



EASTER 5

Sunday, May 2, 2021, 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 Adam Pavelchik | 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.

Explanation of the Week: *Jesus graciously invites all who spiritually thirst to come to Him. That thirst is quenched as Jesus' promise to send His Holy Spirit is fulfilled. The Spirit comes and causes "living water" to now spring up and out of our hearts. (John 7:37-39) We can rejoice and thank God for this! After all, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above and comes down from the Father of lights" through Christ. (James 1:16-21) The Holy Spirit helps us by taking what is Christ's and declaring it to us. In the Word of truth the Spirit works repentance and delivers to us the forgiveness of sins, the righteousness of Christ, and victory over the devil. Through the ministry of the Holy Spirit we now "Draw water from the wells of salvation." This allows us to proclaim: "Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid." (Is 12:1-6)*

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).



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: O Lord, our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter, we are assembled in Your presence to hear Your holy Word. We pray You to open our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that through the preaching of Your Word we may be taught to repent of our sins, to believe on Jesus in life and death, and to grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Christ’s sake. Amen.

~Entrance Hymn 351, vv. 1, 3, 4, 8 I Know that My Redeemer Lives

*1. I know that my Redeemer lives;
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever-living Head.*

*4. He lives to grant me rich supply;
He lives to guide me with His eye,
He lives to comfort me when faint;
He lives to hear my soul’s complaint.*

*3. He lives to bless me with His love,
He lives to plead for me above.
He lives my hungry soul to feed;
He lives to help in time of need.*

*8. He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same.
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
“I know that my Redeemer lives!”*

~Confession of Sin — Admitting our sinfulness to God

(ELH p. 41-42, II)

P: Let us confess our sins to God and pray: We poor sinners confess to You, O God, not only that we have been conceived and born in sin, but also that throughout life we have often and in many ways offended You, our Lord and Maker, in thought, word and deed, so that You could with perfect justice reject and condemn us for all eternity.

Therefore we come before You with sorrow of heart, in dread and terror of Your holy justice and of everlasting death. Our sins are a grievous foe, which we should hate in every way as long as we live.

O merciful God, You still grant us in this hour to be reminded of Your fatherly goodness. According to the promise of Your Word we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, and implore You, dearest Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your only-begotten Son, our Brother, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised again for our justification:

Forgive us all our sins through faith, which the Holy Spirit increases in our hearts to full assurance.

C: We therefore pray You, O Lord, through Your servant to declare to us the forgiveness of all our sins. We poor sinners are willing to forgive all who have offended against us. We earnestly desire to grow in true godliness. Help us, O God, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

~Hymn 350, v. 1 *He's Risen, He's Risen*

*1. He's risen, He's risen, Christ Jesus, the Lord;
He opened death's prison, the Incarnate Word.
Break forth, hosts of heaven, in jubilant song
And earth, sea, and mountain the praises prolong.
Have mercy on us, Lord!*

~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.

~Gloria in Excelsis Deo — *"Glory to God in the Highest"* (ELH p. 44-45; Luke 2:14; John 1:29)

P: Glory be to God in the highest

**C: ♪ And on earth peace, good will toward men. All glory be to God on high
Who hath our race befriended! To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife
at last is ended; God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall dwell on
earth again; O thank Him for His goodness!**

~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. 156, #71)

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, through Your Son You promised us Your Holy Spirit, that He should convince the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment: We beseech You, enlighten our hearts, that we may confess our sins, through faith in Christ obtain everlasting righteousness, and in all our trials and temptations retain this consolation: that Christ is Lord over the devil and death and all things, and that He will graciously deliver us out of all our afflictions, and make us forever partakers of eternal salvation; through the same, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: ♪ **Amen.**

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**

Isaiah 12:1-6 And in that day you will say: "O Lord, I will praise You; Though You were angry with me, Your anger is turned away, and You comfort me. Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; 'For Yah, the Lord, is my strength and song; He also has become my salvation.' " Therefore with joy you will draw water From the wells of salvation. And in that day you will say: "Praise the Lord, call upon His name; Declare His deeds among the peoples, Make mention that His name is exalted. Sing to the Lord, For He has done excellent things; This is known in all the earth. Cry out and shout, O inhabitant of Zion, For great is the Holy One of Israel in your midst!"

~**Gradual** — *A Psalm or Hymn of the people responding to God's Word*

Hymn 344 v. 1 Christ the Lord Is Risen Again

*1. Christ the Lord is ris'n again;
Christ has broken death's strong chain.
Hark, the angels shout for joy,
Singing evermore on high: Alleluia!
He who gave for us His life,
Who for us endured the strife,
Is our Paschal Lamb today.
We, too, sing for joy and say:
Alleluia!*

~Epistle Lesson

James 1:16-21 Do not be deceived, my dear brothers. Every good act of giving and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the lights, who does not change or shift like a shadow. Just as he planned, he gave us birth by the word of truth so that we would be a kind of firstfruits of his creations. Remember this, my dear brothers: Let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry. Certainly, a man's anger does not bring about what is right before God. So after getting rid of all moral filthiness and overflowing wickedness, receive with humility the word planted in you. It is able to save your souls.

~**Nicene Creed** — *Confession of faith*

(ELH p. 47)

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 343, vv. 6-7 We Now Implore God the Holy Ghost

*6. So let us keep the festival
Whereto the Lord invites us;
Christ is Himself the Joy of all,
The Sun that warms and lights us.
By His grace He doth impart
Eternal sunshine to the heart;
The night of sin is ended. Alleluia!*

*7. Then let us feast this Easter Day
On Christ, the Bread of heaven;
The Word of Grace hath purged away
The old and evil leaven.
Christ alone our souls will feed,
He is our meat and drink indeed;
Faith lives upon no other. Alleluia!*

~Gospel Lesson & Sermon Text

John 7:37-39 On the last and most important day of the festival, Jesus stood up and called out, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink! As the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from deep within the person who believes in me.” By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were going to receive. For the Holy Spirit had not yet come, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

~Sermon Theme

“Jesus Invites Us: Come to Me and Drink!”

~Prayers

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.*

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

(ELH p. 50; 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.

~**Easter Preface**

(ELH p. 51; p. 75)

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, but chiefly are we bound to praise You for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; for He is the very Paschal Lamb, which was offered for us and has taken away the sins of the world. By His death He has destroyed death, and by His rising to life again He has restored to us everlasting life. 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 412 Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain

1. *Come to Calv'ry's holy mountain,
Sinners, ruined by the fall;
Here a pure and healing fountain
Flows to you, to me, to all,
In a full, perpetual tide,
Opened when our Savior died.*

2. *Come in poverty and meanness,
Come defiled, without, within;
From infection and uncleanness,
From the leprosy of sin,
Wash your robes and make them white;
Ye shall walk with God in light.*

3. *Come in sorrow and contrition,
Wounded, paralyzed, and blind;
Here the guilty, free remission,
Here the troubled, peace may find.
Health this fountain will restore;
He that drinks shall thirst no more.*

*4. He that drinks shall live forever;
'Tis a soul-renewing flood.
God is faithful; God will never
Break His covenant of blood,
Signed when our Redeemer died,
Sealed when He was glorified.*

~Hymn 318 *Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts*

*1. Jesus, Thou Joy of loving hearts!
Thou Fount of life, Thou Light of men!
From the best bliss that earth imparts,
We turn, unfilled, to Thee again.*

*2. Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood;
Thou savest those that on Thee call;
To them that seek Thee Thou art good,
To them that find Thee, all in all.*

*3. We taste Thee, O Thou living Bread,
And long to feast upon Thee still;
We drink of Thee, the Fountainhead,
And thirst our souls from Thee to fill.*

*4. Our restless spirits yearn for Thee,
Where'er our changeful lot is cast;
Glad that Thy gracious smile we see,
Blest that our faith can hold Thee fast.*

*5. O Jesus, ever with us stay
Make all our moments calm and bright;
Chase the dark night of sin away,
Shed o'er the world Thy holy light.*

~Hymn 322 Lord Jesus Christ, Thou Living Bread

1. *Lord Jesus Christ, Thou living Bread,
May I for mine possess Thee.
I would with heav'nly food be fed;
Descend, refresh, and bless me.
Now make me meet for Thee, O Lord;
Now, humbly by my heart implored,
Grant me Thy grace and mercy.*

2. *Thou me to pastures green dost guide,
To quiet waters lead me;
Thy Table Thou dost well provide
And from Thy hand dost feed me.
Sin, weakness, and infirmity
Am I; O Savior, give to me
The cup of Thy salvation.*

3. *O Bread of Heav'n, my soul's Delight,
For full and free remission
With prayer I come before Thy sight,
In sorrow and contrition.
With faith adorn my soul that I
May to Thy Table now draw nigh
With Thine own preparation.*

4. *I merit not Thy favor, Lord,
Sin now upon me lieth;
Beneath my burden, self-abhorred,
To Thee my spirit crieth.
In all my grief this comforts me,
That Thou on sinners graciously,
Lord Jesus, hast compassion.*

Hymn 325 O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee

1. *O Jesus, blessed Lord, to Thee
My heartfelt thanks forever be,
Who hast so lovingly bestowed
On me Thy body and Thy blood.*

*2. Break forth, my soul, for joy and say:
What wealth is come to me this day!
My Savior dwells within me now:
How blest am I! How good art Thou!*

~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 534, vv. 13, 14 *Thou Hast No Shore, Fair Ocean*

*13. Thou hast no shore, fair ocean;
Thou hast no time, bright day,
Dear fountain of refreshment
To pilgrims far away!
Upon the Rock of Ages
They raise thy holy tower;
Thine is the victor's laurel
And thine the golden dower.*

14. *O sweet and blessed country,
The home of God's elect!
O sweet and blessed country
That eager hearts expect!
Jesus, in mercy bring us
To that dear land of rest,
Who art, with God the Father
And Spirit, ever blest.*

~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)*

*Officiant: Pastor Luke Ulrich
Organists: 1st: Cassie Johnson /2nd: John Baumann*

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE
Sunday: 8:00am, 176; 10:00am, 141; Monday: 26
Sun Live (8:00am) Online Viewing: 39

WEEK AT A GLANCE: May 2, 2021 — May 9, 2021

Sunday, May 2	8:30AM 9:40AM 10:45AM	Divine Service w/Holy Communion Sunday School/BIC/Bible Study Divine Service w/Holy Communion
Monday, May 3	6:30PM 7PM 7PM	Divine Service w/Holy Communion Deacons' Meeting Board of Education
Tues., May 4	6:30PM	Jesus Cares
Wednesday, May 5	8:05AM 9AM 4PM	Chapel Bible Study Confirmation Classes
Thurs., May 6		
Fri., May 7		
Sat., May 8		
Sunday, May 9	8:30AM 9:40AM 10:45AM	Happy Mother's Day! Divine Service w/Holy Communion Sunday School/BIC/Bible Study Divine Service w/Holy Communion

SERVING OUR LORD THIS WEEK

Greeters: 1st Service: Mark & Michelle Graham, **2nd Service:** Jim & Connie Gullixson

Offering Counters: Bruce Gratz, Craig Christensen

Altar Guild: Joni Bode, Beth Hoffman

Weekly Financial Update

Given Last Week: \$13,771.18 (includes text & on-line giving)

Fiscal Year-to-Date Surplus (as of 2/28/21): \$27,305

*Philippians 4:19 **And my God will fully supply your every need, according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus***

*Did you know you can give your offering online? Just go to www.mtolivelutheran.org and click on the link, "donate on line." If you would like to continue using your assigned envelope, just **write the word "online" on the envelope and drop it in the plate** during the offering.*

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY! Be sure to check for **your quarterly giving statement**. They're on the smaller western-most table in the narthex.

Newspapers for art project: After-School Care is looking for old newspapers for an upcoming art project. You can drop off your donations in the ASC room. Thank you!

Join us for our Ascension Day meal and worship service **Thursday, May 13**. The Evangelism Committee will be **servi**ng sloppy joes **at 5:30 PM**. **Worship begins at 6:30 PM**. Hope to see many of you there! Your free-will donation will be given to Gavin Schuch, a Mount Olive 7th grader, and his family. Gavin is currently undergoing treatment for a brain tumor.

Vacation Bible School interest survey: The Board for Parish Education and Youth is exploring the possibility of conducting VBS sometime this summer. We know that because of the COVID pandemic, we can't know for sure whether it will be possible, or just how and when it may be held. But we would like to get an idea of how many families with K-5th grade children would consider having them participate. So, without asking for a commitment at this time, sign the sheet on the Narthex table to indicate your interest and willingness to enroll. Thank you!

High Schoolers to Adults interested in volunteering for VBS: Leave your name and email address on the sign-up sheet on the Narthex table.

Camp Indianhead Go-ers! Mount Olive members heading to Camp Indianhead who would like Mount Olive to pay the traditional \$50 per camper need to email Lance Johnson **before June 11**, the same day as the camp registration deadline. Send an email to Lance Johnson (lgustavj77@gmail.com) with your child(ren)'s name(s) and that you would like to be on the reimbursement list.

Need a car? A Mount Olive member family has a 2002 Dodge Caravan to donate to any other member who could use it. Call the church office for details.

Please continue to save pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House Charities. All donations can be brought to the After-School Care room or to Mrs. Feistner in the front office. Thank you!

Softball Umpires needed. Mt. Olive Lutheran Grade School sponsors a grade school co-ed softball tournament on Tuesday, May 18 at Caswell Park. Games begin at 9:00, so

umps report by 8:45. The tournament usually gets done around 3:30. We are looking for volunteers (or paid individuals) for umping. Umps do not need to worry about balls and strikes, since they just call the bases. Each batter gets 4 pitches to attempt to get a hit. Batters may still strike out. Umps will need to know the basic softball rules. If you are able to help out on this day (all day or partial), contact Mr. Zibrowski by calling the school office at 345-7927 or emailing Mr. Zibrowski at mrz@mtolivelutheran.org.

Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School

MVL Spring Play (TODAY) Have you seen Harvey? Some say they have seen him now and then at MVL, and even out and about a bit! If you'd like to see Harvey, too, come on out to MVL's theater production of the play Harvey! This year's production is held at State Street Theater Company in New Ulm. The final performances is today **at 2:00 PM**. **Advanced tickets** are required and may be purchased online at www.eventbrite.com/o/mvl-drama-department-33087882139. If you have questions or issues with ordering, call Mrs. Jennifer Uher at 262-893-9457. We'd love to share the joy and wonder of Harvey with you!

MVL Classic (July 12) The 2021 MVL Classic is coming July 12 at the New Ulm Country Club. This annual outing supports our Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) for a Christ-centered education at MVL. Each year - through sponsorships, golf fees, and outright donations - thousands of dollars are raised for MVL families in the coming school year. Sponsorship opportunities are currently open for both businesses and individuals; contact Kristin Matzke at kmatzke@mvlhs.org for more information. Let's tap-in for tuition assistance!

MVL Routes with Palmer Bus Service Palmer Bus Service provides safe and reliable transportation for students. We are now hiring school bus drivers for MVL routes. Full-time and part-time positions available with paid training! Contact Site Manager Ray Vulcan at rayv@palmerbusservice.com to learn more.

Bethany Lutheran College

Open Positions: BLC is currently taking applications for these positions:

- Admissions Counselor
- Adjunct Faculty- Nursing Department (2)
- Assistant/Associate Professor - Business Administration

More information on these jobs can be found at <http://www.blc.edu/jobs>

Bibles and Hymnals and Gifts ... Oh My! Have you visited the Bethany Lutheran College Bookstore lately? The Bookstore carries a variety of Bibles, hymnals, prayer books, devotionals, and gifts perfect for Confirmation and Graduation. In addition, embossing is available and completed right in the store for a faster turnaround. Stop by the Bookstore to check out the variety of Christian books and gifts!

Evangelical Lutheran Synod

Military Monument: We live in a very troubled world. Most recently we have faced the COVID pandemic. We face acts of terrorism at home and abroad that threaten our freedom. Yet, we enjoy many freedoms in this country. Who do we depend on to



protect us from, and face these evil problems? The answer is obvious, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Jesus died on the cross for the sins of the world and has won for us freedom from sin, the Devil, and eternal death. And God the Father who has blessed us with the divine vocation of “warrior”. He calls these warriors to protect and defend the earthly freedoms with which he has blessed us. Sadly, many times, these brave men and women who have sacrificed so much for our freedom are all but forgotten and the freedoms they defended taken for granted. As President Calvin Coolidge stated while he was in office, “The nation that forgets its defenders will itself be forgotten”. Our active military and veterans wrote a blank check when they take the oath of service and pledged to defend our country when danger

faces us. That blank check included their willingness to serve, sacrifice and give their life if necessary. “Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends” John 15:13. This is a great opportunity for you and your family to remember and honor those who served. Consider making a contribution to the ELS military monument to remember and honor those who served. Until May 31st, your gifts to the project will be matched dollar for dollar. See the graph of donations made thus far and prayerfully consider contributing to this way of honoring those who have served or are serving be it a father, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, neighbor, friend, or any acquaintance you may have that served to protect your way of life. For more information, check out www.els.org/monument.