out the questions on the enclosed handout which include words to some of the songs we will sing today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

OFFERING ENVELOPES Please pick up your 2016 offering envelopes located in the Fellowship Hall after service. Directories are still available too.

DONATION STATEMENTS Your 2015 tax contribution statements are also available to pick up at the fellowship hall.

NEW MEMBERS We always receive New Members the last Sunday of every month. Contact Pastor Jim if you are interested.

THANKS TO EVERYONE Thank you to all who helped with Corky and Bob Beavers' birthday celebrations during coffee fellowship. We sincerely appreciate your kindness.

PORTALS OF PRAYER Remember to pick up your copy of PORTALS OF PRAYER January-March 2016. This is a personal and family daily devotions booklet and it is free to all who wish to have a copy. They are on the table in the front entry.

WINTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE Only One Worship Service on Sundays in January, February & March 2016 at 9:00am.

FOOT CLINIC our next Foot Care Clinic will be held on Saturday, February 6th, 2016. Call the church office to make an appointment: 320-684-2123 (M-F 11:00am – 3:00pm).

NEXT YEAR'S BAZAAR will feature a Christmas tree full of used tree ornaments. If you have any to donate, please drop them off in the Craft Room.