

~Trinity 8 ~  
Sunday, August 2, 2020

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~Hymn 81, vv. 1, 4, 5, 9 *O Splendor of God's Glory Bright*

1. *O Splendor of God's glory bright,  
Who bringest forth the light from Light;  
O Light of light, light's Fountain-spring;  
O Day, our days enlightening.*

4. *Teach us to work with all our might;  
Beat back the devil's threat'ning spite;  
Turn all to good that seems most ill;  
Help us our calling to fulfil.*

5. *Direct and govern heart and mind,  
With body chaste and disciplined;  
Let faith her eager fires renew  
And hate the false and love the true.*

9. *All praise to God the Father be,  
All praise, eternal Son, to Thee,  
Whom with the Spirit we adore  
Forever and forevermore.*

~**Invocation** — *Calling upon the Triune God*

*(Matt 28:19)*

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

C: ♪ Amen.

~**Prayer of Confession**

*(p. 158 Collect #81)*

P: O Lord God, heavenly Father: We poor sinners confess that in our flesh dwells no good thing, and that, left to ourselves, we die and perish in sin, since that which is born of flesh is flesh and cannot see the kingdom of God. But we pray that You would grant us Your grace and mercy, and for the sake of Your Son, Jesus, Christ, send Your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that being regenerate we may firmly believe the forgiveness of sins according to Your promise in baptism, and that we may daily increase in Christian love and in other good works, until we at last 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.

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

*(ELH p. 43, II; Matt 11:28, Jn 3:16)*

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.

~**Epistle Lesson**

**Romans 8:12-17** So then, brothers, we do not owe it to the sinful flesh to live in harmony with it. For if you live in harmony with the sinful flesh, you are going to die. But if by the Spirit you put to death the actions of the body, you will live.

Indeed, those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery so that you are afraid again, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we call out, "Abba, Father!" The Spirit himself joins our spirit in testifying that we are God's children.

Now if we are children, we are also heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, since we suffer with him, so that we may also be glorified with him.

~Gospel Lesson

**Matthew 7:15-23** “Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thorn bushes, or figs from thistles? Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’ Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’

~Apostles’ Creed — *Confession of faith*

(ELH p. 46)

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 435, vv. 1-3 *All Praise to God*

*1. All praise to God, who reigns above,  
The God of all creation,  
The God of wonders, pow’r, and love,  
The God of our salvation!  
With healing balm my soul He fills,  
The God who ev’ry sorrow stills—  
To God all praise and glory!*

*2. What God’s almighty pow’r hath made,  
His gracious mercy keepeth;  
By morning dawn or evening shade  
His watchful eye ne’er sleepeth;  
Within the kingdom of His might,  
Lo, all is just and all is right—  
To God all praise and glory!*

*3. I cried to Him in time of need:  
Lord God, oh, hear my calling!  
For death He gave me life indeed  
And kept my feet from falling.  
For this my thanks shall endless be;  
O thank Him, thank our God, with me—  
To God all praise and glory!*

## ~Sermon Text

**1 Kings 18:17-39** When he saw Elijah, he said to him, “Is that you, you troubler of Israel?” “I have not made trouble for Israel,” Elijah replied. “But you and your father’s family have. You have abandoned the Lord’s commands and have followed the Baals. Now summon the people from all over Israel to meet me on Mount Carmel. And bring the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel’s table.”

So Ahab sent word throughout all Israel and assembled the prophets on Mount Carmel. Elijah went before the people and said, “How long will you waver between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him.”

But the people said nothing.

Then Elijah said to them, “I am the only one of the Lord’s prophets left, but Baal has four hundred and fifty prophets. Get two bulls for us. Let Baal’s prophets choose one for themselves, and let them cut it into pieces and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. I will prepare the other bull and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the Lord. The god who answers by fire—he is God.” Then all the people said, “What you say is good.”

Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, “Choose one of the bulls and prepare it first, since there are so many of you. Call on the name of your god, but do not light the fire.” So they took the bull given them and prepared it.

Then they called on the name of Baal from morning till noon. “Baal, answer us!” they shouted. But there was no response; no one answered. And they danced around the altar they had made.

At noon Elijah began to taunt them. “Shout louder!” he said. “Surely he is a god! Perhaps he is deep in thought, or busy, or traveling. Maybe he is sleeping and must be awakened.” So they shouted louder and slashed themselves with swords and spears, as was their custom, until their blood flowed. Midday passed, and they continued their frantic prophesying until the time for the evening sacrifice. But there was no response, no one answered, no one paid attention.

Then Elijah said to all the people, “Come here to me.” They came to him, and he repaired the altar of the Lord, which had been torn down. Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord had come, saying, “Your name shall be Israel.” With the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord, and he dug a trench around it large enough to hold two seahs of seed. He arranged the wood, cut the bull into pieces and laid it on the wood. Then he said to them, “Fill four large jars with water and pour it on the offering and on the wood.”

“Do it again,” he said, and they did it again.

“Do it a third time,” he ordered, and they did it the third time. The water ran down around the altar and even filled the trench.

At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: “Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. Answer me, Lord, answer me, so these people will know that you, Lord, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again.”

Then the fire of the Lord fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench.

When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, “The Lord—he is God! The Lord—he is God!”

**~Sermon Message**

*Holding to the One True Faith in the Face of False Prophets and Idols*

**~Hymn 435, vv. 4, 5 *The Lord Forsaketh Not His Flock***

*4. The Lord forsaketh not His flock,  
His chosen generation;  
He is their Refuge and their Rock,  
Their Peace and their Salvation.  
As with a mother's tender hand  
He leads His own, His chosen band—  
To God all praise and glory!*

*5. Ye who confess Christ's holy name,  
To God give praise and glory!  
Ye who the Father's pow'r proclaim,  
To God give praise and glory!  
All idols under foot be trod,  
The Lord is God! The Lord is God!  
To God all praise and glory!*

**~Special Prayers & Petitions**

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

*(ELH p. 45; p. 159 #96)*

P: Grant to us, Lord, we beseech You, the spirit to think and do always such things as are right, that we, who cannot do anything that is good without You, may by You be enabled to live according to Your will; 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.**

**~Lord's Prayer**

*(ELH p. 49; 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 power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

**~Benediction** — *Final blessing for God's people*

*(ELH p. 59; 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.**

**~Hymn 263, v. 6 *Hence, All Fear and Sadness***

*6. Hence, all fear and sadness!  
For the Lord of gladness,  
Jesus, enters in.  
Those who love the Father,  
Though the storms may gather,  
Still have peace within.  
Yea, whate'er  
I here must bear,  
Thou art still my purest pleasure,  
Jesus, priceless Treasure!*

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*Liturgist/Preacher: Pastor Luke Ulrich  
Organist: Elisabeth Urtel*  
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**LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE:**

**Sunday: 8:30am, 41; 10am, 100;**

**Monday: 17**

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**Weekly Financial Update:**

**Given Last Week:** \$13,567.42 (includes text & on-line giving)

**Fiscal Year To Date Deficit** (as of 6/30/20): \$68,110.

*Philippians 4:19-20 And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Now to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.*

*Dear Mt. Olive Family & Friends: Due to the concerns for public health during this COVID-19 pandemic, and respecting the advisement of our governmental agencies, we also offer our WORSHIP SERVICES on our website and on our local TV station, KTV.*

*Please know that our church leadership is continuing to look for the best possible ways to serve you with Word and Sacrament. Please bear with us in this process. If you are in need of Pastoral Care or would like to receive the Lord's Supper we are here to minister to you and desire to do so.*

*You may contact our office at (507) 345-4966.*

**Catch Mt. Olive Worship Services Online at [www.mtolivelutheran.org](http://www.mtolivelutheran.org)**

**OR**

**TV on local cable channels 181 (Spectrum) and 7 & 507 (Consolidated Communications) on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM and Thursdays at 11:30 AM.**

*To give your offering online, go to [www.mtolivelutheran.org](http://www.mtolivelutheran.org) and click on the link "DONATE ONLINE". Or **TEXT 833-726-3742 along with the amount you wish to donate.** Or **Mail** your offering to the church office.*

*Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.*

**WEEK AT A GLANCE: August 2, 2020 - August 9, 2020**

<b>Sunday,</b> August 2	8:30AM 10AM	Divine Service w/Holy Communion Divine Service w/Holy Communion
<b>Mon.,</b> August 3	5:30PM 6:30PM	Deacons Divine Service
<b>Tues.,</b> August 4	7PM	M.O.M.s Bible Study
<b>Wed,</b> August 5		
<b>Thurs.,</b> Aug 6	9AM-12PM	M.O.M.s Bible Study Park Playdate, Hiniker Park/Pond, Mankato
<b>Fri.,</b> August 7	1-6PM	Red Cross Blood Drive
<b>Sat,</b> August 8		
<b>Sunday,</b> August 9	8:30AM 10AM	Divine Service Divine Service

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Blood Drive** Mount Olive hosts a blood drive on **Friday, August 7 from 1:00-6:00 PM.**



To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-733-2767 or visit their website at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and enter sponsor code MTOLIVEKATO.

1 pint can save 3 lives!

**We are still selling Kwik Trip Cards!** If you are in the market for KwikTrip Cards, send Rebecca Strom an email at [MNstroms@gmail.com](mailto:MNstroms@gmail.com) or text at 507-720-8051 and let her know your name, how many cards you want and what increments. You can then leave your check with the secretaries in the office. Rebecca will stop by the office once a week to organize the cards. You can then pick up your cards at your convenience the following week, during Mt. Olive open office hours. We currently have \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50, and \$100 values. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to Rebecca. Thank you for your continued support!

**UPDATE ON PLANS FOR THE COMING WEEKS** We are hoping and planning to start the new year of Sunday School at the regular time of 9:40, September 14, between the services. The Board for Parish Education and Youth has decided to follow the lead of the Christian Day School and make use of the classrooms, with social distancing and other precautions, such as the wearing of masks observed. Some of these plans may depend on what decisions will come down from the state officials in the coming weeks. We also are planning to have our regular Sunday morning Bible Classes between services, starting on September 14, as well as our Wednesday morning class. Again, we'll do our best to follow all the directives and mandates issued for maintaining the health and well-being of our members and neighbors. Please stay tune for further changes and developments as we deal with the pandemic. How thankful we are to know that the Lord's love for us guides and directs all things, even this!

### **WELS & ELS Singles Facebook Group**

If you're single (unmarried, divorced, widowed) and looking to socialize, make friends, or enjoy fellowship with other singles who share your faith, we encourage you to join our Facebook group! Our group consists of over 260 members with ages ranging from 18-65+. We're an active group who loves sharing Biblical encouragement, prayers, Lutheran memes, personal victories, and tacos. Our page is full of discussion posts and we typically have a weekly video hangout on Sunday evenings. We'd love to have you join us.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/wels.els.singles>

### **MVLHS Director of Mission Advancement**

Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School seeks a WELS or ELS male to serve as Director of Mission Advancement. Interested individuals should contact MVL Principal, Dr. Tim Plath, for more information at 507-354-6851 or [tplath@mvlhs.org](mailto:tplath@mvlhs.org).

### **Open Positions at MVL**

Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School is looking to fill two positions: 1. A **part-time custodian(s)** to work 25 hours per week. For more information contact Ken Opitz at MVL at 507-354-6851 or [kopitz@mvlhs.org](mailto:kopitz@mvlhs.org). 2. A **part-time food service worker** for approximately three hours each school day. Tasks include food preparation and service, washing dishes and clean up. Individuals interested in this position should contact Elizabeth Fluegge at MVL at 507-354-6851, 507-993-5195, or [foodservice@mvlhs.org](mailto:foodservice@mvlhs.org).



**M.O.M.S Park Playdates** Now that the parks have opened up, the M.O.M.s study group will begin its summer park playdates. **All** are welcome to join us. Park playdates are come and go from **9-12pm on Thursdays**. You are welcome to pack a lunch and picnic if you like. Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup> Hiniker Park/Pond in Mankato and August 13<sup>th</sup> Treemendous Park, St. Peter. Park playdates are a chance to get the kids out to play, and the parents to connect with other Christian parents. If raining, the playdate is cancelled. We hope to see you there! Questions? Email Kristen Lukasek at [mattlukasek@yahoo.com](mailto:mattlukasek@yahoo.com)

**Summer Moms On a Mission (M.O.M.s) Bible Study Opportunity Continues!** They meet Tuesday evenings at 7pm in the library at Mt. Olive. They will be studying the book of Galatians. Study materials will be provided, just bring a Bible and writing utensil. If you would like more information please contact Thalia Londgren at [thalia.pollard@blc.edu](mailto:thalia.pollard@blc.edu). All moms welcome at any time!