

**Sunday, April 24, 2016**  
**Fifth Sunday of Easter**



**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](mailto:blcmalmo@frontiernet.net)

Church Web Site: [blcmalmo.org](http://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

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**

*(Please turn off your cell phones)*

# Sunday, April 24, 2016

## Fifth Sunday of Easter

### INTRODUCTION

*Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Lord is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today the Lord Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

“Alleluia! Jesus is Risen”

#377 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, 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**

**O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

**First Reading:**

**Revelation 21:1-6**

*John's vision shows us that in the resurrection the new age has dawned; God dwells with us already. Yet we wait for the time when the tears that cloud our vision will be wiped away. Then we will see the new heaven, new earth, and new Jerusalem.*

<sup>1</sup>I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

<sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

<sup>4</sup>he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

<sup>5</sup>And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” <sup>6</sup>Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.

To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

**Psalm: Psalm 148**

*The splendor of the LORD is over earth and heaven. (Ps. 148:13)*

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights.

<sup>2</sup>**Praise the LORD, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

<sup>3</sup>Praise the LORD, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.

<sup>4</sup>**Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.**

<sup>5</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD, who commanded, and they were created,

<sup>6</sup>**who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law that shall not pass away. R**

<sup>7</sup>Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;

<sup>8</sup>**fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**

<sup>9</sup>mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

<sup>10</sup>**wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;**

<sup>11</sup>sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;

<sup>12</sup>**young men and maidens, old and young together. R**

<sup>13</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

<sup>14</sup>**The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah! R**

## GOSPEL: JOHN 13:31-35

*After washing the disciples' feet, predicting his betrayal, and then revealing his betrayer, Jesus speaks of his glorification on the cross. This deep complicated love of Jesus, even to death on the cross, will be the distinctive mark of Jesus' community.*

<sup>31</sup>When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup>If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup>Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' <sup>34</sup>I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

<sup>35</sup>By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

SERMON HYMN

**"Softly and Tenderly"**

**#608**

ELW

SERMON

“Staying Close to Christ”

OFFERTORY SONG

“Jesus Loves Me”

#595 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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, by your Holy Spirit reveal to us the saving work of Christ. Strengthen your church with the good news that leads to limitless life for all. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Send us to places far and near, and join our voices in chorus with all creation. Use us to show others your abundant goodness in the created world. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

End war and the human desire to hold on to power. Free all people to love both neighbor and enemy, and make your church an example of such love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Surround people who are hurting with agents of your healing and messengers of your peace. Provide safe communities for all who are in any need (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Strengthen the bonds of shared service between congregations and social ministry organizations (*here specific social ministry organizations may be named*). Guide us in doing your work together. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

In Christ's death and resurrection you have fulfilled your work for the sake of your saints. Come swiftly to dwell among us and to make all things new. 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.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

### **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: "Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty" #413**

**ELW**

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

### **THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK**

Music: Marlys Beavers

Greeters: Ron & Joni Melhop  
 Ushers: 8:30am Jerry & Carolyn Morris  
 10:00 am Barry & Donna Ansell  
 Lector: Karen Carron  
 Hospitality Hosts: John & Grace Iverson, Keith & Dorothy Munding

***Thank you for your service!***

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: April 17, 2016: 8:30am 75  
 10:00pm 45

**THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA**

April 25 - May 1

---

Monday	4/25	1:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	4/26	7:00 - Noon	Pastor Text Study
		9:00 am	Quilters
Wednesday	4/27	8:30 am	Bible Study
		9:30am	Stitchers
		9:30 am	Mission & Evangl. Meeting
		6:00 pm	Choir Practice
		7:00 pm	Confirmation
		7:00 pm	Praise Team
Thursday	4/28	8:00am	Romeos
		12:30 pm	Fun Timers
Friday	4/29	10:00am	Bones





contact Joanne Stueven or Mary Braun in the church office. The ground work and plan is all set for this role, all we need now is “YOU”. Please inquire if you’re interested.

**BAKING PANS** Did you bring a dish to the church and didn’t get your pan back? Check in the fellowship hall for your baking pans.

**FOOT CLINIC** our next Foot Care Clinic will be held on Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Call the church office to make an appointment: 320-684-2123 (M-F 11:00am – 3:00pm).