

attend a reception in the gallery. The show is on display from Dec. 3-11. (Combine your trip to campus with Thursday's Christmas at Bethany concert!)

Wed., Dec. 9 at 7:00 p.m. in Trinity Chapel - Instrumental Festival concert, featuring the Bethany String Band and Chapel Brass. Guest soloists Nick Wayne, tenor and Jennifer Haugen, soprano. Free.

Fri., Dec. 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the YFAC Theater - The Divers' Christmas Party Concert. Free! This popular annual concert includes a Christmas carol sing-along.

Community Events

Advent By Candlelight Ladies Event will be held on Sunday, **December 13**. Social hour & registration begin at 5PM with the Program beginning at 6PM. This takes place at Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church in the Fellowship Hall in Nicollet, MN. Come and invite your family, friends and neighbors to an evening of fellowship, beautiful music and delicious dessert. Join the women of Trinity Lutheran Church and their friends as we prepare our hearts for Advent. Reserve your seat by Dec. 4 by calling the church office at 232-3938 ext. 0 or emailing office@trinitynicollet.org. Seating is limited.

Join us for our Advent Worship Services at 6:30pm!

December 2:
"Our Savior Comes to Us Through Word and Sacrament" (Luke 1:76-79)

December 9:
"Rejoice! Help Comes to Us from Bethlehem!" (Micah 5:2-5)

December 16:
A Service of Lessons and Carols

***Advent Meals are served from 5-6:15pm
in our Social Hall***



Mt. Olive Lutheran Church

1123 Marsh Street
Mankato, MN 56001

(507) 345-4966

mtolivelutheran.org
mtolive@mtolivelutheran.org

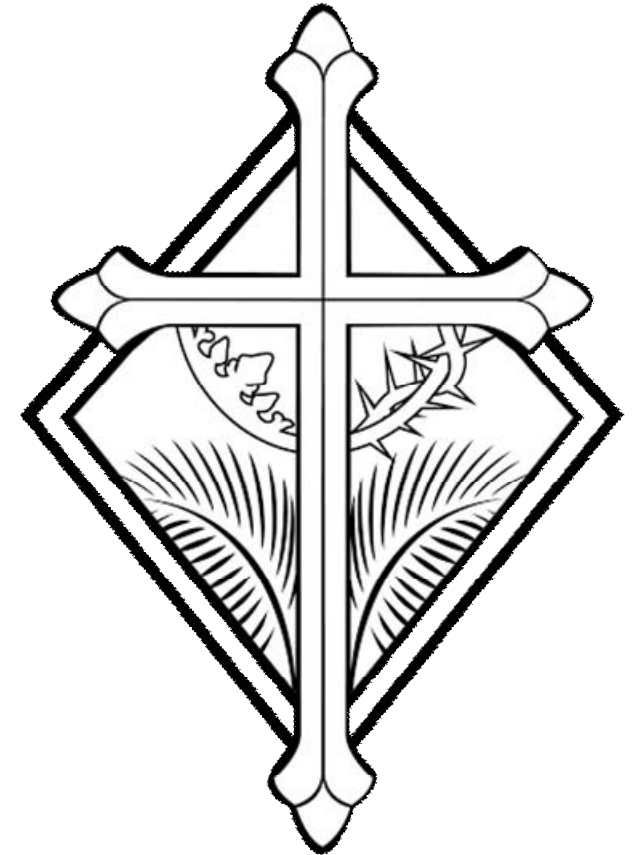
Pastors:

John J. Petersen
Luke Ulrich

Principal:
Larry Rude

Advent 1

Sunday,
November 29, 2015
8:30 & 10:45am



Advent 1

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.

Order of Service, Matins (p. 109)

~**Hymn 110 vv. 1, 5 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

~**Confession of Sin** (p. 109)

P: Dearly beloved! We have come together in the presence of God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at His hand, to set forth His most worthy praise, to hear His holy Word, and to ask for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and salvation. O come, let us worship Him! Let us kneel and bow down before Him. Let us confess our sins with penitent hearts, and obtain forgiveness by His infinite grace and mercy.

C: Almighty and most merciful Father, we have strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed the devices and desires of our hearts. We have offended against Your holy law. We have done those things which we should not have done, and we have not done those things which we should have done. Have mercy on us, O Lord! Spare us and restore us, according to the promises You have declared to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord. For His sake grant that we may live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of Your holy name.

P: The almighty and merciful Lord has granted us pardon and forgiveness of all our sins, grace for true repentance and amendment of life, and the comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

~**Versicles** (pp. 109-110)

P: O Lord, open my lips.

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

have any questions or need help getting started email Tanya Norris scrip@mtolivelutheran.org or Krista Petzel krista.petzel@gmail.com.

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.

Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School

MVL Food Service Assistant Opening We have a part-time position open in the food service at MVL. This position is for about 6 to 6 1/2 hours per day during the school year. Tasks include: food preparation and service, washing dishes and clean up. Individuals interested in this position should contact Principal Tim Plath at MVL at [507-354-6851](tel:507-354-6851) or tplath@mvlhs.org.

MVL Christmas Concert: Join us for our Sacred Christmas Concert on Tuesday, **December 22** at 7PM. The concert will include participation by the Concert Choir, Freshman Choir, Chargaliers, and the Concert Band.

Bethany Lutheran College

The ELS Ottesen Museum invites you to its 5th annual Christmas Open House. This year's theme is "Christmas Across the ELS: Traditions Old and New". Displays will highlight the various ways Christmas is celebrated in congregations all across our Synod. The ELS Ottesen Museum's Christmas Open House is Tuesday, **December 8, 2015**, from 2:30 - 5:30 pm at 4 Browns Court, Mankato.

Fine Arts Events:

The Bethany Music Department presents the annual **Christmas at Bethany** concerts in Trinity Chapel at 4 p.m. daily **December 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6**. The concert will include participation by the Concert Band, String Band, Concert Choir, Mary Martha Singers, and the Handbell Choir. Seating is general admission. Christmas at Bethany tickets are free, with a free-will offering received during the concert. Reserve online at blc.edu or by calling Bethany's Fine Arts office at [507-344-7365](tel:507-344-7365).

Thurs., Dec. 3 at 7:00 p.m. in YFAC Gallery - The **Student Art Show** displays the best work of the semester. The public is invited to view the work, meet the artists, and

container before December 5th. The team will bring them to Hy-Vee so they can be recycled. Please feel free to ask any team member why reducing plastic bag use and proper recycling is important. Please contact Sam Barbosa or Jason DeWitt if you have any 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 New 2 You at [507-385-1455](tel:507-385-1455).

~Please consider volunteering at New2You. Mt. Olive provides volunteers on the first Saturday of every month. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the narthex.

Home Purchase Project: Mount Olive is looking at ways we could purchase certain homes around the church when they become available, which could help us accommodate for the future growth of our congregation. Once again a generous donor has offered a gift of \$10,000 for this purpose, based on a matching amount from the members. ***So far, \$7,000 has been donated, leaving us just \$3,000 from our matching goal.*** Would you consider a special donation which would help us direct \$20,000 for the growth of our church and school? Please note "Home Purchase Project" on your donation. Thank you!

Thrivent Members, you can designate Thrivent Choice Dollars by going to www.Thrivent.com, or by calling [1-800-847-4836](tel:1-800-847-4836). The options for designating funds include Mount Olive, Bethany College, Bethany Seminary, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, and Thoughts of Faith, among others.

Gym Use: Church members desiring to use our gym should first call the church office to reserve it.

Save Your Milk Jugs! The kindergarten class would like your empty plastic milk (or juice) gallon jugs. They are needed for an upcoming (winter) building project. Please bring your **rinsed out jugs and their caps** to the kindergarten room. Thanks! (The caps will be donated to Trash for Cash afterwards.)

Mt. Olive School Scrip program: The 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

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 91 vv. 1-3 *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

~Epistle Lesson

Romans 13:11-14 And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

~Hymn 95 vv. 1, 3 *Wake! the Welcome Day Appareth*

~Gospel Lesson

Matthew 21:1-9 Now when they drew near Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Loose them and bring them to Me. And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and immediately he will send them." All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: "Tell the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your King is coming to you, lowly, and sitting on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey.'" So the disciples went and did as Jesus commanded them. They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their clothes on them, and set Him on them. And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: "Hosanna to the Son of David! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' Hosanna in the highest!"

~Hymn 90 *Savior of the Nations, Come*

~Old Testament Lesson & Sermon Text

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.'"

~Sermon Theme

"In Those Days Judah Will Be Saved"

1. God's people bring dismal days upon themselves.
2. The promised Righteous Branch rescues them.

~Offering & Hymn 94 vv. 1, 2, 6 O How Shall I Receive Thee

~Prayers (with piano dedication at first service)

~Canticle: Benedictus (p. 113)

C: ♪ Blessed be the Lord God of Israel: for He has visited and redeemed His people and has raised up a horn of salvation for us; in the house of His servant David;

As He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets: which have been since the world began; that we should be saved from our enemies; and from the hand of all that hate us;

To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers: and to remember His holy covenant to perform the oath which He swore to our father Abraham; that He would grant unto us;

That we, being delivered out of the hand of our enemies: might serve Him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before Him; all the days of our life.

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Highest: for you will go before the face of the Lord to prepare His ways; to give knowledge of salvation unto His people by the remission of their sins,

Mt. Olive Lutheran School more affordable for dozens of families over the years. Please prayerfully consider giving to the fund so we can build up the account once again and continue providing financial support to our students.

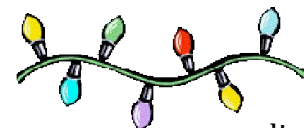
Sunday School Staff and Youth Leaders: Please stop in the office to fill out a background check form. We need to have one filed for everyone who volunteers/works at our church/school. Thank you!

Mt. Olive Strings: Anyone interested/available to play pre-service Christmas music with the Mt. Olive Stings for the 4:30PM Christmas Eve Service? We'd love to have as many as possible. Please contact Rebecca Strom at 386-0372 so we can get you the music and set up some practice times.

Advent Supper: Everyone is invited to enjoy a chili supper before the first Advent service this Wednesday, **December 2**. The meal is served by the Mankato chapter of the Bethany Auxiliary and made possible through a Thrivent Action project. ALL proceeds will go to the national Auxiliary and be used toward projects that directly benefit Bethany students. Please join us for a warm bowl of chili and good fellowship and generously support the cause. Serving begins at 5PM. Thanks!



Stewardship Reminder: Mt. Olive is currently \$47,000 behind in our budgeted offerings for this fiscal year. Please prayerfully consider giving toward this shortfall as we head into our final weeks of the calendar year, so that we may meet all the goals and obligations our congregation has established for the coming months.



Holiday Lights Display in Sibley Park Mt. Olive is once again participating in Sibley Park's Holiday Lights display for this Christmas season. Our church will have a decorated tree on display at the park, and we need volunteers to work during the open hours of the light display on Thursday, **December 17** from 4:30-9PM. Please sign up on the narthex table.

Help Us Recycle Your Plastic Bags: The Mt. Olive First Lego League team, Recycled Children, would like to help you recycle your plastic bags. Please bring in your plastic bags (from Hy-Vee, Target, Walmart, etc.) to Mt. Olive and place them in the designated

Children's Choir Date Change: The Children's Choir date to sing in church has been changed. They will NOT sing today, but will sing next Sunday, **December 6.**

NEW PIANO: Please note the new grand piano in our sanctuary, purchased from the estate of the late Naomi Petersen. A ceremony dedicating the piano is scheduled for the first service **TODAY.** In between services, a brief concert featuring Mount Olive's own pianists will be held. Any gifts to offset the cost of this new addition to our church's worship will be appreciated.



Evangelism Committee Meeting: The next Evangelism Committee meeting will take place **tomorrow, November 30th at 7:30pm.** Please mark your calendars! *If you are not a member of our Evangelism Committee and would like to join and participate with the group, we would welcome your involvement! Please speak with Pastor Ulrich and come join us at our meeting!*

Cheerleading Supervisor: Mt. Olive Lutheran School is seeking an adult cheerleader supervisor for Wednesday afternoons from approximately 2:30-4:00PM. This is a volunteer position that involves working with girls in grades 3 through 5 during the months of December, January, and February. One of our talented eighth grade girls is familiar with the cheers and has graciously agreed to help again this year with the program, so no cheerleading experience is necessary to qualify for this position! If you are interested and would like more details, please contact Mr. Craig Zibrowski at 345-7927 or mrz@mtolivelutheran.org.

Poinsettias: It's that time of year again! If you would like to order a poinsettia to be displayed at church this Christmas, please sign up on the sheet on the narthex table by Sunday, **December 13.** Poinsettias are \$9.50 each. Don't forget to drop off your payment in the church office. Thank you.



Advent Meals: Is there any group who would like to serve a meal before our Wednesday Advent service on **December 16?** The meal would be served from 5-6:15PM. Please call the church office if your group is interested in serving that meal.

Tuition Assistance Fund: The Board of Education was glad to award 14 school families a total of \$12,200 in tuition assistance for the 2015-2016 school year, thanks to the generosity of many donors. This fund has helped make a Christian education at

Through the tender mercy of our God: whereby the Dayspring from on high has visited us; to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death: to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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.

~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. 147)

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.

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

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

Organists: 1st: Cassie Johnson/ 2nd: Mark DeGarmeaux

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE/LORD'S SUPPER ATTENDANCE

Sunday: 8:30am; 325 10:45am; 169 Monday: 19

GIVEN LAST WEEK FOR THE LORD'S WORK: \$12,073.84

NEEDED EACH WEEK TO MEET ANNUAL BUDGET: \$15,500

Proverbs 3:9, 10 Honor the LORD with your possessions, and with the firstfruits of all your increase; so your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine.

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: Juel Merseth (captain), Ron Bequette, Greg Lieske, Ron Koth, Tim Merseth

2nd Service: Dean Kluge (captain), Bill Bukowski, Joe Madson, Jon Mueller, Jacob Mueller

Greeters: 1st Service: Mark & Michelle Graham, Eldon Sting

2nd Service: Steve & Lois Jaeger, Dan & Joanne Maas

Offering Counters: Dan Gerdts, Joe Meyer

Altar Guild: Carol Petersen, Sherri Bukowski

WEEK AT A GLANCE: November 29, 2015 – December 6, 2015

Sunday November 29	8:30AM 9:40AM 10:45AM 7:30PM	Divine Service w/dedication of new piano Piano Concert in the Sanctuary Divine Service Co-Ed Recreational Volleyball
Monday November 30	6:30PM 7:30PM	Divine Service Evangelism Committee Meeting
Tuesday December 1	8AM 6:30PM	Women's Bible Study – <i>Book of Acts</i> Jesus Cares Ministry
Wednesday December 2	8:05AM 8:30AM 9AM 3:45PM 4PM 5-6:15PM 6:30PM 7:30PM 7:30PM	CDS Chapel Service Mom's on a Mission Bible Study Bible Study – <i>Augsburg Confession</i> Confirmation Class Bethany Christmas Concert in Trinity Chapel Advent Supper by the BLC Women's Auxiliary Advent Worship Service Choir Board of Parish Ed & Youth
Thursday December 3	4PM	Bethany Christmas Concert in Trinity Chapel
Friday December 4	4PM	Bethany Christmas Concert in Trinity Chapel
Saturday December 5	9:45AM-3:15PM 4PM	Volunteers at New 2 You Bethany Christmas Concert in Trinity Chapel
Sunday December 6	8:30AM 9:40AM 10:45AM 1PM 4PM 7:30PM	Children's Choir Sings Divine Service w/Holy Communion Sunday School/Bible Class/Bible Information Class Divine Service w/Holy Communion Encourage One Another Bethany Christmas Concert in Trinity Chapel Co-Ed Recreational Volleyball

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flowers on the Altar: The flowers beautifying our altar today are given to God's glory by Sam & Sarah Barbosa.