

**Sunday, June 12, 2016**

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



**BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO**

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

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**

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## INTRODUCTION

*The enormity of our sin is surpassed only by the mercy of God. We come, repentant, to the table of the Lord. In the body and blood of Jesus, in the announcement of our absolution, all our sins are forgiven. "Happy are they . . . whose sin is put away." Happy are we.*

## CALL TO WORSHIP:

### **"In the Garden"**

I come to the garden alone while the dew is still on the roses  
And the voice I hear falling on my ear the Son of God discloses.

**Chorus: And He walks with me, and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His own; and the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.**

He speaks, and the sound of His voice, is so sweet the birds hush their singing, and the melody that He gave to me within my heart is ringing.

**Chorus:**

I'd stay in the garden with Him though the night around me be falling,  
But He bids me go; through the voice of woe His voice to me is calling.

**Chorus:**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OPENING HYMN:

### **"Down By the Riverside"**

Gonna lay down my burden, down by the riverside,  
Down by the riverside, down by the riverside.  
Gonna lay down my burden, down by the riverside  
And study war no more.

Gonna lay down my sword and shield, down by the riverside, down by the riverside, down by the riverside.

Gonna lay down my sword and shield, down by the riverside and study war no more.

**Chorus: I ain't gonna study war no more, ain't gonna study war no more,  
Ain't gonna study war no more, I ain't gonna study war no more,  
Ain't gonna study war no more, ain't gonna study war no more.**

Gonna put on my long white robe; down by the riverside,  
Down by the riverside, down by the riverside.

Gonna put on my long white robe; down by the riverside  
And study war no more.

Gonna talk with the Prince of Peace, down By the riverside,  
Down by the riverside, down by the riverside.

Gonna talk with the Prince of Peace, down by the riverside  
And study war no more.

**Chorus x 2**

## **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.

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

*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: O God, throughout the ages you judge your people with mercy, and you inspire us to speak your truth. By your Spirit, anoint us for lives of faith and service, and bring all people into your forgiveness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**PRAISE TEAM ANTHEM: “Good, Good Father”**

**First Reading: Galatians 2:15-21**

*Paul preaches on the power of God’s grace to make us faithful. We are made right with God through Jesus Christ alone, through no work of our own. As a result, Christ’s life has become our whole identity.*

<sup>15</sup>We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; <sup>16</sup>yet we know that a person is justified not by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. And we have come to believe in Christ Jesus, so that we might be justified by faith in Christ, and not by doing the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law.

<sup>17</sup>But if, in our effort to be justified in Christ, we ourselves have been found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! <sup>18</sup>But if I build up again the very things that I once tore down, then I demonstrate that I am a transgressor. <sup>19</sup>For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; <sup>20</sup>and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. <sup>21</sup>I do not nullify the grace of God; for if justification comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing.

**Psalm: Psalm 32**

*Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin. (Ps. 32:5)*

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

**<sup>2</sup>Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

<sup>3</sup>While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.

**<sup>4</sup>For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer. R** *(Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.)*

<sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.” Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

**<sup>6</sup>Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

<sup>7</sup>You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

**<sup>8</sup>“I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye. R** *(Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.)*

<sup>9</sup>Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you.”

**<sup>10</sup>Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

<sup>11</sup>Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are true of heart. **R** *(Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.)*

## **GOSPEL: Luke 7:36-50**

*Through a dramatic encounter of rich and poor, righteous and sinner, Jesus teaches the relationship between receiving mercy and responding with a lavish outpouring of love. Jesus also provokes his host by claiming authority to forgive sins.*

<sup>36</sup>One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee’s house and took his place at the table. <sup>37</sup>And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee’s house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment.

<sup>38</sup>She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment. <sup>39</sup>Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, “If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him—that she is a sinner.” <sup>40</sup>Jesus spoke up and said to him, “Simon, I have something to say to you.” “Teacher,” he replied, “speak.” <sup>41</sup>“A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. <sup>42</sup>When they could not pay, he canceled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?” <sup>43</sup>Simon answered, “I suppose the one for whom he canceled the greater debt.” And Jesus said to him, “You have judged rightly.” <sup>44</sup>Then turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. <sup>45</sup>You gave me no kiss, but

from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. <sup>46</sup>You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. <sup>47</sup>Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little.” <sup>48</sup>Then he said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.” <sup>49</sup>But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, “Who is this who even forgives sins?” <sup>50</sup>And he said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you; go in peace.”

**SERMON:                      A Woman Burdened With Guilt**

**OFFERTORY HYMN:                      “Lord Reign in Me”**

1. Over all the Earth, you reign on high, every mountain stream, every sunset sky. But my one request, Lord my only aim...Is that you reign in me again.

**Chorus:** Lord reign in me, reign in your power, over all my dreams, in my darkest hour. You are the Lord, of all I am...So won't you reign in me again.

2. Over every thought, over every word may my life reflect, the beauty of my Lord. You mean more to me, than any earthly thing...So won't you reign in me again.

**Chorus:**  
**Repeat Chorus**

**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.**

## THE PRAYERS OF INTERSESSION

Let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*A brief silence.*

Faithful God, inspire fidelity in your church. Guard it from temptation, and make it place of safety, welcome, and joy for all. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of all that is, we encounter you not only in the grandeur of your creation, but in its smallest and quietest parts. Awaken us to your presence all around us. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of power and might, call the nations of the world to recognize first your authority and justice. Guard all nations from unjust rulers, and bring forth your kingdom of righteousness and peace. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of the lowly, help us recognize hospitality and generosity from unexpected sources, the humanity and goodness of those in prison, the faith and persistence of those who weep. Let our weakness be our strength. We pray especially for . . . . Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of new life, as you bring newcomers, visitors, and seekers into this assembly, give us hearts open to the new perspectives and gifts they bring. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

O God, you have called the saints your own. Gather us, with them, into your kingdom, in the promise of life forever with you. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting your promise to hear us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

# THE LORD'S PRAYER – LED BY THE PRAISE TEAM

## OUR FATHER by JOHN DENVER

ARR: D. WILKINSON

By B. Smith

C G C G C Dm

OUR FA-THER IN HEA-VEN HO-LY BE YOUR

C F G C E G C F

NAME YOUR KING-DOM COME YOUR WILL BE DONE ON EARTH

G Dm G

AS IT IS IN HEA-VEN GIVE US THIS DAY OUR

G7 C Dm G C

DAI-LY BREAD AND FOR-GIVE US THE WRONG WE HAVE DONE

Dm G E Dm F G

AS WE FOR-GIVE THOSE WHO WRONG US AND DO NOT PUT US

G7 C# C Dm C

TO THE TEST BUT DE-LI-VER US FROM E-VIL

Dm C 3. 2. G

(SPOKEN INTERLUDE) FOR THE KINGS-DOM THE POWER AND TH

C Dm C Dm C

GLO-RY ARE YOURS NOW AND FOR-EV-ER FOR-EV-ER

Amen



## **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: "I Shall Walk in the Presence of God"**

1. I shall walk in the presence of God; I shall walk.  
With the sun and the rain upon me I shall walk.  
In the land of the living, living land I shall walk.  
With my sisters and brothers around me I shall walk.
2. I shall sing in the presence of God; I shall sing.  
With the sun and the rain upon me I shall sing.  
In the land of the living, living land I shall sing.  
With my sisters and brothers around me I shall sing.
3. I shall breathe in the presence of God; I shall breathe.  
With the sun and the rain upon me I shall breathe.  
In the land of the living, living land I shall breathe.  
With my sisters and brothers around me I shall breathe.
4. I shall dance in the presence of God; I shall dance.  
With the sun and the rain upon me I shall dance.  
In the land of the living, living land I shall dance.  
With my sisters and brothers around me I shall dance.

Repeat #1

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

## **THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK**

Music: The Praise Team  
Greeters: Wally & Bev Swenson  
Ushers: 8:30 - Winnie Zahradka, Judy Wozney  
10:00 – Richard & Sue Stebbins  
Lector: 8:30 am – Myra Honl  
Hospitality Hosts: Chuck & Elsa Carlson, Lee & Barb Forrester

*Thank you for your service!*

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, June 5, 2016: 8:30am 104 10:00am 67

## **THIS WEEK AT Bethesda**

**June 13 through June 19, 2016**

Monday	6/13	9:00 am	Women's Devotion at Pat Beckers
		1:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	6/14	7:30-10:30am	Pastor's Text Study
		9:00 am	Quilters
		1:00 pm	Bridge Lessons
Wednesday	6/15	8:00-noon	WIC
		8:30 am	Bible Study
		9:30 am	Stitchers
		6:00 pm	Choir Practice
		7:00 pm	Praise Team
Thursday	6/16	8:00am	ROMEOS
		12:30 pm	Fun Timers
		6:00 pm	Bell Choir Practice
Friday	6/17	9:00 am	Stewardship Meeting
		10:00 am	Bone Builders
Sunday	6/19	8:30 am	Worship
		10:00 am	Worship

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

**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.

**FOOT CLINIC** Our next Foot Care Clinic will be held on Saturday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 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 2<sup>nd</sup> year co-chair and learning what to do. The 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

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

**CELEBRATION OF FREEDOM!** – John Koziol and friends will again be with us over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend. Services are at 5:00pm on Saturday and 10:00am on Sunday. Join us! Invite your friends! A free will offering will be received.

**VEGGIE STAND** Our next opening will be July 2nd, then every Saturday until Labor Day.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

**CAN YOU HELP?** There are lists of items needed for Vacation Bible School posted on the bulletin boards in the entry. Please take a donation slip, find or purchase the item, and bring to church by date suggested on the slip. Thank you for your help!

**EarthCare Fair at Lutheran Church of Cross/Nisswa** A free-to-the public EarthCare Fair will be held at Lutheran Church of the Cross in Nisswa (Schaefer's Corner) Saturday, June 18, from 9 am to 3 pm. Booths and displays related to practical home, garden, water and soil resources to help care for the Earth; fun hands-on activities for the whole family; hourly presentations on clean energy, climate change, and practical gardening; outdoor solar energy display and more. Food available for purchase. For complete details see: [www.lccnisswa.org](http://www.lccnisswa.org) or call 218-963-2564.

**OFFERING FOR RICK AND SHARON RAISANEN** A special collection will be taken Sunday, June 26 for Rick and Sharon Raisanen (Pastor Jim's brother) who lost everything in a house fire. Please remember them in your prayers also. **Checks can be made out to Bethesda Lutheran marked Rick and Sharon.**

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** is scheduled for June 20-24. Can you help out? Please contact Joanne Stueven at 218 678-2778 or pick up a "Need" sheet in the Narthex.