

**Sunday, July 10, 2016**

**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**



**BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO**

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

Pastor: Rev. James Raisanen

Parish Nurses: Darlene Christensen, RN 320-684-2846

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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 & Jenny Schuett

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

*To love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind is to reflect God's mercy in responding to one's neighbor. That mercy found its most profound expression in the "gospel that has come to you"—namely the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. That gospel mercy comes to us again today: at the font, at the altar, and from the pulpit. It is very near to you.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP: "We Welcome You"**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OPENING HYMN: "America the Beautiful" #888 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.

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 Lord God, your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care. Hear the cries of everyone in need, and turn our hearts to love our neighbors with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**PRAISE TEAM ANTHEM:                    “Our God”**

## **First Reading: Deuteronomy 30:9-14**

*Moses calls the people who are about to enter the promised land to renew the covenant God made with their ancestors. Through this covenant God gives life and asks for obedience. God’s commandment is neither burdensome nor too far off, but dwells in the people’s own hearts.*

<sup>9</sup>The LORD your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil. For the LORD will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted in prospering your ancestors, <sup>10</sup>when you obey the LORD your God by observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of the law, because you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

<sup>11</sup>Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. <sup>12</sup>It is not in heaven, that you should say, “Who will go up to heaven for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?” <sup>13</sup>Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, “Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?” <sup>14</sup>No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

## **Psalm: Psalm 25:1-10**

*Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths. (Ps. 25:4)*

<sup>1</sup>To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

**<sup>2</sup>My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

**<sup>4</sup>Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths. R**

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

**<sup>6</sup>Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.**

<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

<sup>8</sup>**You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

<sup>9</sup>You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

<sup>10</sup>**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies. R** (*Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths*)

## **GOSPEL: Luke 10:25-37**

*Jesus is challenged to explain what is involved in obeying the greatest commandment. Jesus tells a parable rich in surprises: those expected to show pity display hard hearts while the lowly give and receive unexpected and lavish mercy.*

<sup>25</sup>Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” <sup>26</sup>He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” <sup>27</sup>He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>28</sup>And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”

<sup>29</sup>But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” <sup>30</sup>Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup>Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup>So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup>But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. <sup>34</sup>He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. <sup>35</sup>The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ <sup>36</sup>Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” <sup>37</sup>He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

**SERMON: The Temptation to Pass By on the Other Side**

**OFFERTORY HYMN: “Amazing Grace, Alleluia”**

**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.*

Gracious God, your word is very near to us, building up your church and keeping it faithful to your word. Make our witness to your love strong and clear. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of creation, even the seas, the rocks, and the trees are our neighbors. Increase the vitality and beauty of your whole creation, and move us to work for its health and well-being. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Loving God, guide and direct the nations of the world to be good neighbors one to another, and to reach across the human barriers that divide us. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Protecting God, sustain police officers, firefighters, EMTs, and others who attend to public safety. Uphold those who are sick, injured, or who will die this day, and those who care for them. We pray especially for . . . . Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Listening God, encourage this assembly in its ministries of prayer and service (*especially*). Enlarge our capacity for hospitality and our willingness to welcome those who are not like us. 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

### 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:                    “And All the People Said Amen”**

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

## **THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK**

Music:                    The Praise Team  
Greeters:                Chuck & Elsa Carlson  
Ushers:                    8:30 – Wayne & Janice Olson  
                                  10:00 – Ron & JoAnn Haglund  
Lector:                    8:30 am – Judy Seifert

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

Response to God’s Word Last Week

Attendance:    Saturday, July 2, 2016: 5:00 pm     99  

                                  Sunday, July 3, 2016: 8:30am     20      10:00am     96

**THIS WEEK AT Bethesda****July 11 through July 17, 2016**

Monday	7/11	9:00 am	Women's Devotion at Pat Beckers
		1:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	7/12	7:30-10:30am	Pastor's Text Study
		9:00 am	Quilters
		1:00 pm	Bridge Lessons
Wednesday	7/13	8:30 am	Bible Study
		9:30 am	Stitchers
		6:00 pm	Choir Practice
		7:00 pm	Praise Team
Thursday	7/14	8:00am	ROMEOS
		12:30 pm	Fun Timers
		6:00 pm	Bell Choir Practice
Friday	7/15	10:00 am	Bone Builders
		10:30 am	Council Meeting
Saturday	7/16	8:00 am	Veggie Stand
Sunday	7/17	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, August 6<sup>th</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.

**HOPE LODGE** We are still collecting for Hope Lodge, a facility that houses families of U of M hospital cancer patients. 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.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

(continued)

**R.L. HENDRICKSON** A Funeral will be held on Wednesday at 11:00am for Ronald Hendrickson at Sorenson Root Thompson Funeral Home. Lunch will be served here at Bethesda after the burial at Malmo Cemetery.

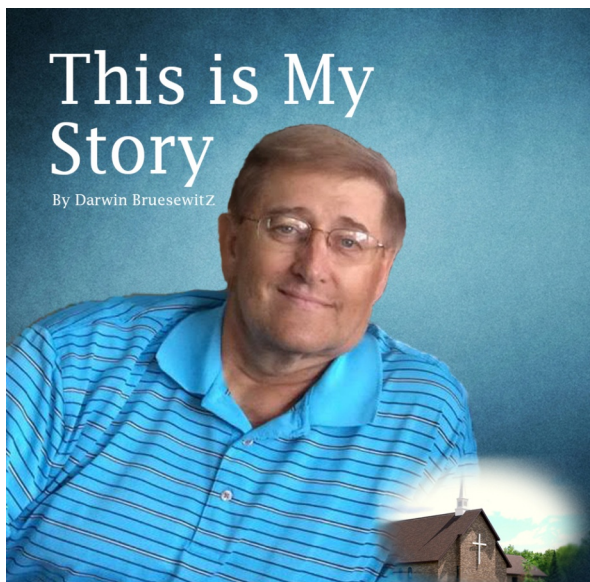
**BRIDGE** Anyone interested in learning how to play Bridge can join Mary Nitti at Bethesda Church on Tuesdays at 1:00pm starting June 14<sup>th</sup>. Free of charge.

**BEEF & CORN FEED** Our Annual Beef and Corn Feed will be Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup> from 4:30pm to 7:00pm. Volunteer signup sheets are available in the Narthex.

### **PASTOR'S RETIREMENT CELEBRATION: Sunday - August 28th**

We will be celebrating Pastor Jim's retirement with one worship service at 10:00 am, with a brunch and program to immediately follow in the fellowship hall. Please join us to send off Jim and Karen into retirement with a little joy in their heart and peace in their soul. Please contact a committee chairperson or council member if you would like to help plan the details of this event. We will be forming member groups to organize and complete the various duties to prepare for this celebration. The initial planning meeting will be held Thursday-July 14th @ 6:00pm in the fellowship hall. If you are not able to attend this meeting or not sure who to contact to volunteer, please call Craig Kullberg at 320-684-2336 to get your name on the list.

**VEGGIE STAND** All the donations received through the Veggie Stand are used to help local residents through the year. If you grow veggies or bake, please remember this important ministry.



**THIS IS MY STORY CD** A collection of melodies sung by Darwin Bruesewitz is now available. You can listen to his beautiful voice at home or in your car. They will be offered at the Veggie Stand and between Sunday services. ***Suggested Donation: \$20.*** All funds raised from the "This is My Story" CD will be used for the Bethesda Lutheran Church's music program.