



## ADVENT 1

Sunday, December 2, 2018, 8:30 & 10:45 AM

Mount Olive Lutheran Church & School

1123 Marsh Street Mankato, MN 56001 | (507) 345-4966 | mtolive@mtolivelutheran.org  
Pastors John J. Petersen & Luke Ulrich | Principal Silas Born | Evangelical Lutheran Synod

**Welcome!** In the name of our risen Savior we welcome you to Mt. Olive and thank you for worshipping with us. If you are a guest, please fill out a **“Get Connected!”** card (found in front of you in the hymnbook rack). 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:** *The new church year begins by focusing on the humble coming of our Lord. "Behold, your King is coming to you, lowly, and sitting on a donkey." Even as He was born in a lowly manger, so Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a beast of burden, for He bears the sin of the world. He is the Son of David riding to His enthronement on the cross, where He shows Himself to be "The Lord, our Righteousness" (Jer 33:14-18). Our Lord still comes in great humility to deliver His righteousness to us in the Word and Sacraments. Before receiving Christ's body and blood, we also sing, "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" (Mt 21:1-9). And as we receive the Sacrament, we set our hearts on His return in glory, for "Our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed" (Rom 13:11-14).*

**Order of Service, Rite One (p. 41).** This order of service, known as the “Bugenhagen Order,” grew out of the Lutheran Reformation. It was provided for use in the churches of Denmark and Norway in 1537 by Johannes Bugenhagen, Martin Luther’s pastor. Minor revisions were made to this service in 1685 and 1889 before it was translated into English for **The Lutheran Hymnary** (1913). The service printed here comes directly from the **Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary** (1996).

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I. The Service of Preparation



*(We prepare ourselves for worshiping God by acknowledging our unworthiness to stand before Him, and by receiving His forgiveness through absolution (forgiveness). We respond with thanks and joy.)*

~**Prelude** — Preservice music & opportunity for prayer

*(See “Prayers for Worship”  
—ELH p. 40)*

~**Opening Prayer**

*(ELH p. 41; p. 147, #2)*

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank You, we bless and praise You forever, that You sent Your Son to rule over us poor sinners, who for our transgressions justly deserved to remain in the bondage of sin and Satan, and that in Him You gave us a meek and righteous King, who by His death became our Savior from sin and eternal death. We beseech You so to enlighten, govern and direct us by Your Holy Spirit, that we may ever remain faithful to this righteous King and Savior, and not, after the manner of the world, be offended by His humble form and despised Word, but, firmly believing in Him, obtain eternal salvation; through the same, Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen

~**Opening Hymn 92, vv. 1-3 *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates***

~**Confession of Sin** — *Admitting our sinfulness to God*

*(ELH p. 41, 1)*

P: P: Let us bow before the Lord and confess our sins. Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C: O most merciful God, You have given Your only-begotten Son to die for us; have mercy upon us, and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us a true knowledge of You, and of Your will, and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

~**Confessional Verse** — Hymn 268, v. 6 *My Sins Are Countless As the Sands*

*My sins are countless as the sands,  
My crimes, O God, are crying,  
Deliver me from sin's dread bands  
And save me, Lord, when dying;  
O let me not, for evil past,  
Be lost at last,  
Grant me Thy grace, I pray Thee!*

~**Absolution** — *God's declaration of forgiveness*

(ELH p. 43, II; Mk. 16:16)

P: Hear the holy and comforting Word of our Lord: Come unto Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. Lift up your hearts! By the authority of God and of my holy office I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

~**Senior Choir** — *Savior of the Nations, Come* (ELH Hymn 90)

<i>Savior of the nations, come;</i>	<i>Praise to God the Father sing,</i>
<i>Virgin's Son, make here Your home.</i>	<i>Praise to God the Son, our King,</i>
<i>Dance in wonder, all on earth:</i>	<i>Praise to God the Spirit be</i>
<i>God has chosen such a birth.</i>	<i>Ever and eternally!</i>

~**Salutation** — *The people's blessing for the pastor's work*

(ELH p. 45)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ **And with your spirit.**

~**Collect** — *The congregation's prayer of the day*

(ELH p. 45; p. 147, #1)

P: Stir up, we beseech You, Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins, and be saved by Your almighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: ♪ **Amen.**

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II. The Service of the Word



(After receiving the forgiveness of sins, we thanked God by singing His praises and praying to Him. He now increases our faith through His holy Word which we hear through the Lessons and especially through the Sermon where God's Word is applied to our lives today.)

## ~Old Testament Lesson

**Jeremiah 33:14-18** 'Behold, the days are coming,' says the LORD, 'that I will perform that good thing which I have promised to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah: In those days and at that time I will cause to grow up to David a Branch of righteousness; He shall execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell safely. And this is the name by which she will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.' "For thus says the LORD: 'David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel; nor shall the priests, the Levites, lack a man to offer burnt offerings before Me, to kindle grain offerings, and to sacrifice continually.'"

## ~Senior Choir — *Come, Thou Redeemer of the Earth*

*1. Come, Thou Redeemer of the earth,  
And manifest Thy virgin birth:  
Let every age adoring fall;  
Such birth befits the God of all.*

*2. Begotten of no human will,  
But of the Spirit, Thou art still  
The Word of God in flesh arrayed,  
The promised Fruit to man displayed.*

*3. Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,  
And darkness breathe a newer light,  
Where endless faith shall shine serene,  
And twilight never intervene.*

*4. All praise, eternal Son, to Thee;  
Whose advent sets Thy people free,  
With whom the Father we adore,  
And Holy Ghost forevermore.*

## ~Holy Gospel Lesson

**Matthew 21:1-9** As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, telling them, "Go to the village ahead of you. Immediately you will find a donkey tied there along with her colt. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you are to say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: Tell the daughter of Zion: Look, your King comes to you, humble, and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. The disciples went and did just as Jesus commanded them. They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their outer clothing on them, and he sat on it. A very large crowd spread their outer clothing on the road. Others were cutting branches from the trees and spreading them out on the road. The crowds who went in front of him and those who followed kept shouting, Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

**C: ♪ God be praised for His glad tidings.**

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

**C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the Resurrection of the dead and the Life of the world to come. ♪ Amen.**

~**Chief Hymn 90, vv. 2-5** *Not By Human Flesh and Blood*

~**Epistle Lesson & Sermon Text**

**Romans 13:11-14** And do this since you understand the present time. It is already the hour for you to wake up from sleep, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is almost over, and the day is drawing near. So let us put away the deeds of darkness and put on the weapons of light. Let us walk decently as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual sin and wild living, not in strife and jealousy. Instead, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not give any thought to satisfying the desires of your sinful flesh.

~**Sermon Theme**

*"It's Time!"*

- 1. Time to wake up.*
- 2. Time to get dressed.*
- 3. Time to greet the day.*

## ~Prayers & Special Petitions

### ~Offering & Hymn 94, vv. 1-3 *O How Shall I Receive Thee*

*(The members of Mt. Olive give offerings as a joyful response to what God has given them. These offerings support the work of Gospel ministry in our community and around the world. **Visitors:** Please do not feel obligated to participate in this offering. We ask you to fill out a "Get Connected!" card and place that in the offering plate.)*

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### III. The Service of Holy Communion



*(Following Christ's command, we receive His grace to us in the special meal He instituted for the forgiveness of our sins. Here, He feeds with His true body and His true blood in, with, and under the bread and wine. This is the same body which was born of the Virgin Mary, and the same blood which dripped down the wooden cross. This part of the liturgy is one of the oldest parts, dating back to at least the third century AD.)*

*Questions and prayers to assist in preparing for the Lord's Supper are found in the black hymnal, pp. 38-40.*

**Guests & Visitors:** *We practice "Close" or "Closed Communion". We do this out of love and concern for you. We want to make sure that those who take this holy meal receive it as a blessing and not to their harm as Scripture warns. We also understand that those who come forward to take communion are professing a unity of faith with our congregation and are in full agreement with the teachings and doctrines of Mount Olive Lutheran Church and of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Therefore, we ask those who have not taken Holy Communion with us before to speak with a pastor before communing. Thank you.*

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~**Preface** — *Preparing our hearts for Communion*

*(ELH p. 50ff.; 2 Tim 4:22, Col 3:1, Ps 136)*

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: ♪ And with your spirit.**

P: Lift up your hearts unto the Lord.

**C: ♪ We lift up our hearts unto the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

**C: ♪ It is good and right so to do.**

~**Advent Preface**

*(ELH p. 51, p. 74)*

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the Messiah, the very

Lamb of God, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

~**Sanctus** — *“Holy, Holy, Holy”*

*(ELH p. 51-52)*

**C: ♪ Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; heav’n and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

~**Lord’s Prayer**

*(ELH p. 53; Mt 6:9-13)*

**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 pow’r and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

~**Words of Institution**

*(ELH p. 54; Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20; 1 Cor 11:23-25)*

**P:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying: “Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.” In the same way also He took the cup after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying: “Drink of it all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins. This do as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

~**Agnus Dei** — *“Lamb of God”*

*(ELH p. 55; Jn 1:29)*

**C: ♪ O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, the Lamb of God. You take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, grant us Your peace. Amen.**

~**Distribution**

*(Communicants come forward at the direction of the ushers. During the Distribution, the congregation sings the following hymns:)*

**Hymn 94, vv. 4, 5 *I Lay in Fetters***

**Hymn 328, vv. 1, 2 *Soul, Adorn Thyself With Gladness***

**Hymn 94, vv. 6-8 *Rejoice, Then, Ye Sad-Hearted***

**Hymn 328, vv. 4, 8 *Ah, Hungers All My Spirit***

**Hymn 94, vv. 9, 10 *Why Should the Wicked Move You?***

~**Dismissal** — *Assurance of blessing for those who have communed* (ELH p. 56)

P: Our crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ, who has now bestowed upon you His holy body and blood, whereby He has made full satisfaction for all your sins, strengthen and preserve you in the true faith unto everlasting life. Peace be with you. Amen.

~**Collect of Thanksgiving** — *In appreciation of God's gifts* (ELH p. 56)

P: Let us give thanks and pray: We thank You, Lord God Almighty, that You have refreshed us with these Your salutary gifts; and we beseech You of Your mercy, to strengthen us through the same in faith toward You, and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C: ♪ **Amen.**

~**Benediction** — *Final blessing for God's people* (ELH p. 56-57; Num. 6:24-26)

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: ♪ **Amen, amen, amen.**

~**Closing Hymn 91, vv. 4, 5** *Fling Wide the Portals of Your Heart*

~**Closing Prayer** (ELH p. 57)

P: O Lord, we render unto You our heartfelt thanks that You have taught us what You would have us believe and do. Help us, O God, by Your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ, to keep Your Word in pure hearts, that we thereby may be strengthened in faith, perfected in holiness, and comforted in life and death. Amen.

~**Postlude** — *Opportunity for prayer & to greet one another!* (See "Prayers for Worship"  
—ELH p. 40)

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*Preacher: Pastor John Petersen / Liturgist: Pastor Luke Ulrich*  
*Organists: 1<sup>st</sup>: Cassie Johnson / 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mark DeGarmeaux*  
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**LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE:**

**Sunday: 8:30am, 259; 10:45am, 135. Monday: 31**

**Thanksgiving Eve: 187; Thanksgiving Day: 191**

**Change in bulletin announcement regarding weekly giving:** Previously, the amount listed was a combination of giving to the General Fund and the Building Fund for the previous week. The table listed below will be updated each month, approximately two

weeks after the end of the previous month. Members will be able to see the amounts given to each fund within the previous month. Year-to-date (YTD) giving for the General Fund (the church's fiscal year is July 1-June 30) can be compared to the budgeted amount (where we expected to be for this time of the year). Contact Adam Saidler or Greg Costello if you have questions.

**Monthly Giving Update:**



Given to the <b>General Fund</b> (Oct. 1-31)	\$55,196.34
Given to the <b>Building Fund</b> (Oct. 1-31)	\$9,492.94
<b><u>Total Given (Oct. 1-31)</u></b>	<b><u>\$64,689.28</u></b>
General Fund Budgeted (July 1-Oct. 31) (\$75,425/month x 5 months)	\$301,700.00
General Fund YTD (July 1-Oct. 31)	<u>\$244,112.12</u>
<u>Difference (Shortfall)</u>	<u>(\$57,587.88)</u>

*Romans 12: 1 Therefore I urge you, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice—holy and pleasing to God—which is your appropriate worship.*

***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 10:00 AM and Thursdays at 11:30 AM.*

**SERVING OUR LORD THIS WEEK:**

**Greeters:** **1<sup>st</sup> Service:** Scott & Theresa Dzwonkowski,  
Steve & Lois Jaeger

**2<sup>nd</sup> Service:** Paul & Mary Jane Tweit,  
Jon & Nikki Basel

**Ushers:** **1<sup>st</sup> Service:** David Norris (captain), Jacob Norris,  
Dan Gerdts, Bill Bohning, Joe Finken, Peter Finken

**2<sup>nd</sup> Service:** Jim Gates (captain), Dan Neubauer,  
Jeremy Espeland, Kurt Shrader

**Offering Counters:** John Foede, John Baumann

**Altar Guild:** Heidi Graham, Sharon Madson

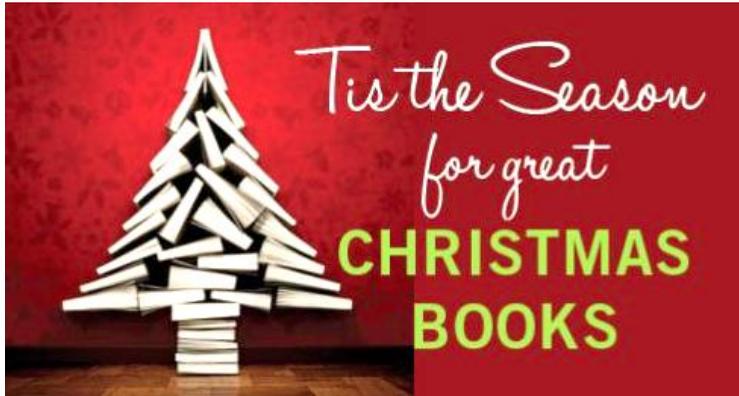
**WEEK AT A GLANCE: *December 2, 2018—December 9, 2018***

<b>Sunday,</b> December 2	8:30AM 9:40AM 10:45AM 1PM 7:30PM	<b>Senior Choir</b> Divine Service/Holy Communion Bible Class/Sunday School/BIC Divine Service Encourage One Another Co-ed Recreational Volleyball
<b>Monday,</b> December 3	6:30PM 6:45PM	<b>No Evening Service</b> Board of Education Board of Deacons
<b>Tuesday,</b> December 4	8AM 6:30PM 7PM	Women's Bible Study - <i>Job</i> Jesus Cares Ministry MOMs Bible Study, Library
<b>Wednesday,</b> December 5	8:05AM 9AM 3PM 4PM 5-6:15PM 6:30PM 7:30PM	CDS Chapel Bible Class Youth Choir Confirmation Advent Meal; served by Bethany Auxiliary Advent Service Senior Choir
<b>Thurs.,</b> Dec. 6	8:30AM	MOMs Bible Study, at Peace
<b>Fri.,</b> Dec. 7		
<b>Sat.,</b> Dec. 8		
<b>Sunday,</b> December 9	8:30AM 9:40AM 10:45AM 5PM 6PM 7:30PM	Divine Service/Holy Communion Bible Class/Sunday School/BIC Divine Service Lutheran Pioneers Artemis Co-ed Recreational Volleyball

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Flowers on the altar** today are given to God's glory by Jim & Carolyn Gates, in honor of their 41<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary on December 3.

**No Monday evening services** on December 3, 10, or 17. Please plan to attend the Wednesday night Advent services. Check pages 15 and 16 for more information.



**Come & Enjoy:**

**Barnes and Noble Book Fair**

(located in the River Hills Mall)

Thursday, December 6,

starting at 5:00 PM

Please take a voucher off the narthex table or use this book fair ID **12386686** during December 6-11 when purchasing at the store or on-line. If you shop in the store, let them know **before** they ring up your purchase that you're there because of Mount Olive's book fair. A percentage of the net sale will go to our school library.

**Entertainment provided by the children of  
Mt. Olive Lutheran Church & School**

**Give the gift of warmth:** donate gloves, mittens, hats, and scarves for Wellcome Manor children ages 0-8 and their moms, as well as the men of Maxfield Place. The collection is **now through December 7**. Drop gifts off at the church or at the classrooms. Call the church office if you have questions.

**Attend the ELS Ottesen Museum's annual Christmas Open House.** This year's theme is "The Norwegians Become Americans: Adopting the English Language and

American Customs in Norwegian-American Homes and Churches". Sing Christmas hymns new to the 1913 Lutheran Hymnary, learn about early 20th century Christmas trees, and try both Norwegian and American style Christmas treats. The Open House is from 2:30 to 5:30PM on Tuesday, **December 11**, 2018. The ELS Ottesen Museum is located at 4 Browns Court in Mankato.

**High School Students:** you're invited to our Senior Youth Christmas caroling and party planned for Sunday, **December 16**. We plan to leave from church at 4:30PM, sing at three nursing homes, and then conclude with a supper, "white elephant" party, and games at Jeremy and Angie Merseth's. A sign-up sheet is on the narthex table.

**A pre-school Sunday School teacher is needed.** This position involves teaching about seven classes (every third Sunday) until the end of the Sunday School year. If you are interested, contact Kent Waletski (507-389-9846) or kwaletski@yahoo.com.

**Many thanks for a successful pie bake sale!** The Moms On a Mission (M.O.M.s) Bible study group would like to thank the members of Peace and Mt. Olive churches for their donations at our Holiday Pie Sale on November 18. Altogether, over \$1000 was raised to go towards childcare costs for our study. This amount will fund almost an entire year of childcare costs. Thank you for your generosity! A special thanks to our pie mentors--Amanda Madson, Sharon Madson, and Denice Woller--for leading our pie baking efforts. To God be the Glory!

**Schedule your photo shoot** for the Mt. Olive Picture Directory! Photos will be taken on **January 6, 9, 12, and 13**. Times vary and are limited, so please hurry to find the best slot for you! Go to our website and click on the banner to schedule your appointment, or go to this link: <http://signup.com/go/NBMjaTw>. If you need help signing up, you can call the church office at 507-345-4966.

**Complete a time and talents survey.** You can do this on-line on our website, using iPad that are located in the narthex, or just the old-fashioned way with a paper copy. We are humbly requesting all members to fill out the form so we can have a better understanding of how best to suit the many needs at Mount Olive.

**Do you use "online giving"** for making your offerings? Notify the church office if you will not need an offering envelope box in the future, as this saves us the expense of providing envelopes. Thank you.

**Volunteers Needed to Assist with Basketball Practices:** Mt. Olive Lutheran's Boys B Team is in need of volunteers to help oversee stations during their basketball practices for this school year. Practices are held from 4:15 to 5:30PM at Mt Olive on Mondays and Thursdays. Individuals would not need to commit to every practice, but any help would be greatly appreciated. Coaches will do the instructing for the stations. Please contact Mr. Zibrowski at [mrz@mtolivelutheran.org](mailto:mrz@mtolivelutheran.org) if you're interested. Thank you.

**Kwik Trip Cards:** Mt. Olive youth (grades 5-12) are selling Kwik Trip Cards as a fundraiser for our church youth activities. 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.

### **Happening at Bethany Lutheran College**

**Peter Kjeer Engineering Scholarship Fundraiser, December 3, 7-9PM,** at Viking Village. There will be games, raffle prizes, and some of Peter's favorite foods. Donations and pledges are encouraged!

**The Annual Christmas at Bethany Concerts:** Thursday and Friday, **December 6 and 7,** at 5PM; Saturday, **December 8** at 1 and 5PM; and Sunday, **December 9,** at 3PM in Trinity Chapel. The concert will include participation by the Concert Band and Chamber Orchestra directed by Benjamin Faugstad, the Mary Martha Singers and Handbell Choir directed by Ann Fredrickson, and the Concert Choir directed by Dennis Marzolf. Advance reservations are encouraged. Seating is general admission. Tickets are available from Fine Arts Coordinator Susan Harstad at 507-344-7365 and on-line at [blc.edu/christmas-at-bethany](http://blc.edu/christmas-at-bethany). Tickets are free, with a free-will offering received during the concert.

### **At Minnesota Valley Lutheran**

**MVL #GivingTuesday Match Report:** MVL's #GivingTuesday was a day to remember! Our goal of \$10,000 was well exceeded, meaning MVL will receive an additional \$10,000 from Thrivent Financial. This outpouring of gifts is overwhelming and humbling. On this day and always, thank you for supporting MVL in our mission to train students for Christian lives.

### **At Our Sister Synod**

**Come share "An Evening with Isaiah"** on Sunday, **December 9,** at Trinity Lutheran Church in Nicollet. There will be a social hour with desserts from 5-6PM. The opening

prayer and service will begin at 6PM. The last day to register is December 3; contact the church office (office@trinitynicollet.org) or call 507-232-3938, ext. 0.

**On the narthex table are copies of** the *Building On Our Mission* packets and the Time & Talents Survey; **sign-up sheets for** poinsettias, New2You, Senior Youth Group Christmas event, and Sibley Park Holiday Lights; the **October edition of** *Thoughts of Faith*; the **November edition of** the *Mission News & Helping Hands*; **December editions of** the *Olive Press* and the *ELS President's Newsletter*; the **December to March edition of** *Meditations Daily Devotions*; and **giving envelopes for** MVL memorials.

**Pick up your copy of the December issue of the Olive Press today.** Editor's Note: There is **no** children's Christmas Program practice on December 9 (as indicated on the *Olive Press* December calendar). Children will have their Sunday School classes on December 9.

**We want to say thank you to our 2018 New2You workers:**

January 6      Elli Fisher, Jane Birkholz, Silas Born, Mary Born  
February 3:    Elli Fisher, Lois Johnson, Ashley Covell, Diane Gullixson  
March 3        Elli Fisher, Jane Birkholz, Silas Born, Mary Born  
April 7        Elli Fisher, Jacie Lieske, Silas Born, Mary Born  
May 5         Lois Johnson, Jane Birkholz, Silas Born, Mary Born  
June 2         Elli Fisher, Jacie Lieske, Silas Born, Mary Born  
July 7         Kelsey Espeland, Jaci Lieske, Lauren Schauer, Mary Born  
August 4       Mary Born, Jacie Lieske, Elli Fisher, Lauren Schauer  
September 1   Jacie Lieske, Jane Birkholz, Lauren Schauer, Mary Born  
October 6      Elli Fisher, Joleen Schirmers, Jaci Lieske, Jacob Mueller  
November 3    Elli Fisher, Lois Johnson, Karin Hokkanen, Mary Born  
December 1    Elli Fisher, Jolene Schirmers, Lois Johnson, Mary Born

**Please** consider working just once in 2019. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the narthex. There will be an experienced person working with you. (We do have fun.)



Join us for an  
**Advent Meal**  
Wednesday,  
December 5  
5:00 – 6:15 PM



## **Pulled Pork Dinner**

Pulled pork sandwich, (hotdogs), baked beans, cole slaw,  
fruit, and assorted desserts

Served by the  
**Bethany Women's Auxiliary**

## Join us for these Advent & Christmas Worship Services:

Wednesday, **December 5** (Midweek Advent)

5:00 - 6:15 PM – Hot Sandwiches served by the Bethany Auxiliary

6:30 PM – *John the Revelator's Message of the Coming Savior: He is Coming Soon* (Rev. 22:12-13). Pastor John Petersen

Wednesday, **December 12** (Midweek Advent)

5:00 - 6:15 PM – Sloppy Joes served by the Evangelism Committee

6:30 PM – *John the Revelator's Message of the Coming Savior: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus* (Rev. 22:20). Pastor Luke Ulrich

Wednesday, **December 19** (Midweek Advent)

5:00 - 6:15 PM – Pizza served by the Church Council

6:30 PM – Service of Lessons and Carols

Monday, **December 24** (Christmas Eve)

Office Closed

4:30 PM – Christmas Eve Service

7:00 PM – Candlelight Service

Tuesday, **December 25** (Christmas Day)

Office Closed

10:00 AM – Divine Service

Monday, **December 31** (New Year's Eve)

Office Closed

6:30 PM – New Year's Eve Service

Tuesday, **January 1** (New Year's Day)

Office Closed – No Service

