

Sunday, May 29, 2016

Second Sunday after Pentecost



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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Pastor: Rev. James Raisanen

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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

(Please turn off your cell phones)

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INTRODUCTION

God hears every prayer—the prayer of the outsider as well as the prayer of the insider. The attentive nature of our God is evident as God comes to us again and again in the word and in the supper. “Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.” Do it today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN “I Know That My Redeemer Lives” #619
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, abounding in steadfast love toward us, healing the sick and raising the dead, showering us with every good gift.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Just and gracious God,
we come to you for healing and life. Our sins hurt others and diminish us; we confess them to you. Our lives bear the scars of sin; we bring these also to you. Show us your mercy, O God. Bind up our wounds, forgive us our sins, and free us to love, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

The apostle Paul assures us:

“When we were dead in our trespasses, God made us alive together with Christ, nailing the record of our sins to the cross.” Jesus says to you, ☩ “Your sins are forgiven.” Be at peace, and tell everyone how much God has done for you.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Merciful Lord God, we do not presume to come before you trusting in our own righteousness, but in your great and abundant mercies.

Revive our faith, we pray; heal our bodies, and mend our communities, that we may evermore dwell in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS:

Today we receive, as new members to Bethesda:

Ron and Arty Heins (associate members)

Dean and Cheryl Malotky

Gene and Sharon Whipple

Merrily Jones

George and Patti Smith

Ray Piispanen

Welcome!

First Reading: Galatians 1:1-12

Paul, who started this church in Galatia, is angry and troubled that the congregation is confused by other teachers. As he begins this letter, Paul is direct with them about his desire for Christ's pure gospel to be the center of their lives.

¹Paul an apostle—sent neither by human commission nor from human authorities, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead—²and all the members of God's family who are with me,

To the churches of Galatia:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴who gave himself for our sins to set us free from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, ⁵to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

⁶I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—⁷not that there is another gospel, but there are some who are confusing you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. ⁸But even if we or an angel from heaven should proclaim to you a gospel contrary to what we proclaimed to you, let that one be accursed! ⁹As we have said before, so now I repeat, if anyone proclaims to you a gospel contrary to what you received, let that one be accursed!

¹⁰Am I now seeking human approval, or God's approval? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still pleasing people, I would not be a servant of Christ.

¹¹For I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel that was proclaimed by me is not of human origin; ¹²for I did not receive it from a human source, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

Psalm: Psalm 96:1-9

Declare the glory of the LORD among the nations. (Ps. 96:3)

¹Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

²Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.

³Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.

⁴For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods. R

⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

⁶Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.

⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

⁸Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.

⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth. **R**

GOSPEL: LUKE 7:1-10

A Roman centurion stands to lose a highly valued slave. Jewish leaders in Capernaum consider the centurion worthy, but the Gentile declares himself unworthy. In the midst of this tangle of attitudes, the centurion shows his understanding of authority and his testimony that Jesus has it, even authority over illness and death.

¹After Jesus had finished all his sayings in the hearing of the people, he entered Capernaum. ²A centurion there had a slave whom he valued highly, and who was ill and close to death. ³When he heard about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders to him, asking him to come and heal his slave. ⁴When they came to Jesus, they appealed to him earnestly, saying, "He is worthy of having you do this for him, ⁵for he loves our people, and it is he who built our synagogue for us." ⁶And Jesus went with them,

but when he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to say to him, “Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; ⁷therefore I did not presume to come to you. But only speak the word, and let my servant be healed. ⁸For I also am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, ‘Go,’ and he goes, and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes, and to my slave, ‘Do this,’ and the slave does it.” ⁹When Jesus heard this he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd that followed him, he said, “I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith.” ¹⁰When those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave in good health.

SERMON HYMN “My Hope is Built on Nothing Less” #597
ELW

SERMON “An Army Officer Deeply Concerned”

OFFERTORY SONG “Just as I am Without One Plea” #592
ELW

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF HEALING

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. A part of our work as a congregation is to pray for the sick. Prayer for the sick is an important Christian discipline and a biblical injunction. We want it to be a part of our worship program. A theology of wholeness and wellness, however also would include a work of thanksgiving and support for those who are healthy and are seeking to be good stewards of all God's blessings.

Leader: Teach us, O God, how to walk in paths of wholeness and hope.

Congregation: **Helps us to care for those among us who are sick, and to challenge those who are well to embrace the fullness and vigor of life that you bring.**

Leader: Let those who are lonely or sorrowing be comforted and called back into community.

Congregation: Let those who are depressed or suffering from mental anguish be helped through compassionate care and support.

Leader: Let those who are facing illness of body be encouraged and assisted as they seek to recover or be released from their pain.

Congregation: Let those who are healthy celebrate with joy.

Leader: Let those of us who are able honor your creation through thankful enjoyment of nutritious food, clear air and water and vigorous exercise.

Congregation: Let us rejoice in the splendid variety of your creation.

All: Help us to be a healthy and healing congregation, O God, a place where all are free to live fully in body, mind and spirit. This we pray in your precious name. Amen.

PRAYER FOR HEALING: Let us pray

Father, we thank you for your Blessing to us. May your strength and grace surround us. May Jesus Christ, your Son, share with us this courage and His forgiveness. May the Holy Spirit lead us to the way of right and goodness for all. May your Holy Angels hold us in their arms and guide us on our Journey here in this world and into the next. In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we pray. Amen.

LORD’S PRAYER

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Proclaim the good news.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN: “O Beautiful for Spacious Skies” #888 ELW

Today is a *Healing Service* – anyone can go upfront at the end of the service and light a candle in memory of a loved one.

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

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Music: Linda Gommer
Greeters: Wayne & Janice Olson
Ushers: 8:30-Wally & Bev Swenson 10:00-Steve Long
Lector: Dale Siems
Hospitality Hosts: Rich & Marg Nelson, Ron & Joni Mehlhop

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: May 22, 2016: 8:30am 96
10:00pm 75

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA

May 30 –

June 5

Sunday	5/29	2:00 pm	Memorial Service at Malmo Cemetery
		3:00 pm	Memorial Service at Lakeside Cemetery
Monday	5/30	1:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	5/31	7:30-10:00	Pastor Text Study
		9:00 am	Crafters
		2:30 pm	Vacation Bible School planning meeting
Wednesday	6/1	8:30 am	Bible Study
		9:30am	Stitchers
		6:00 pm	Choir Practice
		7:00 pm	Praise Team
Thursday	6/2	8:00am	Romeos
		12:30 pm	Fun Timers
		6:00 pm	Bell Choir Practice

Friday	6/3	10:00am	Bones
Saturday	6/4	1:00-4:00pm	Foot Care
Sunday	6/5	8:30 am 10:00 am	Worship Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES TODAY The Malmo Evangelical Free Church will offer the program this year. Services at The Malmo Cemetery will be at 2:00 PM and at Lakeside at 3:00 PM. All are welcome.

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.

FOOT CLINIC ur next Foot Care Clinic will be held on Saturday, June 4th, 2016. Call the church office to make an appointment: 320-684-2123 (M-F 11:00am – 3:00pm).

PRAYER CHAIN WELCA is re-doing the Prayer Chain list. Anyone who wants to be added please contact Judy Forester: 218-678-2667.

WELCA Co-CHAIR WELCA is again in need of a co-chair. This is a 2-yr term. The first year is mainly spent just helping the 2nd year co-chair and learning what to do. The 2nd Year co-chair is Sandy Pullen. The second year you would be responsible for making the agenda and leading the meeting for only 6 meetings. If you are interested in this position please contact Sandy Pullen or Elsa Carlson. Our next meeting is August 17, 2016. We hope everyone will give this a prayerful consideration. WELCA has an important function and it's a wonderful way to serve the women of this church. Let's keep this organization going.

HOPE LODGE Just a reminder, we are still collecting for Hope Lodge. Some items needed are toilet paper, Kleenex, travel mugs, stamps, and travel size conditioner. A more complete list is on the WELCA bulletin board. The bin for collecting items is located in the Fellowship Hall.

OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE June 12th at 8:30am and 10:00pm. Led by the Praise Choir. Bring your own lawn chair.

VBS There will be a Vacation Bible School planning meeting on Tuesday May 31st at 2:30 PM. Anyone interested in helping please try to attend or let Joanne Stueven or Dianne Jones know that you would like to be a part of this great week (June 20-24) at Bethesda.

BRIDGE Anyone interested in learning how to play Bridge can join Mary Nitti at Bethesda Church on Tuesdays at 1:00pm starting June 14th. Free of charge.