



## Mt. Olive Lutheran Church

1123 Marsh Street  
Mankato, MN 56001

(507) 345-4966

[mtolivelutheran.org](http://mtolivelutheran.org)  
[mtolive@mtolivelutheran.org](mailto:mtolive@mtolivelutheran.org)

Pastors:

John J. Petersen

Luke Ulrich

Principal:

Larry Rude

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**Christmas 1**

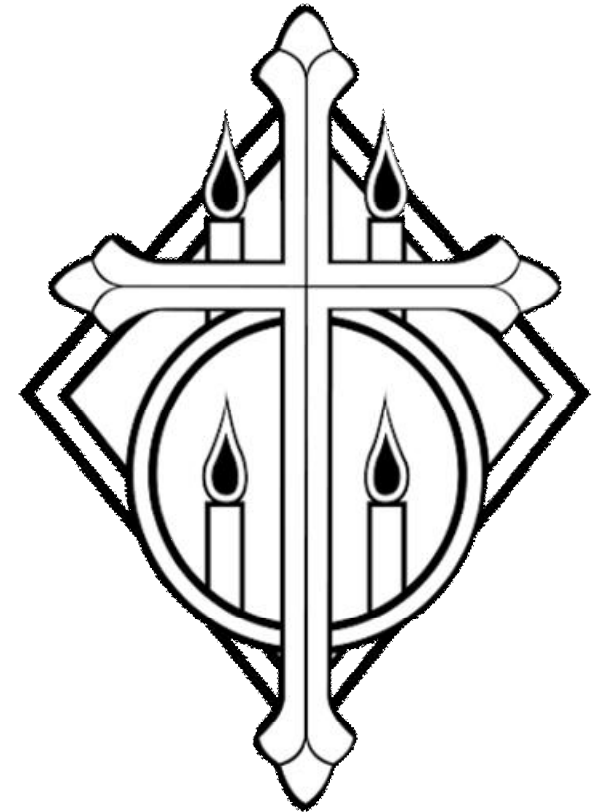
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Sunday,

December 27, 2015

8:30 & 10:45am

 Evangelical  
Lutheran  
Synod







The Poinsettias displayed on and around the altar have been donated by our members in memory/honor of the following:

<u>Members</u>	<u>In Memory /Honor of</u>
Mark, Michelle, Katelyn & Alyssa Graham	Loved Ones
Janet & Greg Costello	Our Fathers
Mark & Sharon Madson	Loved Ones
Jerome & Jeanette Koberg	Parents & Granddaughter
Phyllis Kenning	Bud Kenning
Rev. Ted & Diane Gullixson	Ruth Gullixson Webber
Paul & Mary Jane Tweit	Our Parents
Ron, Elli, and Joe Fisher	Richard Fisher & Karl Jaster
Bill & Suzanne Bohning	Loved Ones
Sig & Caroline Lee	Olaf & Gerhard Lee
Dottie Kunkel	Parents
Allan & Ellen Mueller	Our Parents
Ruth & Bob Heidenreich	Loved Ones
Tom & Joni Bode	Joshua Bode
The Reichwald Family	Glenn Reichwald & Mary Reichwald Sargent
Sam, Sarah, Megan & Samo Barbosa	Norman & Violet Holte
Janet & Rhea Wassman	Loved Ones
LuAnn & Dean Shoop	Our Parents & Isaiah
Jim, Sandie & Jimmy Tessien	Loved Ones
Art & Terri Westphal	Loved Ones
Hal & Marsha Natvig	Loved Ones
Dottie Kunkel	Loved Ones
Rich, Janine & Ella Andreason	Loved Ones
Audrey Spear	Ray & Stella Richter

## Christmas 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.

~Hymn 150 vv. 1, 2 *In This Our Happy Christmastide*

~Versicles and Gloria Patri (p. 108)

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.**

~Confession of Sin (p. 108)

**C: Almighty God, heavenly Father: I have sinned against You through my own fault, in thought, word, and deed. For the sake of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me, forgive me all my sin, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

~Hymn 150 vv. 4, 5 *That God Has Laid His Anger By*

~Collect of the Day

P: Almighty and everlasting God, direct our actions according to Your gracious will, that in the name of Your beloved Son, we may be made to abound in good works; through the same, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

~Hymn 161 vv. 1-3 *O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is My Paradise*

~Old Testament Lesson

**Galatians 4:1-7** Now I say that the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all, but is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father. Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage

under the elements of the world. But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

~**Hymn 161 vv. 4-6 *Thou Christian Heart, Whoe'er Thou Art***

~**Gospel Lesson**

**Luke 2:33-40** And Joseph and His mother marveled at those things which were spoken of Him. Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against (yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem. So when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.

~**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.**

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

**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](http://www.shopwithscrip.com) to view the 400+ participating retailers. If you have any questions or need help getting started email Tanya Norris [scrip@mtolivelutheran.org](mailto:scrip@mtolivelutheran.org) or Krista Petzel [krista.petzel@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:tplath@mvlhs.org).

### **SPECIAL UPCOMING SERVICE**

**New Year's Eve:** Service with Holy Communion at 6:30PM.

**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.

**2016 Offering Envelopes:** Your 2016 offering envelopes are available for pickup on the tables in the narthex. Please note that your envelope number may be different than last year.

**Lego League News:** Four teams from Mt Olive competed in the FIRST Lego League Minnesota Regional Tournament on Saturday, December 5th at Capitol Hill Magnet School. Every team received awards. The *Wastelanders* received first place in Robot Design. The *P.S. Bots* received first place in Core Values and a Judges Award for displaying good sportsmanship. The *Trashmongers* earned first place in Programming. In the head-to-head robot game, The *Recycled Children* won second place in the Lakes division and The *Wastelanders* were champions in the Woods division. Three of the teams are advancing to the Sectional Tournament to be held in January. 3-2-1 LEGO!!!!

**Thank you** from ECHO to everyone who contributed food in 2015. Mt. Olive donated approximately 405 pounds of food. The bond fire and the tailgate party brought in 205 of those pounds with the rest being spread out throughout the year. Remember that nearly half the people that ECHO helps are children and the percentage of senior citizens is growing every year. By the end of the year ECHO will have distributed over 150,000 pounds of food. The need is not going away.

**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.

***~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.***

**Thrivent Members,** you can designate Thrivent Choice Dollars by going to www.Thrivent.com, or by calling 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.

**~Hymn 134 *Let Us All With Gladsome Voice***

**~Lesson and Sermon Text**

***Micah 5:2-5*** “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting.” Therefore He shall give them up, until the time that she who is in labor has given birth; then the remnant of His brethren shall return to the children of Israel. And He shall stand and feed His flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD His God; and they shall abide, for now He shall be great to the ends of the earth; and this One shall be peace. When the Assyrian comes into our land, and when he treads in our palaces, then we will raise against him seven shepherds and eight princely men.

**~Sermon Theme**

***"The Hope of Bethlehem"***

**~Offering and Hymn 148 vv. 1, 3, 5-8 *Praise God the Lord, Ye Sons of Men***

**~Prayer**

**~Lord's Prayer**

**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 of Thanksgiving (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 (pp. 56-57)**

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.**

~Hymn 125 vv. 2, 3 *Christ by Highest Heav'n Adored*

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*Preacher: Seminary President Gaylin Schmeling/ Liturgist: Pastor Luke Ulrich*  
*Organists: 1<sup>st</sup>: Cassie Johnson/ 2<sup>nd</sup>: John Baumann*  
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**LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE/LORD'S SUPPER ATTENDANCE**

**Sunday: 8:30am; 277/197 10:45am; 135/101 Monday: 17/14**

**Children's Christmas Service: 514**

**GIVEN LAST WEEK FOR THE LORD'S WORK: \$17,764.09**

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

*2 Corinthians 9:7 So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.*

**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.*

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**SERVING OUR LORD THIS WEEK**  
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**Ushers: 1<sup>st</sup> Service:** Arden Olson (captain), Eldon Sting, Peter Finken,  
 Joe Finken, Mark Graham, Greg Costello

**2<sup>nd</sup> Service:** Don Lehne (captain), Mark Johnson,  
 Aaron Heyn, John Weber, Matthias Leyrer

**Greeters: 1<sup>st</sup> Service:** Dean & Cathy Kluge, Eldon Sting, Keith Anderson

**2<sup>nd</sup> Service:** Bob & Ruth Heidenreich, Mike & Anita Smith

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

**Altar Guild:** Heidi Graham, Sharon Madson  
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**WEEK AT A GLANCE: December 27, 2015 - January 3, 2016**

<b>Sunday</b> December 27	8:30AM 10:45AM	Divine Service Divine Service <i>Social Hall Reserved</i>
<b>Monday</b> December 28	6:30PM 7:30PM	Divine Service Evangelism Committee Meeting
<b>Tuesday</b> December 29		
<b>Wednesday</b> December 30		
<b>Thursday</b> December 31	6:30PM	New Year's Eve Worship w/ Holy Communion
<b>Friday</b> January 1		
<b>Saturday</b> January 2	9:45AM-3:15PM	Mt. Olive Volunteers at New 2 You
<b>Sunday</b> January 3	8:30AM 10:45AM 1PM 7:30PM	Divine Service w/Holy Communion Divine Service w/Holy Communion Encourage One Another Co-ed Recreational Volleyball

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Encourage One Another:** Our next meeting will be **January 3, 2016.**

**Holiday Office Hours:** Please note that office hours will be abbreviated during the holidays, Dec. 21 thru Jan. 1. Please call ahead if you have a specific need.

**Home Purchase Project:** We are now only \$1,830 short of our matching goal of \$10,000 for the purchase of property in our neighborhood needed for the expansion of our facilities. In these closing days of the year, please give prayerful consideration to making a special gift towards that goal.



**2016 Flower Calendar:** The 2016 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!

**Annual Report Deadline Update:** At a recent voters' meeting, it was decided to make our June 26, 2016 meeting the annual meeting. No reports are due at this time.