

Sunday, April 10, 2016

Third Sunday of Easter



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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Church Secretary: Mary Braun & Mary Kramer

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 disciples make a big splash and breakfast with the risen Jesus in the gospel. Wading in the water (remembering our baptism) and eating with Jesus (celebrating the holy communion) is our weekly encounter with the risen Christ. Jesus asks us, with Peter, again and again: Do you love me? And Jesus invites us, again and again, to follow him, bringing the Easter life to others.

CALL TO WORSHIP: “Swing Low, Sweet Chariot”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: “Carrier”

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 fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Let us come into the light, the revealing and healing light of God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of grace and glory,
you have brought us through the night of sin into the light of Jesus’ resurrection. Yet our lives are still shadowed by sin. Make us alive in Christ, O God. Make us new as you make all things new. Rescue us from evil and the gloom of sin, renew us in grace, and restore us to living in your holiness, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

Rejoice with all creation around God’s throne! The light of the risen Christ puts to flight all evil deeds, washes away sin, restores innocence to the fallen, casts out hate, brings

peace, and humbles earthly pride. Jesus Christ loves you and † frees you from your sins by his blood. To him be glory and dominion forever and ever!

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

PRAISE TEAM ANTHEM:

“I Will Rise”

Jim Christensen

FIRST READING: Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]

Each of us has a story of meeting God’s grace. Saul (later called Paul) was an ardent persecutor of all who followed the Way of Christ. This reading recounts the story of his transformation, beginning with an encounter with Jesus Christ on the way to Damascus.

¹Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

³Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” ⁵He asked, “Who are you, Lord?” The reply came, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” He answered, “Here I am, Lord.” ¹¹The Lord said to him, “Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹²and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” ¹³But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who

invoke your name.” ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” ¹⁷So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” ¹⁸And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”

PSALM (ELW): Psalm 30

You have turned my wailing into dancing. (Ps. 30:11)

¹I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me up and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

²O LORD my God, I cried out to you, and you restored me to health.

³You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead; you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

⁴Sing praise to the LORD, all you faithful; give thanks in holy remembrance. R

⁵God’s wrath is short; God’s favor lasts a lifetime. Weeping spends the night, but joy comes in the morning.

⁶While I felt secure, I said, “I shall never be disturbed.

⁷You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains.” Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.

⁸I cried to you, O LORD; I pleaded with my Lord, saying,

⁹“What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?

¹⁰Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me; O LORD, be my helper.” R

¹¹You have turned my wailing into dancing; you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.

¹²Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever. R

GOSPEL: JOHN 21:1-19

The risen Christ appears again to his disciples by the sea where they were first called. After echoes of the fishing and feeding miracles, he gives a final reminder of the cost of a disciple’s love and obedience.

¹After [he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem,] Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ²Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.” ⁶He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. ⁸But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

⁹When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” ¹⁶A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” ¹⁷He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” ¹⁹(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

SERMON:

Guest Preacher - Mr. John Ansell

OFFERTORY HYMN:

“Amazing Grace/Allueluia”

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.

Rooted in the abundant life and love of Christ Jesus, we pray for the life of the church, the lives of people in need, and the life of all creation.

A brief silence.

Holy God, you supply everything we need, and more. Equip us to do the work you intend with the confidence that you will multiply the outcome. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Open our eyes to the promise of new life all around us. Make sprouting plants, awakening animals, and swimming fish all bear witness to your glorious abundance. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Preserve the lives of those who are persecuted for their devotion to you. Use the faithfulness and insight you have given them to transform their persecutors. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Restore the well-being of people who cry out to you in suffering and in want (*especially*). Pour out your mercy upon them, and turn their wailing into dancing. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Inspire the work of translators, authors, and composers who bring your word to others (*as you inspired Mikael Agricola, whom we commemorate today*). Reveal your life through their work. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Remembering the saints who praised you in life and in death, bring us also to the day when you will gather all people to sing hymns of praise in your presence. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We deliver all this into your care, O God, trusting in the work of your Holy Spirit to bring all things into the risen life of Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER – LED BY THE PRAISE TEAM

Blessing

The blessing of the Lord God Almighty, the blessing of † Christ, the Lamb who was slain, and the blessing of the Holy Spirit of truth be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Dismissal

Alleluia. Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

CLOSING HYMN: “I’ll Fly Away”

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

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Music: The Praise Team
Greeters: Jerry & Pat Becker
Ushers: 9:00 am - Dennis & Audrey Bistodeau
Lector: 9:00 am - Winnie Zahradka
Hospitality Hosts: WELCA breakfast for Seminarian Sunday.

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, April 3, 2015: 8:30am 100 10:00am 27

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda

April 11 through April 17, 2016

Sunday	4/10	10:00am	Seminary Sunday Breakfast
Monday	4/11	9:00 am	Women's Devotion (Pat Becker's house)
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
		1:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle
Tuesday	4/12	7:00-9:00am	Pastor's Text Study
		9:00 am	Quilters

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda (continued)**April 11 through April 17, 2016**

Wednesday	4/13	8:30 am	Bible Study
		9:30 am	Stitchers
		6:00 pm	Choir Practice
		7:00 pm	Confirmation
		7:00 pm	Praise Team
Thursday	4/14	8:00am	ROMEOS
		12:30 pm	Fun Timers
Friday	4/15	9:00 am	Stewardship Meeting
		10:00 am	Bone Builders
		4:00 pm	Torgerson-Burns Wedding
Sunday	4/17	8:30 am	Worship
		10:00 am	Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY IS SEMINARY SUNDAY Our guest preacher is John Ansell. John is a fourth year seminary student at Luther Seminary. Breakfast will be served after worship. A free will offering to support John's seminary loans will be received. Please join us!

WOMEN'S DEVOTIONS Monday, April 11th, 9:00am at Pat Becker's.

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.

CHOIR PRACTICE Choir will start practice on Wednesday night, April 13th at 6:00 pm. Anyone interested in singing with the choir can just come to practice. Everyone is welcome.

STEWARDSHIP MEETING Friday, April 15 at 9:00am

SPRING LADIES' RETREAT at Camp Jim – Pillager, MN. April 15-16, 2016.
Brochures and information in the Narthex.

CARDS APPRECIATED Richard Holmberg passed away early Sunday morning on April 3, 2016. Cards may be sent to: Margaret Holmberg, 32070 315th Place, Aitkin, MN 56431

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK We have a new facebook page. Search for Bethesda Malmo and send us a friend request (if we haven't already sent you a request).