

Sunday, October 16, 2016
Twenty Second 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

Church Web Site: blcmalmo.org

Pastor: Rev. Nathan Lundgren

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

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

Sunday, October 16, 2016

Twenty Second Sunday after Pentecost

INTRODUCTION

Pray always. Do not lose heart. This is the encouragement of the Christ of the gospel today. Persistence in our every encounter with the divine will be blessed. Wrestle with the word. Remember your baptism again and again. Come regularly to Christ's table. Persistence in our every encounter with the divine will be blessed.

OPENING HYMN:

“Earth and All Stars”

#731 ELW

(Verses 1, 2, 5)

(Please rise for the singing of the last verse)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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, the only Sovereign, who dwells in light; Christ Jesus, who came to save sinners; the Holy Spirit, who lives within us.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection

God of overflowing grace,

we come to you with repentant hearts. Forgive us for shallow thankfulness. Forgive us for passing by the ones in need. Forgive us for setting our hopes on fleeting treasures. Forgive us our neglect and thoughtlessness. Bring us home from the wilderness of sin, and strengthen us to serve you in all that we do and say; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

There is joy in heaven over every sinner who repents. By the grace of God in ✚ Christ Jesus, who gave himself up for us all, your sins are forgiven and you are made free.

Rejoice with the angels and with one another! We are home in God's mercy, now and forever.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

CHOIR ANTHEM: “Reach You”

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Returning to the home he had fled many years before after stealing his brother’s birthright and his father’s blessing, Jacob wrestles all night long with a divine adversary who ultimately blesses him and changes his name to “Israel,” a name that means “he wrestles with God.”

²²The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob’s hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶Then he said, “Let me go, for the day is breaking.” But Jacob said, “I will not let you go, unless you bless me.” ²⁷So he said to him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Jacob.” ²⁸Then the man said, “You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed.” ²⁹Then Jacob asked him, “Please tell me your name.” But he said, “Why is it that you ask my name?” And there he blessed him. ³⁰So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, “For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.” ³¹The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God

Psalm: Psalm 121

My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth. (Ps. 121:2)

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

²**My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.**

³The LORD will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

⁴Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep; R (*My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.*)

⁵the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

⁶the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

⁷The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

⁸The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore. R (*My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.*)

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5

Paul continues his instruction of Timothy, his younger colleague in ministry, by emphasizing the importance of faithful teaching despite opposition.

¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, ¹⁵and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

^{4:1}In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ²proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. ³For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, ⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God

Please rise for the Reading of the Gospel

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Jesus tells a parable of a hateful judge who is worn down by a widow's pleas. Jesus is calling God's people to cry out for justice and deliverance. For if an unethical judge will ultimately grant the plea of a persistent widow, how much more will God respond to those who call.

¹Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ²He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me

justice against my opponent.’ ⁴For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’ □” ⁶And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Please be Seated

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: “This Is My Father’s World” #824 ELW

Please rise as the ushers bring the offering to the altar.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

Set free by the truth of God’s gracious love, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God’s good creation.

A brief silence.

Protector of all, you guard your people from evil. Help your church to provide sanctuary for all who are in need. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creator of all, you made the sun, the moon, and the stars. Bless efforts to restore clean air, that your pure light may shine in the world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Keeper of all life, you provide justice for the nations. Call upon leaders and judges, lawyers and advocates to proclaim your justice where injustice rules. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Nurturing healer, you reach out to those who have lost heart. Ease their suffering, relieve their pain, comfort the dying, and calm the troubled (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of unfailing love, you are our first and best teacher. Guide all who teach in schools, homes, churches, seminaries, and in public life. Let your love shine forth in their teaching. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Holy One, you bless all those who cry out to you. We give thanks for the persistent witness of your blessed saints who now rest in your just and righteous presence. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Into your hands, faithful God, we place ourselves and our prayers, spoken and unspoken, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION - *Distribution by intinction.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We come again to you, O God, giving you thanks that in this feast of mercy you have embraced us and healed us, making us one in the body of Christ. Go with us on our way. Equip us for every good work, that we may

continue to give you thanks by embracing others with mercy and healing; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

God Almighty send you light and truth to keep you all the days of your life. The hand of God protect you; the holy angels accompany you; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN: “Now Thank We All Our God” #840 ELW

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

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Music: Choir
Greeters: Dennis & Lynne Meidlinger
Ushers: 8:30 am Wayne & Janice Olson 10:00 am Barry & Donna Ansell
Lector: 8:30 am Susan Samuelson

Thank you for your service!

Response to God’s Word Last Week:

Sunday, October 9: 8:30am: 67 10:00am: 27

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA

October 17 – October 23

Monday	10/17	1:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	10/18	1:30-4:00pm	4H
		5:30 pm	Council Meeting
Wednesday	10/19	8:00-Noon	WIC
		8:30 am	Bible Study
		9:30 am	Stitchers
		6:00 pm	Choir Practice
		7:00 pm	Praise Team
Thursday	10/20	8:00 am	Romeos
		12:30 pm	Fun Timers
		1:00 pm	Stewardship Meting
		6:00 pm	Bell Choir Practice

Friday	10/21	10:00 am	Bones
Saturday	10/22	9:00am	Fall Heartland Gathering in Baxter
Sunday	10/23	8:30 am	Worship
		10:00 am	Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

BAKE SALE Malmo Area Lions will be holding a Bake Sale on Saturday, November 5th outside the Sunrise Café (Westerlund Complex Highway 47 in Malmo) 7:00am until gone. All money raised goes back to the community.

FALL HEARTLAND GATHERING Ladies of Bethesda the Fall Heartland Gathering will be held at Lord of Life Church in Baxter on October 22, 9-12. Sign up will be in fellowship hall.

COFFEE DAY Two times a year, when Daylight Savings Time begins and ends, we will receive containers of coffee. Coffee Day this fall is Nov. 6. Be sure to set your clocks back 1 hour and bring a tub of your favorite coffee-or make an offering. Then come for coffee fellowship. Offer to host. Invite a friend! Thanks for your participation!

DIGITAL MUSIC & SOUND SYSTEM COORDINATOR Is a newly authorized position with the primary function of collaborating with Worship and Music chairperson to oversee the digital music and technology involving all worship services and special events. If interested please pick up a job description and application in the secretary's office and contact Steve Lackner at 320-630-6330.

HOLIDAY BAZAAR our annual bazaar will be held on Saturday, Oct. 29th from 9:00am-2:00pm. Volunteers are needed to help setup and take down and work the day of the sale. Signup sheets are in the Fellowship Hall.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD Christmas is about sharing the gift of Jesus with the world. You can share joy and hope with needy children around the world by taking part in this shoebox ministry. These are the ways you can help:

1. Bring new, small gifts such as balls, cars, dolls, stuffed animals, school supplies, T-shirts, caps and personal care items (no liquids) to the church by November 13th. Empty (preferably wrapped) shoeboxes are also needed.
2. Fill a shoebox and bring it to church-this is a good project to do with grandkids.
3. Donate money (\$7.00/box) to cover the cost of postage.
4. Help fill boxes after the second service on November 13th.