

Sunday, January 15, 2017

Second Sunday after Epiphany



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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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

Today's gospel opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One, and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.

CALL TO WORSHIP: **“We Three Kings of Orient Are”** # 646 ELW

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN: **“Let There Be Peace on Earth”**

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, who stretches out the heavens, who sends light to the nations, who gives breath to us all.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Loving God,

we confess that we have turned from your way to follow our own ways. Forgive us for the times we have spoken or acted too quickly; we have not spoken or acted at all; we have hurt those closest to us; we have hurt those we have yet to know; we have thought more about ourselves than others; we have thought less of ourselves than we ought. Turn us around, and give us a fresh start, so that we can live again as your children. Amen.

Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right. Even when we have messed up, God puts us together. God's love never runs out. God never tires of calling us beloved children. Hear God say to you now: Your sins are forgiven, for the sake of ☩ Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ...

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated

PRAISE TEAM ANTHEM: “Shoulders”

First Reading: Isaiah 49:1-7

Here the servant Israel speaks for herself and acknowledges herself as God’s secret weapon. Called before her birth like Jeremiah and John the Baptist, the servant is not only to restore Israel itself. The servant’s ultimate assignment is to bring news of God’s victory to the ends of the earth. God in faithfulness has chosen Israel for this task.

¹Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother’s womb he named me. ²He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. ³And he said to me, “You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.” ⁴But I said, “I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and my reward with my God.”

⁵And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength— ⁶he says, “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

⁷Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, “Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God

Psalm: Psalm 40:1-11

(Read Responsively)

I love to do your will, O my God. (Ps. 40:8)

¹I waited patiently upon the LORD, who stooped to me and heard my cry.

²**The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my footing sure.**

³The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the LORD.

⁴Happy are they who trust in the LORD! They do not turn to enemies or to those who follow lies.

⁵Great are the wonders you have done, O LORD my God! In your plans for us, none can be compared with you! Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than I can count.

⁶Sacrifice and offering you do not desire; you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required.

⁷And so I said, “Here I am; I come. In the scroll of the book it is written of me:

⁸‘I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep within me.’ □”

⁹I proclaimed righteousness in the great assembly; I have not restrained my lips, O LORD, you know.

¹⁰I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the great assembly.

¹¹You are the LORD; do not withhold your compassion from me; may your steadfast love and your truth continually keep me safe.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Though God’s church in Corinth is a fractious congregation beset with many conflicts, Paul opens this letter by spotlighting the multiple ways God has enriched and sustained its life as part of the divine call into the fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ.

¹Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, ²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God

Please rise for the reading of the Gospel

Gospel: John 1:29-42

Glory to you, O Lord

John the Baptist's witness to Jesus initiates a chain of testimony as his disciples begin to share with others what they have found.

²⁹[John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" ³⁰This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³²And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

³⁵The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). ⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, O Christ

Please be Seated

SERMON

Come and See – Go and Tell

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Amazing Grace Alleluia"

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

Called to be a light to the nations, let us pray for God's justice, peace, and healing.

A brief silence.

Gather us in, gracious God. Bring together Methodist and Pentecostal, Baptist and Roman Catholic, Lutheran and AME-Zion. Form us in worship into your united people. Send us out as one in you, proclaiming your glory and serving all. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Fed with bread and wine, Christ's body and blood, make us eager to care for your good creation. Send us to pick up litter from highways and lakeshores and protect animal habitats. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all the nations of the world (*especially*). Help us to reach out to the places where the scandal of hunger resides. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Quell the anxieties of all who wait for test results. Bring hope to all whose life is a struggle and filled with despair. Send us to care for those who suffer (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Open us to see how our congregation abounds with every spiritual gift. Send us out to share our abundant gifts and proclaim your steadfast love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We thank you for the faithfulness of your prophets (*especially Martin Luther King Jr.*). Strengthen our faith in you. Send us out to proclaim and live your justice boldly. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Receive these prayers in the name of Christ, the light of the world, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Merciful God, receive the gifts we bring, our selves, our time, and our possessions. Through this meal unite us as your body, shining with the

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda**January 16 thru January 22, 2017**

Monday	1/16	1:00 pm 7:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle AA/Alanon
Tuesday	1/17	10:00-12:00 5:30 pm	Pastor Text Study Council Meeting
Wednesday	1/18	8:00-noon 8:30 am 9:30 am 6:00 pm 6:00 pm	WIC Bible Study Stitchers Catechism Praise Team
Thursday	1/19	8:00am 12:30 pm	ROMEOS Fun Timers
Friday	1/20	10:00 am	Bone Builders
Sunday	1/22	9:00 am	Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

- Family of Irene Long
- Dean Newman – in the hospital

REFORMATION 500 KICKOFF CONFERENCE Sunday, January 22, 2017 2:00-5:00pm at First Lutheran Church in Aitkin. There is no cost for this event, however, registration is required. See flyer in January's Newsletter or post on the bulletin board in Narthex. There is a "Sign Up Sheet" on the table in the Narthex. If we have enough people signed up, we can car pool or arrange to charter a bus.

COFFEE SERVERS NEEDED Signup sheets are to the left of the serving window by the kitchen. Please check it out and take your turn. There will always be someone to assist you with making the coffee and running the dishwasher.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Regina Johnson who turns 100 years old on Tuesday. Celebrate with us after service today in the fellowship hall. Her family has provided the cake and mints today.

