

Sunday, November 13, 2016

Twenty-sixth 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. Terry Frovik

(Cell) 507-213-9961

(Home) 218-963-6140

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

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INTRODUCTION

The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the "meantimes." The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right."

CALL TO WORSHIP: "Rock Of My Soul"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN: "Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho"

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of God the Father of glory; in the name of God the ✝ Son, our Redeemer; in the name of God the holy and life-giving Spirit.

Amen.

The Sun of righteousness shall rise with shining beams of healing. Let us gather under the wings of God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

we acknowledge that we are sinners and we confess our sins—those known to us that burden our hearts, and those unknown to us but seen by you.

We know that before you nothing remains hidden, and in you everything is revealed. Free us from the slavery of sin; liberate us from the bondage of guilt; and work in us that which is pleasing in your sight; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

With a heart full of mercy and compassion, God saves us and ✝ forgives us all our sins. Christ, the dawn from on high, shines upon us and by the light of the Holy Spirit guides our feet into the way of peace.

Amen.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ...

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

PRAISE TEAM ANTHEM: “Ezekiel Saw the Wheel”

LITANY OF WELCOME – INSTALLATION OF INTERIM PASTOR

(See insert)

First Reading: Malachi 4:1-2a

Malachi, whose name means “my messenger,” warns that the day of the Lord is coming. On that day, the evil will be destroyed like stubble in a fire, but the “sun of righteousness” will shine on those who fear God.

¹See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ^{2a}But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God

Psalm: Psalm 98

(Read Responsively)

¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

²**O LORD, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴**Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

⁵Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶**With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸**Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.**

⁹The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Some members of the Thessalonian community, because of their belief in the nearness of Christ's return, had ceased to work, living off the generosity of other members of the community. Paul warns them bluntly that if they want to eat, they need to work.

⁶Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. ⁷For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, ⁸and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. ⁹This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. ¹⁰For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. ¹¹For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. ¹²Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God

Please rise for the reading of the Gospel

Gospel: Luke 21:5-19

As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and shall be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.

⁵When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, ⁶“As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

⁷They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” ⁸And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

⁹“When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” ¹⁰Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great

signs from heaven.

¹²“But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; ¹⁵for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, O Christ

Please be Seated

SERMON

Do Not Grow Weary!

HYMN OF THE DAY: “Swing Low Sweet Chariot”

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With the people of God gathered here and throughout the world, we offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

For the church, for missionaries and teachers, clergy and laity, and all ministers who proclaim the gospel in word and deed, that the Sun of righteousness enlighten the whole earth, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For rivers and lakes, hills and mountains, fruit and vegetables, and animals great and small, that creation thrive and that we care for all God has given us, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For all in authority at the local, state, provincial, national, and international levels, for those who advocate for equity, and for relief workers and their supporters, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For those who hunger or thirst, for those who doubt or are terrified, for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, and for caregivers, that all experience the healing and comfort given through Christ, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For those gathered in this place to hear the gospel and receive the good gifts of God through Christ Jesus, that guided by the Holy Spirit, we serve our neighbor who is in need, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

In thanksgiving for men and women of every time and place who have died in Christ, and that we follow their examples of faithful living, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Almighty God, you have promised to hear those who call upon your name. We commend all our spoken and silent prayers to you, trusting in your abundant mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

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.

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

LORDS PRAYER - LED BY THE PRAISE TEAM

BLESSING

God who loves us, who gives us eternal consolation and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word; and the blessing of almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you forever.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: "Days of Elijah"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

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

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Music: The Praise Team

Greeters: Pat & Jerry Becker

Ushers: 8:30 am- Don & Donna Myhres 10:00 am- Dick & Sue Stebbins

Lector: 8:30 am- Carolyn Morris

Hospitality Hosts: Ron & Joni Melhop & Rick Nelson

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, November 6, 2016: 8:30am 78 10:00am 18

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda

November 14 thru November 20, 2016

Monday	11/14	1:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	11/15	10:00-12:00	Pastor Text Study
		1:30-4:30pm	4H
		5:30 pm	Council Meeting
Wednesday	11/16	8:00-noon	WIC
		8:30 am	Bible Study
		9:30 am	Stitchers
		9:30 am	WELCA
		5:30 pm	Choir Practice
		6:00 pm	Cantata Practice
		7:00 pm	Praise Team
Thursday	11/17	8:00am	ROMEOS
		12:30 pm	Fun Timers
Friday	11/18	10:00 am	Bone Builders
Sunday	11/20	9:00 am	Worship
		10:00 am	Special Congregational Meeting

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, December 3rd, 2016. Call the church office to make an appointment: 320-684-2123 (M-F 11:00am – 3:00pm).

WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON is Saturday, December 10th at 11:30 am. It is at church. Cost is \$10. Mark your calendar and watch for signup sheet.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA We have begun practicing for our annual Cantata on Wednesday nights at 6:00pm. All voices are welcome to join us! Just show up.

FREE STUFF The quilting group has cotton crochet thread available free. Check the table outside the craft room today after church.

PRAYER and CARE Please remember these members' family and friends in prayer this week

- Cathy Buhlmann, daughter of Maria Burman
- Dean Newman

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING We will hold a special congregational meeting on November 20 to vote on whether the church will replace our existing parsonage or proceed into the future without parsonage ownership. The special meeting will be held at 10AM following one service at 9:00 AM.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE We will be having a Thanksgiving Pot Luck and Service on Wednesday, November 23rd. Potluck at 5:30pm; Service at 6:30pm. All are welcomed.

UPCOMING EVENTS Thursday, Dec. 1st – put up Christmas Trees & Thursday, Dec. 15th – Poinsettia Tree. 10:00am both days.