

Sunday, May 08, 2016

Seventh 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

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

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

Sunday, May 08, 2016

Seventh Sunday of Easter

INTRODUCTION

It is possible to hear in Jesus' high priestly prayer, a prayer he offered shortly before his death, the petitions of the ascended Lord for his own throughout history—to our day—and beyond. Jesus prays for us. In holy baptism we become believers in God, have our robes washed in the flood of Christ's forgiveness, and receive the gift of life forever with all the saints.

CALL TO WORSHIP: “Shall We Gather at the River” #423 ELW

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: “You Have Come to the Lakeshore” #817 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 God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

PRAISE TEAM ANTHEM: “Lighthouse”

FIRST READING: Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

The ascended Christ, hidden from our sight, promises to come again. We eagerly pray, “Come, Lord Jesus,” with all who respond to this invitation.

¹²“See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone’s work.

¹³I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”

¹⁴Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

¹⁶“It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”

¹⁷The Spirit and the bride say, “Come.” And let everyone who hears say, “Come.”

And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

²⁰The one who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

²¹The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

Psalm: Psalm 97

Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous. (Ps. 97:12)

¹The LORD reigns; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of the isles be glad.

²Clouds and darkness surround the LORD, righteousness and justice are the foundations of God’s throne.

³Fire goes before the LORD, burning up enemies on every side.

⁴Lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles.

⁵The mountains melt like wax before the Lord of all the earth.

⁶The heavens declare your righteousness, O LORD, and all the peoples see your glory. R

THE PRAYERS OF INTERSESSION

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.

God of renewal, fill us to overflowing with the grace we receive in word, in water, in the meal. Draw others to join the life we share in your church. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Declare your righteousness through the blossoming of creation. By the wind's blowing and birds' singing, inspire us to join in the hymn of all creation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Be the source of all strength and peace for people who are imprisoned. Renew them with the overwhelming power of your salvation, and give them release for their spirits. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Reveal yourself to those who feel isolated because of illness, grief, status, or the prejudice of others. (*Especially we pray for . . .*). Comfort and welcome them into your Spirit-filled community. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Bless those who serve in a mothering role for others. Send your Spirit to those who mourn, who have not known their mothers, or who long to be a mother. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You draw (*Julian of Norwich, whom we commemorate today, and*) all the saints into your presence. Draw us into the mystery and wonder of your presence until Christ comes again. 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: “Michael Row the Boat Ashore”

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

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Music: The Praise Team
Greeters: Char Berg & Paula Spetz
Ushers: 8:30 am – Chuck & Elsa Carlson
 10:00 am – Darrell Kelly
Lector: 8:30 am – Carolyn Morris
Hospitality Hosts: The Long family for Irene Long’s 99th Birthday

Thank you for your service!

Response to God’s Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, May 1, 2016: 9:00am 104

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda

May 9 through May 15, 2016

Monday	5/9	8:00 am	Jelly Making
		1:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	5/10	7:30-10:30am	Pastor’s Text Study
		9:00 am	Quilters
		10:00am	Adopt a Highway Clean Up (meet at church)

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda (continued)**May 9 through May 15, 2016**

Wednesday	5/11	8:30 am	Bible Study
		9:30 am	Stitchers
		6:00 pm	Choir Practice
		7:00 pm	Praise Team
Thursday	5/12	8:00am	ROMEOS
		12:30 pm	Fun Timers
		6:00 pm	Bell Choir Practice-Anyone interested is welcomed.
Friday	5/13	9:00 am	Stewardship Meeting
		10:00 am	Bone Builders
Sunday	5/16	8:30 am	Worship
		10:00 am	Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Come and help celebrate Irene Long's 99th birthday today at coffee fellowship between services. She likes cards, hugs and well wishes.

THANK YOU to Greta Meleen and her family, Paul, Holly and Garet, for the beautiful flowers today in church. Greta was confirmed last Sunday, May 1, 2016 at Bay View Church in Sturgeon Bay, Wis. Greta wanted the bouquet given to Bethesda to thank the church for all the support members have given her to help her faith journey grow.

JELLY MAKING Jelly making date is set for May 9th. Please come and help in the production of about 400 jars of jelly. You don't need to know anything about jelly making. There will be a job for you. Come and join in the fun. Sign-up sheets in the Fellowship Hall.

HIGHWAY CLEANUP Volunteers are needed for State Hwy 47 cleanup. Bethesda has its own section. Bags are provided, we just need the volunteers. Please meet at the church at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, May 10th.

ARE YOU CREATIVE? We are looking for persons that would like to be on a committee to update bulletin boards and other church related décor. Please contact Melody Lackner – 218-232-7424 or mlackner912@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

AITKIN COUNTY TRIAD Invites you to a FREE Program and Lunch. Tuesday, May 17, 2016, 11:00am at Aitkin American Legion Post – “Help for Planning your Funeral”. Jerry Thompson from Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home will be the speaker. Reservations for free lunch required: call Sandy Liepins at 218-768-3355 or email: liepins@frontiernet.net Or call Ginny Eksrand 218-752-1111 or email: ekstrand@frontier.com

HELP US “TELL OUR STORY” The church is looking for a volunteer (or team of volunteers) to improve the awareness of our church in our lake community through more articles in the local papers. If you are inquisitive and enjoy writing, we’d love to talk with you about becoming our “Bethesda Reporter” and filling a key role in our communication plans. If you’d like to learn more, please 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.



NEW MEMBERS will be received the last Sunday of May. Please let Pastor Jim know if that is something you are interested in.

THRIVENT has made us aware that there is \$250 available to every event Bethesda sponsors but we need to identify who are members of Thrivent. Please let the church office know if you are a member and we will assist you in applying for these funds.

BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS Attention Committee chairs: Please have next year’s budget recommendations to Stewardship by Friday, June 10th. If you have questions talk to Pat Becker.

POWERFUL TOOLS FOR CAREGIVERS – *Learn to thrive and not just survive.*
You call it “reminding my husband to take his pills.” We call it Caregiving.
You call it “taking Mom to medical appointments.” We call it Caregiving.
You call it “helping family understand my wife’s memory loss.” We call it Caregiving.

Are you taking care of yourself while taking care of someone else? This is a 6 week class designed to help caregivers take care of themselves while caring for a relative or friend. Develop self-care tools to reduce stress, communicate needs effectively in challenging situations, deal with emotions and make care giving decisions. You will benefit from this class whether you are helping someone who lives at home, in a nursing home or across the country. Classes begin May 19- June 23 at 1:30 PM at The Birch Center, 20 Third St, Aitkin. Call 218-927-1383 or 877-810-7776 to register and/or to get more details.