



EPIPHANY

Sunday, January 8, 2017, 8:30 & 10:45am

Mount Olive Lutheran Church & School, ELS

1123 Marsh Street Mankato, MN 56001 / (507)345-4966 church@mtolivelutheran.org

Pastors John J. Petersen & Luke Ulrich / Principal Larry Rude

Welcome! In the name of our risen Savior we welcome you to Mt. Olive and thank you for worshipping with us this morning. If you are a guest please fill out a **Guest Card** (found in front of you in the hymnbook rack) or sign our guest book in the entry. We invite you to come and worship with us again soon. **Large Print** copies of the order of service from the ELS Hymnary are available from the usher stand in the back of the sanctuary. **For the Hearing Impaired:** Our facility is equipped with a hearing assistance system. Please ask an usher for a receiver.

Explanation of the Week:

O gracious God and Lord, who by a star led the Magi to see the manifestation of Your love for all people in the Christ Child, I thank You for this revelation that the whole world should share in the salvation which You have prepared in Jesus Christ, Your only-begotten Son. Enable me by Your Spirit to find peace and joy in the faith that I, too, have been redeemed by Jesus Christ from sin, from death, and from the power of the devil. Let me never forget that I am now Christ's own and that it is my duty to live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in righteousness all the days of my life. Graciously reveal Yourself to all people who even now do not know Jesus Christ and salvation in Him. Gather Your elect from all the nations of the world that Your house may be full, and Yours shall be the kingdom and the power and glory forever and ever. Amen.

~Children's Choir, "Follow the Star" – L. Moeller

A long time ago in a land far away, A new star appeared, bright and clear.

The wise men who saw it knew just what it meant: That Jesus the Savior was here.

Refrain: *Follow the star, follow the star, Bright in the heavens its guidance is offering.*

Shining above, sign of God's love, Show us the way to our infant King.

They followed the star 'til it reached Bethlehem And showed them the place where He lay;

They gave Him rich gifts and they gave Him their love, This child who would take sins away.

Refrain

And so they returned to their land far away, Their hearts full of wonder and joy;

They knew they had worshipped the Savior of all, When kneeling before that small boy.

Refrain

~Hymn 168 As With Gladness Men of Old

(vv. 1, 2: Children's Choir; vv. 3-5: All)

~Versicles (pp. 109-110)

P: O Lord, open my lips.

C: ♪ **And my mouth shall show forth Your praise.**

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

C: ♪ **Make haste to help me, O Lord. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be; forevermore. Amen. Alleluia!**

~Psalm Hymn 103 vv. 1, 4, 5 Hail to the Lord's Anointed

~Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 60:1-6 "Arise, shine; for your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people; but the LORD will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you. The Gentiles shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. Lift up your eyes all around, and see: they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be nursed at your side. Then you shall see and become radiant, and your heart shall swell with joy; because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you. The multitude

of camels shall cover your land, the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come; they shall bring gold and incense, and they shall proclaim the praises of the LORD.”

~**Responsory Hymn 166 vv. 1, 2, 4, 6** *Arise and Shine in Splendor*

~**Holy Gospel Lesson**

Matthew 2:1-12 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.” When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. So they said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet: ‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are not the least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you shall come a Ruler who will shepherd My people Israel.’” Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also.” When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

~**Apostles’ Creed**

P: Let us confess our holy faith in the words of the Apostles’ Creed:

C: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of

God the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints, the Forgiveness of sins, the Resurrection of the body, and the Life everlasting. Amen.

~Hymn 167 vv. 1, 5, 6 *How Lovely Shines the Morning Star*

~Epistle Lesson & Sermon Text

Ephesians 3:1-12 For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for you Gentiles— if indeed you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me for you, how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets: that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel, of which I became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power. To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ; to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.

~Sermon Theme

“The Mystery of Christ Is Revealed!”

1. Because of God’s grace
2. Made known even to Gentiles
3. Giving us bold and confident access to God

~Offering & Hymn 153 vv. 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 *The People That in Darkness Sat*

~Prayers

~Collect

P: Let us pray: O God, by the leading of a star You manifested Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles: Mercifully grant that we, who know You now by faith, may after this life enjoy the fullness of Your glorious Godhead; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

~Kyrie (pp. 116-117)

C: ♪ Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

~Lord's Prayer (p. 117)

C: ♪ 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.

~Collect (p. 118, form I)

P: Let us pray: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, having safely brought us to the beginning of this day, defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doing, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: ♪ Amen.

~Benedicamus (p. 119)

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: ♪ Thanks be to God.

~**Benediction** (p. 119)

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

C: ♪ **Amen.**

~**Hymn 163 vv. 1, 3 O Rejoice, Ye Christians, Loudly**

Preacher: Pr. Luke Ulrich / Liturgist: Pr. John J. Petersen

Organists: 1st: Cassie Johnson / 2nd: John Baumann

Children's Choir director: Kari Sehloff / Accompanist: Miranda Dittmer

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE/LORD'S SUPPER ATTENDANCE

Sunday: 8:30am; 137/123 10:45am; 213/139 Monday: 15/13

GIVEN LAST WEEK FOR THE LORD'S WORK: \$40,121.85

NEEDED EACH WEEK TO MEET ANNUAL BUDGET: \$15,760

2 Corinthians 8:9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.

Mt. Olive Worship Services on TV:

Mt. Olive services are being shown on local cable channel 181 (Charter) and 7 & 507 (Consolidated Communications) on Wednesdays at 10AM and Thursdays at 11:30AM.

SERVING OUR LORD THIS WEEK

Ushers: **1st Service:** Jeff Younge (captain), Aaron Younge, Tim Roemhildt, Joseph Roemhildt, Dustin Basel

2nd Service: Mark Madson (captain), Kirk Hankins, Andy Overn, Ian Overn, Chad Feistner

Greeters: **1st Service:** Dan & Kathy Bruss, Eldon Sting, Keith Anderson

2nd Service: Dave & Katie Sulzle, Dan & Joann Maas

Offering Counters: Steve Lussky, Jon Pfeffer

Altar Guild: Connie Gullixson, Connie Meyer

WEEK AT A GLANCE: *January 8, 2017 - January 15, 2017*

Sunday January 8	8:30AM 9:40AM 10:45AM 12PM-5PM 7:30PM	Children's Choir Sings Divine Service Sunday School/Bible Class/BIC Divine Service Social Hall Reserved Co-ed Recreational Volleyball
Monday January 9	9:30AM 10AM 5:30PM 6:30PM 6:30PM	Area Pastors' Conference Veterans' Bible Study Board of Stewardship Divine Service Church Council
Tuesday January 10	8AM 6PM 6:30PM	Women's Bible Study – <i>Book of Genesis</i> Mt. Olive Night at MVL PTF Executive Meeting
Wednesday January 11	8:05AM 9AM 3:45PM 4PM 7PM	CDS Chapel Bible Study 8 th Grade Confirmation Class 7 th Grade Confirmation Class Choir
Thursday January 12		
Friday January 13		
Saturday January 14	8:30AM	Charger Classic Basketball Tournament at BLC
Sunday January 15	8:30AM 9:40AM 10:45AM 1PM 7:30PM	Divine Service w/Holy Communion Sunday School/Bible Class/BIC Divine Service w/Holy Communion Encourage One Another Co-ed Recreational Volleyball

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2017 Flower Calendar: The 2017 Flower Calendar for the church year is now up in the entry way next to the bulletin board. Thank you for signing up to bring flowers to beautify our altar this coming year!

Poinsettias: Thank you to all who donated a poinsettia to help beautify our church sanctuary for this holiday season. We appreciate your gifts! Please remember to take your poinsettias home any time after today's 10:45 service.

School/Church Weather-Related Closings: School and church weather-related closing notices will be broadcast on radio and television stations, and also on websites such as katoinfo.com or keyc.com. Mt. Olive Christian Day School follows Mankato District 77. Please check these listings for cancelations.

Bethany Lutheran College is seeking your help in identifying individuals who may be able to serve as faculty members in our new Nursing program. Bethany will welcome the first cohort into our new BSN program in the fall of 2017. To make that happen we need to hire qualified nursing faculty. More information can be found on the Bethany website: www.blc.edu. We are looking for nurses within the ELS or WELS who have at least a Master's degree in nursing. Bethany Lutheran College is committed to the teachings of the Bible as expressed in the Lutheran Confessions. As such, we look for individuals who fully embrace our beliefs. Teaching experience is desired but not required. Three years of clinical experience is required. Any names or ideas can be sent to the attention of Dr. Eric Woller: eric.woller@blc.edu

2017 Offering Envelopes: Your 2017 offering envelopes are available for pickup on the tables in the entry way. Let the office know if you can't find yours.

Church Directory: Please check the Church Membership Directory in the entry way for correct address, phone number, and email information. Mark any changes and double check with any extended family members or older children who now live away from home.

Red Cross Blood Drive: The next Red Cross Blood Drive at Mt. Olive is scheduled for Friday, **January 28**, 2017 from 1 - 6pm. If you would like to make an appointment, please call [1-800-733-2767](tel:1-800-733-2767) OR visit their website www.redcrossblood.org.

Donations Needed: After School Care is in need of donations for crafts - coffee filters (all sizes), q-tips, and regular craft sticks. Please leave all donations in the youth room.

Thank you! Please also remember to save your pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House charities. You can bring them to After School Care.

The Minnesota Valley Chorale is holding auditions for new members on Tuesday, **January 10, 2017** at 6PM at the Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center on the campus of Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato, Minnesota. The Minnesota Valley Chorale is always looking for great people, from all walks of life, with good voices to share their talents and join the group.

Charger Classic Grade School Tournament will be held **January 14** at Bethany College. The first round of games begins at 8:30. The Girls A teams will be playing in the morning with the Boys A teams beginning play at 1:30. Please check the school's website for updated information concerning the tournament. Brackets and volunteering opportunities will be posted on the Athletic page of the web site. For more information contact Mr. Zibrowski at mrz@mtolivelutheran.org

Kwik Trip Cards: Mt. Olive youth (grades 5-12) are selling Kwik Trip Cards as a fundraiser for our church Youth Groups. The groups currently receive 5% of the profits. Cards are sold between services on **Communion** Sundays year round. Contact Angie Younge: 389-9137 or Rebecca Strom: 386-0372 with questions.

New 2 You: Please continue to support New 2 You by volunteering, making donations, shopping our store, or praying for continued blessings on their efforts. If you would like to become a volunteer please call New2You at [507-385-1455](tel:507-385-1455). *~Mt. Olive provides volunteers on the first Saturday of every month. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the narthex.*

Mt. Olive School Scrip Program offers gift cards for purchase for a wide variety of retailers. A percentage of gift card purchases go towards Mt. Olive Tuition. Visit www.shopwithscrip.com to view the 400+ participating retailers. If you have questions or need help getting started email Tanya Norris scrip@mtolivelutheran.org or Tiffany Riesgraf triesgraf@yahoo.com.

Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School

Be Our Guest! Come and watch our MVL Boys' Basketball teams take on the New Ulm Cathedral Greyhounds on Tuesday, **January 10** for the Mt. Olive Congregational night. The Junior Varsity game starts at 6PM followed immediately by the Varsity game at 7PM. Pick up the complimentary tickets in your church office. We are thankful for the support and prayers your congregation shows for MVL and the opportunity to work with your students.

Bids Sought for MVL: Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School is seeking bids to remodel its main office area. To learn more about the project and obtain the drawings, please contact MVL's Maintenance Supervisor Ken Opitz at [507-354-6851](tel:507-354-6851) or kopitz@mvlhs.org. The deadline for submission of bids will be February 1, 2017.

Bethany Lutheran College

Sunday, January 15, 1PM in the YFAC gallery - Bethany's first art event of 2017 is the **Prairie Lakes Regional Art Council/McKnight Artist Grantee Exhibition**, on display in the Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center gallery from January 9 - February 10. The public is welcome to this afternoon reception from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m, with the opportunity to view the art, and hear the artists speak and perform. Refreshments provided.

Sunday, January 15, 3PM in Trinity Chapel - **The Bekesh Trio** - pianist Bethel Balge, violinist Kenneth Freed, and cellist Sharon Rodgers - invites you to enjoy some of the most loved music written for piano trio in the splendid acoustics of Bethany's Trinity Chapel. The following works will be performed - Ludwig Van Beethoven: Piano Quartet No. 3 in C Major, Joaquin Turina: Piano Trio Op. 76, Robert Schumann: Piano Trio No. 1 in d minor, and Astor Piazzolla: "Winter" from the Four Seasons. Tickets will be available at the door of the chapel, \$10 for all ages.

Tickets for BLC's winter musical *The Music Man* will be available *starting Monday, January 23* at theatre.blc.edu or at 344-7374 weekdays between 1-5 pm. Performances are Feb. 3, 4, 10 and 11 at 7:30 pm and matinees on Feb 5 and 11 at 2 pm. \$10 for all ages. Plan ahead, tickets will go fast!

Community Events/Happenings

Africa Calling: The Central Africa Medical Mission is accepting applications for Nurse-in-Charge for the Lutheran Mobile Clinic (Malawi) for a 3 year term of service. The nurse-in-charge must be an RN with clinic or hospital experience. The nurse-in-charge supervises clinic staff and maintains all clinic functions. Preferred applicants are single females due to living arrangements. The term of service will begin in November 2017. Because employment permits for Malawi take almost a year to process, candidates will be selected in early 2017. All applicants must be in good standing within WELS or ELS membership. An application may be obtained by contacting Beth Evans (evans.bc57@yahoo.com) or Linda Liesener (cammcontact@charter.net)

Did the September flooding damage your home property or business? If so, you may register with FEMA at DisasterAssistance.gov or call 800-621-3362. See the bulletin board for more details.

We All Need A Plan For Our Money. *Financial Peace University* (FPU) is that plan! It teaches God's ways of handling money. Through video teaching, class discussions and interactive small group activities, FPU presents biblical, practical steps to get from where you are to where you've dreamed you could be. This plan will show you how to get rid of debt, manage your money, spend and save wisely, and much more!
Cost: \$103 (Normally \$210) per family includes lifetime membership in FPU.
Sign up here: <http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/classes/1029454>

FPU is a nine week course. Meetings Thursdays at 6:30pm at Peace beginning February 16th. If you have any questions about this course, please feel free to contact Matt Wiechmann at [507.382.7283](tel:507.382.7283)

The Mankato Area Youth Winds Ensemble will be having their 2017 Winter concert on Saturday, January 14th at Trinity Chapel on the Bethany Lutheran College campus in Mankato, MN at 3 pm. Tickets are \$10/person or 4 tickets for \$30. For more information, please contact our executive director, Carolyn Borgen, at [612-251-8492](tel:612-251-8492) or at info@mayso.net



Jesus Cares Ministries

Where the Care of the Soul is the Soul of Care®

What is the “Jesus Cares Ministry”?

A ministry that brings the Gospel message to developmentally delayed people in our congregation and the community.

When and where does Jesus Cares meet?

The Jesus Cares group meets on the first and third Tuesday of every month in the Social Hall at Mt. Olive from 6:30 to 7:30 PM.

Some of the things done at Jesus Cares include:

Each evening begins with devotion, followed by the lesson for the week, singing of appropriate songs, and a craft project that may be taken home.

What might you do to help with this ministry?

- do birthday mailings
- help drive participants to church for Sunday worship
- help with our July “Freedom Party”
- be willing to make class reminder calls

If you would be interested in helping in any way, please email or contact Mary Born 388-6963, mborn@mtolivelutheran.org