

A “Sola” Christmas



Children's Christmas Service

Sunday, December 17, 2017, 3PM

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

A “Sola” Christmas

A Children's Christmas Service Focusing on the “Solos” of the Reformation by Matthew Manthe

Service Notes: *To help keep the focus of our service on the Savior born on the first Christmas, **please refrain from taking photographs** during the children's service. If videotaping, please do so from the back of the gym. Thank you!*

~**Pre-Service Music:** Mt. Olive Christian Day School Band

***Song by the Congregation and the Children**

~**Processional:** *O Come Little Children*

**O Come little children, oh, come one and all,
To Bethlehem haste, to the manger so small.
God's Son as a gift has been sent you this night
To be your Redeemer, your joy and delight.**

**He's born in a stable for you and for me;
Draw near by the bright gleaming starlight to see,
In swaddling clothes lying, so meek and so mild,
And purer than angles, the heavenly child.**

**See Mary and Joseph with love beaming eyes
Are gazing upon the rude bed where He lies.
The shepherds are kneeling, with hearts full of love,
While angels sing loud hallelujahs above.**

**Kneel down and adore Him with shepherds today.
Lift up little hands now and praise Him as they
Rejoice that a Savior from sin you can boast,
And join in the song of the heavenly host.**

~**Invocation**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

~**Responsive Reading** (Psalm 96, selected verses):

P: Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

C: Sing to the LORD, praise His name; proclaim His salvation day after day.

P: Declare His glory among the nations,

C: His marvelous deeds among all peoples.

P: Ascribe to the LORD, all you families of nations,

C: ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

P: Worship the LORD in the splendor of His holiness;

C: tremble before Him, all the earth.

P: Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;

C: let the sea resound, and all that is in it.

P: Let all creation rejoice before the LORD, for He comes,

C: He comes to judge the earth.

P: He will judge the world in righteousness

C: and the peoples in His faithfulness.

~**Hymn by Congregation and K-8: "Now Sing We, Now Rejoice" (#135)**

1. Now sing we, now rejoice, Now raise to heav'n our voice; Lo! He from whom joy streameth, Poor in the manger lies; Yet not so brightly beameth The sun in yonder skies! Thou my Savior art! Thou my Savior art!

2. Giv'n from on high to me; I cannot rise to Thee. O cheer my wearied spirit: O pure and holy Child, Through all Thy grace and merit, Blest Jesus, Lord most mild, Draw me unto Thee! Draw me unto Thee!

3. Now through His Son doth shine The Father's grace divine. Death over us hath reigned Through sin and vanity; The Son for us obtained Eternal joy on high. May we praise Him there! May we praise Him there!

4. O where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'nly ground? Where now the angels singing With all His saints unite, Their sweetest praises bringing In heav'nly joy and light. May we praise Him there! May we praise Him there!

~**Preschool Recitation**

*The good news of Christmas, we now will say,
How Jesus our Savior was born on this day.*

~Preschool Song: "God Loves Me Dearly"

~8th Grade Narration

By Scripture Alone (*Sola Scriptura*)

~8th Grade Narration

~5th Grade Recitation: 2 Peter 1:20, 21, Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 7:14; Micah 5:2;
Jeremiah 33:14-16

~5th Grade Hymn: "Behold a Branch is Growing"

By Faith Alone, Through Christ Alone (*Sola Fide, Solus Christus*)

~8th Grade Narration

~4th Grade Recitation: Luke 1:26-33

~8th Grade Narration: Luke 1:34-38

~4th Grade Hymn: "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" stanzas 1-3 **

~8th Grade Narration

~Kindergarten Recitation: John 14:6; Acts 4:12

~Kindergarten Hymn: "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" stanzas 4-5 **

~8th Grade Narration

~1st Grade Recitation: Luke 2:1-7

~1st Grade Hymn: "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" stanzas 6-8 **

~Hymn by Congregation and K-8: Silent Night (Please rise)

**Silent Night! Holy Night! All is calm All is bright Round yon virgin Mother and
Child Holy Infant so tender and mild Sleep in heavenly peace Sleep in
heavenly peace**

**Silent Night! Holy Night! Shepherds quake at the sight Glories stream from
heaven afar; Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia; Christ the Savior is born! Christ
and Savior is born!**

To God's Glory Alone (*Soli Deo Gloria*)

~8th Grade Narration

~2nd Grade Recitation: Matthew 1:21, Philippians 2:9-11

~2nd Grade Hymn: "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" stanzas 13- 15 **

~8th Grade Narration

~3rd Grade Recitation: Luke 2:8-14

~3rd Grade Hymn: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

By Grace Alone (*Sola Gratia*)

~8th Grade Narrations

~6th & 7th Grade Recitation: Ephesians 2:8, 9, Luke 2:15-20

~6th & 7th Grade Hymn: "To Shepherds as They Watched by Night"

~Offering: Handbell Choirs

~Responsive Prayer

P: God our Wonderful Counselor, in your Word you reveal to us who you are and what we are.

C: Through your Scriptures alone you show us that you are righteous and we are not. You show us that you are love and that we are forgiven.

P: Mighty God, you provide us with certain hope and redeem us from our sin.

C: Through faith alone we hold to your promises, and through Christ alone we receive salvation.

P: Everlasting Father, you rule the universe, the church, and the hearts of your people.

C: To you alone belongs all glory and praise!

P: Prince of Peace, your love covers us and fills us and moves us.

C: Through grace alone we receive new life and eternal hope.

P: Faithful God, move us to rejoice in our salvation and to share eagerly this Good News with others.

C: Help us to live for you through Scripture alone, by faith alone, in Christ alone, under grace alone, and to your glory alone. Amen.

~Lord's Prayer

~K-8th Grade Hymn: “Glory to God the Angels Sing”

(Congregation, please stand and join in the last refrain)

Glory to God the angels sing Praises to Christ, the newborn king Peace be on earth good will to men Here we the angels sing again, Glory to God the Angels sing, Praises to Christ the newborn King Peace be on earth good will to men, Good will to men.

~Prayer and Benediction

~Announcements

~Recessional Hymn: “Praise God the Lord” (#148)

1. Praise God the Lord, ye sons of men, Before His highest throne; Today He opens heav’n again And gives us His own Son, And gives us His own Son.

2. He leaves His heav’nly Father’s throne, Is born an Infant small, And in a manger, poor and lone, Lies in a humble stall, Lies in a humble stall.

3. He veils in flesh His pow’r divine A servant’s form to take; In want and lowliness must pine Who heav’n and earth did make, Who heav’n and earth did make.

4. He nestles at His mother’s breast, Receives her tender care, Whom angels hail with joy most blest, King David’s royal Heir, King David’s royal Heir.

5. ’Tis He who in these latter days From Judah’s tribe should come, By whom the Father would upraise The Church, His Christendom, The Church, His Christendom.

6. A wondrous change which He does make! He takes our flesh and blood, And He conceals for sinners’ sake His majesty of God, His majesty of God.

7. He serves that I a lord may be; A great exchange indeed! Could Jesus’ love do more for me To help me in my need, To help me in my need?

8. For us He opens wide the door Of paradise today; The angel guards the gate no more. To God our thanks we pay, To God our thanks we pay.

** "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" was written by Martin Luther. He wrote it to explain the meaning of Christmas to his children. In the first 5 stanzas he has an angel announcing the Savior's birth. The next ten stanzas show his children's, and our, response to this wonderful news that we have a Savior from sin.

If you are able, we would appreciate help folding and stacking chairs at the close of the service.

The Faculty and Staff of Mt. Olive Lutheran Church & School wish all of you a Merry Christmas & a Blessed New Year!



Officiant: Pastor John Petersen / Pianist: John Baumann
Band Director: Jim Siewert / Bell Choir Director: Donna Fosburgh

Parents of students in Kindergarten thru 5th grade, please pick up your children in their classrooms immediately after the service.

Join us for these Worship Services
2017 Schedule

Wednesday, December 20 (Midweek Advent)

5:00 - 6:15 PM– **Benefit dinner** served by the Saidler family

6:30 PM – Readings & Hymns

Sunday, December 24, Christmas Eve

10:00 AM – Divine Service

4:30 PM – Christmas Eve Service

7:00 PM – Candlelight Service

Monday, December 25, Christmas Day

Office Closed

10:00 AM – Divine Service

Sunday, December 31, New Year's Eve

8:30 AM – Divine Service

NO Bible studies or Sunday School classes

10:45 AM – Divine Service

6:30 PM – New Year's Eve Service

Monday, January 1, New Year's Day

Office Closed

Monday, January 8

Evening services resume

