

Sunday, June 19, 2016

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost



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

This Sunday's texts paint startling pictures of the horrific—the demonic—nature of sin. The church's repeated celebration of the holy communion counters that tragic reality in a continued showing forth of the death of Jesus "until he comes." It is a dramatic declaration of "how much God has done for you."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: "Jesus Loves the Little Children"

1. Jesus loves the little children,
All the children of the world.
Red and yellow, black and white,
All are precious in His sight,
Jesus loves the little children of the world.
2. Jesus died for all the children ...
3. We must help the little children ...

OPENING LITANY

The Earth is the Lord's (leader)

And everything in it (all)

Faithful God you have blessed us in so many ways (leader)

We will not forget your goodness to us God (all)

Your love and grace are our daily companions (leader)

We rejoice in our journey with you (all)

Lord Jesus, You were moved with compassion in the face of suffering (leader)

Soften our hearts, make us a compassionate people (all)

Lord Jesus, on a crowded mountainside, you fed the hungry (leader)

From what you have given us, help us ensure that everyone has enough food (all)

Lord Jesus, you stooped to bring hope to the leper (leader)

Make us never too busy to bring hope to the hopeless (all)

Lord Jesus, you displayed your love for us in your life and your death (leader)

Save us from cynicism and help us live sacrificially (all)

Lord Jesus by your actions you brought transformation to the world. (leader)

By your power help us to be agents of change in the places of need (all)

In your name (leader)

Amen (all)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM: “Amazing Grace My Chains Are Gone”

First Reading: Galatians 3:26-29

For Paul, baptism is a powerful bond that unites people not only with God but with other believers. Those who call themselves children of God experience a transformation that removes prejudices of race, social class, or gender in favor of true unity in Christ.

²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Psalm: Psalm 22:19-28

In the midst of the assembly I will praise you. (Ps. 22:22)

¹⁹But you, O LORD, be not far away; O my help, hasten to my aid.

²⁰**Deliver me from the sword, my life from the power of the dog.**

²¹Save me from the lion’s mouth! From the horns of wild bulls you have rescued me.

²²**I will declare your name to my people; in the midst of the assembly I will praise you. R**

²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob’s line, give glory. Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

²⁴For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hidden from them; but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied, Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever! R *(In the midst of the assembly I will praise you)*

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations. R*(In the midst of the assembly I will praise you)*

Gospel: Luke 8:26-39

Jesus' mission includes foreigners, and his authority extends to the casting out of demons. Some who witness Jesus' work are seized with confusion and fear, but the man who was healed is commissioned to give testimony of God's mercy and power.

²⁶Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"—²⁹for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) ³⁰Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. ³¹They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

³²Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

³⁴When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. ³⁶Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸The man from whom the demons

had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹“Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

SERMON HYMN “Jesus Loves Me” #595 ELW

SERMON: “Missionaries in the Field”

Sandy Pullen

Follow Dara’s blog at: <http://thereforego.blogspot.com/>

OFFERTORY HYMN: “This Little Light of Mine”

#677 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 INTERCESSION

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

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

A brief silence.

Gracious God, we pray for the church. *A brief silence.* Keep it faithful to you, so that your people here stand in witness to proclaim how much you have done for us in Jesus Christ. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for the well-being of creation. *A brief silence.* Tend and nurture plants and animals, lands, seas, and skies. Restore the vitality of lands and waters suffering from human misuse or natural disaster (*here specific concerns may be named*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for the nations. *A brief silence.* Work in and through governments, humanitarian organizations, and local partnerships to cast out the forces of evil and establish your life and peace. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. *A brief silence.* Be with those who know demons of any kind, and clothe them with Christ’s freedom and healing. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for this congregation. *A brief silence.* Establish and renew our faith, strengthen our ministries (*especially*), and bless those preparing for baptism. Bless fathers and all who provide fatherly care in their vocation to raise up our children in love. 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

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, as a mother comforts her child, so you comfort your people, carrying us in your arms and satisfying us with this food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Send us now as your disciples, announcing peace and proclaiming that the reign of God has come near; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me" #860 ELW

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

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, June 19: 8:30am 85 10:00am: 40

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Music: Arty Heins & Choir

Greeters: Rich & Marge Nelson

Ushers: 8:30 – Nancy Hansen, Paula Spetz 10:00 – Marilyn Andrews

Lector: Laurina Tofteland

Communion Servers: Barb & Lee Forrester, Bruce Gingerich

Thank you for your service!

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA

June 20 – June 26

Monday	6/20	9:00-11:30am	VBS
		1:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle at Hunters
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	6/21	9:00-11:30am	VBS
		1:00 pm	Bridge Lessons
Wednesday	6/22	9:00-11:30am	VBS
		6:00 pm	Choir Practice
		7:00 pm	Praise Team
Thursday	6/23	9:00-11:30am	VBS
		12:30 pm	Fun Timers at Kathy Bauer's
		6:00 pm	Bell Choir
Friday	6/24	9:00-11:30am	VBS
Sunday	6/26	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.

FOOT CLINIC Our next Foot Care Clinic will be held on Saturday, July 2nd, 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.

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! – Bethesda's Annual Celebration of Freedom will be held on Saturday, July 2nd at 5:00pm and again on Sunday, July 3rd at 10:00am. Come and enjoy the music of "That Old Time Religion" led by John Koziol, Pat Balder and friends. A free will offering will be received.

VEGGIE STAND (from Elsa Carlson) Sorry to inform you all that Chuck and I will not be able to man the veggie stand for a few weeks. I am scheduled for back surgery on July 5th and I'm not sure how long I will need to be out. So this is a plea for someone to take over. It's only a few hours on Saturday morning and it is a lot of fun. Unfortunately I probably won't be baking either for a while. If no one steps up to do this the Veggie stand will need to close for a while. Chuck can't do it alone but he will be able to help and show you the ropes. He will need to know by June 24th so he can order the corn. The stand opens on July 2nd. If there are any questions, my phone is 218-678-3408, cell = 218-251-4511. Thanks for your consideration.

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.**

LEND A HAND Today after coffee & treats we need help taking down the tables and chairs to get the Fellowship Hall ready for Vacation Bible School. Please stay and lend a hand with this project.

SUPPORT MYU PALLIATIVE CARE If you are interested in giving there are forms along with more information on the card table just outside the sanctuary on your way into the fellowship hall.