

**Sunday, August 28, 2016**  
**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**



**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](mailto:blcmalmo@frontiernet.net)

Church Web Site: [blcmalmo.org](http://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  
or Carol Schlottman 218-678-2255

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**

# Sunday, August 28, 2016

## Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

### INTRODUCTION

*Invited and inviting—that is the nature of the church. By God’s grace in holy baptism we have a place at the banquet table of the Lord. When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRAISE CHOIR**                    “That’s Why We Praise Him”

**OPENING HYMN**                    “Joy to the World”                    #267 ELW  
(vs. 1,2,3,4)

### 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**

**O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS:**

Today we receive, as new members to Bethesda:

Jenny Schuett

Sylvia Tapelt

**CHOIR ANTHEM: “Amazing Grace-My Chains are Gone”**

## **First Reading: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16**

*The conclusion of the letter to the Hebrews contains suggestions for the conduct of a holy life, all of which are shaped by God’s love toward us in Jesus Christ.*

<sup>1</sup>Let mutual love continue. <sup>2</sup>Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. <sup>3</sup>Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. <sup>4</sup>Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. <sup>5</sup>Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, “I will never leave you or forsake you.” <sup>6</sup>So we can say with confidence,

“The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?”

<sup>7</sup>Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup>Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. <sup>15</sup>Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. <sup>16</sup>Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

## **Psalm: Psalm 112**

*The righteous are merciful and full of compassion. (Ps. 112:4)*

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD and have great delight in God’s commandments!

**<sup>2</sup>Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. R** *(The righteous are merciful and full of compassion.)*

<sup>3</sup>Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness will last forever.

**<sup>4</sup>Light shines in the darkness for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

<sup>5</sup>It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.

**<sup>6</sup>For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance. R** *(The righteous are merciful and full of compassion.)*

<sup>7</sup>They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

**<sup>8</sup>Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

<sup>9</sup>They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

**<sup>10</sup>The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish. R** *(The righteous are merciful and full of compassion.)*

### **Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14**

*Jesus observes guests jockeying for position at the table. He uses the opportunity to teach his hearers to choose humility rather than self-exaltation. Jesus also makes an appeal for hosts to mimic God's gracious hospitality to the poor and the broken.*

<sup>1</sup>On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

<sup>7</sup>When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. <sup>8</sup>“When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; <sup>9</sup>and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. <sup>10</sup>But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. <sup>11</sup>For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

<sup>12</sup>He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. <sup>13</sup>But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. <sup>14</sup>And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

**SERMON HYMN**

**“Precious Lord”**

**#773 ELW**

**SERMON**

**“Moving On Up”**

**OFFERTORY SONG  
ELW**

**“Give Me Jesus”**

**#770**

**SPECIAL MUSIC:**

**Sherri Lohmann**

**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.*

Rooted in Christ and rising to serve, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

O God, guide leaders who speak your word to your people. Use your church’s powerful witness and genuine invitation to welcome all to your banquet table. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We thank you for tables of abundant food. Bless crops, farms, and industries, that as co-creators with you, we may provide responsibly from the earth for the sake of all. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Break the bonds of captivity and injustice. Work in leaders and nations to bring peace and to advocate for the least of these. Especially we pray for . . . . Hear us, O God

**Your mercy is great.**

Heal and comfort those we hold in our hearts and those who have asked for our prayers (*especially*). Bring hope to prisoners, refugees, and outsiders. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Strengthen marriages, families, and friendships with mutual love and respect. Bless our congregation to be a place of support and care for healthy relationships. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Rejoicing in the promise of the heavenly banquet, we give thanks for all those who have died in faith (*especially Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, and Moses the Black, martyr*). Join us, with them, at the resurrection of the righteous. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

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

**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: "This is My Father's World" #824 ELW**

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

### **THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK**

Music: Choir, Praise Choir, John Koziol, Sherri Lohmann

Greeters: Rich & Marge Nelson  
 Ushers: Skip & Lynn Hansen  
 Lector: Steve Lackner

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

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: August 21, 2016: 8:30am 91 10:00pm 56  
 Service of Ordination: 2:00pm 54

**THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA**

August 29 –

September 4

---

Monday	8/29	10:00 am 1:00 pm 7:00 pm	Chairperson Meeting Double Deck Pinochle AA/Alanon
Tuesday	8/30	7:30-10:00 9:00 am	Pastor Text Study Crafters
Wednesday	8/31	8:30 am 9:30am 5:30 pm 7:00 pm	Bible Study Stitchers Jamboree & Choir Practice Praise Team
Thursday	9/1	8:00 am 10:30 am 12:30 pm 6:00 pm	Romeos Worship & Music Mtg. Fun Timers Bell Choir Practice
Friday	9/2	10:00am	Bones
Saturday	9/3	1:00-4:00pm	Foot Care
Sunday	9/4	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.

**FOOT CLINIC** our next Foot Care Clinic will be held on Saturday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016. Call the church office to make an appointment: 320-684-2123 (M-F 11:00am – 3:00pm).

**OUTREACH WELCOME GIFT BAGS** These welcome gift bags are available in fellowship hall. If you have a new neighbor or friend who would appreciate a warm invitation please consider giving them our gift.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)**

**FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM** We all need to feel needed and to have a chance to share our life time of wisdom. The Foster Grandparent Program is looking for caring, older adults, age 55+ to assist in the classroom, reinforce learning, helping with spelling and reading with students. Grandpas and Grandmas are needed. If you love children, you have what it takes to have a positive influence on the younger generation. In return for volunteering 15 or more hours per week Foster Grandparents receive a tax-free stipend of \$2.65 per hour and transportation reimbursement. For more information, please contact Pat Braun, Area Supervisor at 612-390-0617 or [pbraun@ccstcloud.org](mailto:pbraun@ccstcloud.org)

**HELP PASTOR MOVE** If you would like to help Pastor Jim and Karen pack the truck; please join them on Tuesday morning August 30<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am.

**ANNUAL MEETING REPORT** All committee and event annual reports need to be in to Judie Birk by August 29th in preparation for the congregational Annual Report which will be distributed mid September. They can be emailed to me at [jimjudiebirk@gmail.com](mailto:jimjudiebirk@gmail.com) or put in council secretary inbox in the church office. Thank you! Judie Birk