

13th Sunday after Pentecost

September 8, 2019



Area Churches Together ACT Parish

DeGraff/Murdock Area

Bethesda Lutheran
Buffalo Lake Lutheran

Pennock Area

Mamrelund Lutheran
St. John's Lutheran

Sunburg Area

Hope Lutheran
Monson Lake Lutheran

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

LBW 406 Take My Life, That I May Be

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading

Philemon v.1-21

¹Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, ²to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God ⁵because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. ⁷I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

⁸For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, ⁹yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. ¹²I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Luke 14:25-33

²⁵Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus;] and he turned and said to them, ²⁶“Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

LBW 503 O Jesus, I Have Promised

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

Offering

Offertory

Let the vineyards be fruitful Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed...

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Holy Communion

Blessing

Benediction

Announcements

Sending Hymn

LBW 377 Lift High the Cross

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

If you would like a pastoral visit please contact Pastor Dan or Pastor Michelle

Remember in Prayer

Kelly Rodenberg, Beverly Johnson, Elaine Sjelstad,
Curtis Johnson and Darla Hatlestad

Today, Sunday, September 8

8:30am – Bethesda’s Sunday School Rally

9:30am – Bethesda’s Worship followed by congregational dinner

6:30pm – ACT Parish Council at Hope

Tuesday, September 10

9:30am – Coffee & Conversation at Bethesda

1pm - Coffee & Conversation at Hope

Wednesday, September 11

6:30-8pm – 7th -9th grade Confirmation at Hope

Thursday, September 12

9:30am – Lakeland Pastor’s meeting

11:30am – “Thursday Food and Fun” for people 55 & older at the Kerkhoven Civic Center. Returns from its summer break! Lunch will be served by the Bethel Baptist women for free will donation. Sheila Ruka did say something about tator tot hotdish!!!! Becky Armstrong and Nancy Chamberlin will be doing a travelogue of Norway from their trips there for the program. Bring some friends, enjoy a good meal and enjoy a talk on Norway. As always, door prizes!!! See you then!

Saturday, September 14

6:30pm – St. John’s card night at Bethesda Grand. All are welcome!

Sunday, September 15

8:30am – Bethesda’s Sunday School

9:30am – Bethesda’s Worship

Monday, September 16, 23, 30 October 7, 14 and 21

3-4pm – The Rice Hospice Program will be offering, “*Healing Hearts Bereavement Support Groups*” for individuals who have experienced a loss. It will be held in Seminar Room 1 at Rice Memorial Hospital (lower level) in Willmar. Enrollment is open to anyone in the community. Please register by September 14th by calling Kathy Tweten at 320-231-4764.

Tuesday, September 17

9:30am – Coffee & Conversation at Bethesda

1pm - Coffee & Conversation at Hope

Wednesday, September 18

5:30pm – Bethesda’s Women of the ELCA with potluck

Sunday, September 22

8:30am – Bethesda’s Sunday School

9:30am – Bethesda’s Worship

Tuesday, September 24

9:30am – Coffee & Conversation at Bethesda

1pm - Coffee & Conversation at Hope

Wednesday, September 25

6:30-8pm – 7th -9th grade Confirmation at Hope

Thursday, September 26

2pm – Bethesda’s Sarah Circle Bible Study at Sherrie’s Café

5pm (reg. \$10 includes dinner) – Lakeland Conference Women of the ELCA, “Fall Gathering-To Be A Blessing” at Green Lake Bible Camp, Spicer. 5:30pm-Dinner, 6:30pm Gather Program with guest speaker, “The Grahn Sisters” (Mary Gruis & Megan Morrison.) They will tell the story of their brother, Peter, and the different ways their family was blessed in the midst of that struggle. How their family has found ways to use those blessings to be a blessing to others as we are called by God to do. **Registrations are due by today, September 18th and mailed to Laurie Rothers, 20181 County Rd. 8, Glenwood, MN 56334.** Please make the \$10 check payable to “Lakeland Conference.” *You can still come and register the day of the Gathering as well.*

Sunday, September 29

8:30am – Bethesda’s Sunday School

9:30am – Bethesda’s Worship

Saturday, October 5

10am – 1pm – St. John’s Bazaar rural Pennock

10:30am – 1pm – Hope’s Fall Bazaar, Sunburg. Luncheon Menu: Vegetable Beef or Wild Rice Soup, Ham Sandwiches, Salad, Rommegrot & Variety of Pies. Quilt Raffle, Bakery Shoppe, Crafts, Home Grown Produce and many more items! *A booth will be set up in memory of Karen Rudningen, which will offer her personal snowman collection for sale. Come & view and/or purchase a piece of winter (probably the best part of winter.)*