

LENT 4

Sunday, March 27, 2022, 8:30AM & 10:45AM

Mount Olive Lutheran Church & School

1123 Marsh Street, Mankato, MN 56001 | (507) 345-4966 | church@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 (On the Welcome table and in front of you in the pew). We invite you to come and worship with us again soon.

Explanation of the Week: *The Lord provided bread from heaven for His people in the wilderness. (Ex 16:2-21) Now He who is Himself the Living Bread from heaven miraculously provides bread for the 5000. (Jn 6:1-15) This takes place near the time of the Passover, after a great multitude followed Jesus across the Sea, when He went up on a mountain. Thus we see that Jesus is our new and greater Moses, who releases us from the bondage of Mt. Sinai and makes us free children of the promise. (Gal 4:21-31) By faith we receive the Bread of Life, who is Jesus Himself, "the Bread of God who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." (John 6:33-35) So it is that God's people "shall neither hunger nor thirst." (Is 49:8-13) For He abundantly provides for them in both body and soul.*

Order of Service, Matins (p. 109)

"Matins"—from the Latin word for "morning"—is one of the main services the monks would sing together each day during the middle ages. The Lutheran church kept the Matins liturgy because its focus is on the reading and hearing of God's Word. In this early morning hour, we rejoice to hear God's Word proclaim to us the Good News that "He Is Risen!"



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)*

~Mt . Olive School Students

"Father, Forgive Us"

*Father, forgive us for all we have done.
Daily we stumble; from you we do run.
Often to try our own heaven to earn,
Forgive us, Lord; to your Son help us turn.*

*There on the cross we see God's only Son.
Payment for sin; once for all and for one.
"Father, forgive them," he prays on the
tree. Showing his love and his mercy so
free.*

*Look to the cross; find forgiveness and love,
Pardon from God in his heaven above.
Father, forgive us for all we have done.
Father, forgive for the sake of your Son.
Father, forgive for the sake of your Son.*

~Hymn 283 Glory Be To Jesus

School Children sing vv. 1, 2, 6

~Confession of Sin — Admitting our sinfulness to God

(ELH 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** — *Opening sentences*

(ELH p. 109-110; Ps 51:15, Ps 70:1)

P: O Lord, open my lips.

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

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.

~**Hymn 462 vv. 1, 4, 6 As After The Water-Brooks**

~**Old Testament Lesson**

(EHV)

Isaiah 49:8-13 This is what the Lord says. In the time of favor, I will answer you. In the day of salvation, I will help you. I will guard you, and I will appoint you to be a covenant for the people, to re-establish the land, to redistribute inheritances that are now deserted, to say to the prisoners, "Go forth!" to those who are in the darkness, "Show yourselves!" They will graze beside roads, and they will find pasture on all the barren heights. They will not hunger, and they will not thirst, and neither scorching wind nor sun will strike them, because the one who shows them mercy will lead them. He will guide them beside springs of water. I will make all my mountains into a smooth road, and my highways will be raised up. Look, people will come from far away. Look, some will come from the north and the west, and some from the land of Sinim. Shout for joy, O heavens, and rejoice, O earth. Let mountains burst forth with shouts of joy, because the Lord is comforting his people, and he is showing mercy to his afflicted ones.

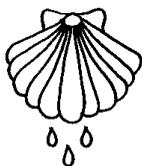
~**Epistle Lesson**

(EHV)

Galatians 4:21-31 Tell me, you who want to be under the law, are you really listening to the law? For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the slave woman, and one by the free woman. However, the son by the slave woman was born according to the flesh, but the son by the free woman was born through a promise. These things can be used as an illustration; namely, the women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children into slavery. This is Hagar. You see, this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and she corresponds to present-day Jerusalem, because Jerusalem is in

slavery along with her children. But the Jerusalem that is above is free. She is our mother. For it is written: Rejoice, barren woman who does not give birth. Break forth and shout for joy, woman who does not suffer birth pains, because the barren woman has more children than does the woman who has a husband. Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of the promise. But just as back then the one who was born according to the flesh persecuted the one who was born according to the Spirit, so this is also the case now. But what does the Scripture say? “Throw out the slave woman and her son, because the son of the slave woman will certainly not receive the inheritance with the son of the free woman.” For this same reason, brothers, we are not children of a slave woman, but of the free woman.

The Order of Holy Baptism (2nd Service Only)



(Holy Baptism has the power to work the new life of faith in the hearts of sinners. This regenerative washing “with water through the Word” is intended for all people, since all — including infants and children — are members of a sinful human race and are in need of God’s grace and forgiveness. Jesus has also commanded that “all nations” be baptized. Confession of sins and Absolution are a return to, and a renewal of, one’s Baptism. Matt. 28:19, John 3:5, Eph. 5:26, Titus 3:5, Acts 2:38-39)

~**Baptism of Oliver Shawn Saidler**

(ELH p. 133ff)

~**Hymn 264 vv. 1-3 *Jesus, Priceless Treasure***

~**Holy Gospel Lesson & Sermon Text**

(EHV)

John 6:60-69 When they heard it, many of his disciples said, “This is a hard teaching! Who can listen to it?” But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, asked them, “Does this cause you to stumble in your faith? What if you would see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? The Spirit is the one who gives life. The flesh does not help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. But there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the beginning those who would not believe and the one who would betray him. He said, “This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is given to him by my Father.” After this, many of his disciples turned back and were not walking with him anymore. So Jesus asked the Twelve, “You do not want to leave too, do you?” Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom will we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

~Sermon

The Turning Point

1. *After hearing His word, some who had been following Jesus turned away from Him.*
2. *But, others were strengthened in their resolve to cling to Him in faith.*

~Offering Hymn 263 v. 6 Hence All Fear

~Offering Prayer

(We take this time to acknowledge and thank God for moving the hearts of His people to continue to support the mission and work of our church. Our ushers will bring the offering plates forward to the altar and the pastor will offer a prayer of thanks. Please Note: You may place any offerings into the plates on the stands at the main aisle entrance to the Sanctuary either before or after the service. Online giving is also available through mtolivelutheran.org or by text message through your smartphone by texting the amount you would like to give to 833-726-3742 (a link will be provided for first-time users to register an account.)

~Canticle Hymn 48 In Peace and Joy I Now Depart

~Kyrie - "Lord"

(ELH p. 116-117)

C: ♪ Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

~Lord's Prayer

(ELH p. 117; 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.

~Prayers

~Collect — *The congregation's prayer*

(ELH p. 118, 1)

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, by Your Son You fed five thousand men in the wilderness with five loaves and two fish: We beseech You graciously to abide also with us in the fullness of Your blessing. Preserve us from greed and the cares of this life, that we may seek first Your kingdom and Your righteousness, and in all things perceive Your fatherly goodness; through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: ♪ Amen.

~**Benedicamus** — *Call for blessing*

(ELH p. 119)

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: ♪ **Thanks be to God.**

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

(ELH p. 119; 2 Cor 13:14)

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 262 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah**

~**Announcements**

~**Postlude** — *Opportunity for prayer & to greet one another*

(See "Prayers for Worship"

—ELH p. 40)

Officiant: Pastor John Petersen

Organist: John Baumann

Preservice Music: Mathias Barents

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE/THE LORD'S SUPPER

Sunday: 8:30am, 216/170; 10:45am, 156/116; Monday: 29/26

Sunday Live (8:30am) Online Viewing: 27

WE THANK THOSE SERVING OUR LORD THIS WEEK:

Greeters: 1st service: Ryan & Sheila Ruschmeyer

2nd Service: Joe & Connie Meyer, Juel & Lynn Merseth

Media Center: David Norris

Offering Counters: Lisa Holt, Brenda Garbers, Connie Meyer

Altar Guild: Elyse Haugen, Carol Leiferman

Weekly Financial Update

Given Last Week: \$10,054.88 (includes text & on-line giving)

Fiscal Year-to-Date Surplus (as of 2/28/22): \$68,751

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.

Did you know you can give your offering online? Just go to www.mtolivelutheran.org and click on the link, "[donate online](#)".

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 11:30AM.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: *March 27, 2022 — April 3, 2022*

Sunday, March 27	8:30AM	Divine Worship CDS K-8 th grade sing at Mt Olive
	9:45AM	Sunday School and Bible Study & BIC
	10:45AM	Divine Worship
	6-9PM	Artemis Gaming
	7:30PM	Volleyball
Monday, March 28	6:30PM	Divine Worship
	7:30PM	Evangelism Committee
Tuesday March 29	9AM	Ladies' Bible Study
Wednesday March 30		No Chapel
	9AM	Adult Bible Study
	1PM	MOMS Bible Study
	4PM	Confirmation Class
	5-6:15PM	Lenten Meal provided by MTO Afterschool Care
	6:30PM	Midweek Service
Thursday March 31	8:10AM	Chapel Grandparent's Day
	11:15AM	Early Dismissal
	8:10AM	Chapel Grandparent's Day
Friday April 1	11:15AM	Early Dismissal
		Mt. Olive volunteers at New 2 You
Saturday April 2		
Sunday, April 3	8:30AM	Divine Worship w/Holy Communion CDS K-8 th grade sing at Peace
	9:45AM	Sunday School and Bible Study & BIC
	10:45AM	Divine Worship w/Holy Communion
	7:30PM	Volleyball

ANNOUNCEMENTS—Mt. Olive Lutheran Church & School

 **Sign Up for Coffee & Treats!** If you would like to provide coffee and treats during our Sunday morning Bible Study, visit our website mtolivelutheran.org

On the Narthex tables April's Olive Press, and volunteer signup sheets.

Flowers today: The flowers on the altar are given to God's glory by Audrey Spear in loving memory of Stella & Raymond Richter.

Mount Olive extended two Divine Calls to fill teaching vacancies for next school year. Mr. Jacob Beilke has been called to teach 4th grade, and Mrs. Joni Moldstad has been called to teach 5th grade. Please keep Mr. Beilke, Mrs. Moldstad, and their families in your prayers as they deliberate where the Lord would have them serve.

The Lenten meal on **March 30** will be served by the ASC team plus a few other fabulous folks. They will be serving softball fare: grilled hotdogs, baked beans, pickles, chips and dessert. All proceeds from this meal will be put toward the purchase of the gym curtain.

This year's Charger Challenge included funding towards the purchase of a gym divider curtain to better utilize our available space. God be praised, all fundraising goals were met. The remainder of the cost after fundraising was to be divided between Mount Olive Lutheran School and the After School Care Program.

Covid-19 protocols took a heavy toll on the After School Care budget. Additionally, production costs and material tariffs have increased significantly over the past year. We still want to add this feature to our facility, but we are short of our budget to fulfill this need for our congregation and school. If you would like to help fund this purchase, please designate your gift towards the Mount Olive Gym Curtain or speak with a member of the PTF or Board of Education.

You are in the Lord's Will, Is He in yours? Please reach out to the Board of Stewardship if you have any questions about planned giving.

Spring cleaning will be Saturday, **April 9th**. We will clean the inside:(Sanctuary, Narthex, Social Hall, Kitchen, etc.) and the outside grounds. In case of rain the backup date for outside cleanup will be Saturday, April 16th.

Easter Dinner: Mt. Olive's Evangelism Committee is working to gather food items to supply Easter dinner for the homeless youth in the Mankato area. The staff at The REACH have agreed to prepare the food and deliver it to their clients on our behalf. Food will be delivered to the Reach on Thursday, **April 14th**. Please look for the sign up sheets in the Narthex. Thank you for your willingness to serve.

Easter Flower Baskets If you would like to contribute towards Easter flower basket arrangements to help beautify our sanctuary this Easter, please use the sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex. Indicate if donation is in honor or memory of someone. Suggested donation is \$20, however, any amount is acceptable. Checks made payable to Mt. Olive Lutheran Church may be left in the church office. Last day to order is Sunday, **April 3rd**. These Easter plants will be displayed in large baskets, individual plants will be available to take home the week after Easter.

Bethany Lutheran College

We have rescheduled Prof. Greg Diersen from MLC for Tuesday, March 29th at 7PM in Meyer Hall room 101 at Bethany Lutheran College. He will guide us through some of the recent literature and propositions about the Flood of the Bible. In the last few decades, much material about the Flood has been produced, both positive and negative towards the Biblical account. Find out what is new and what was recycled from long ago. Everyone is welcome to attend. Part of the In Depth series.

The local chapter of the Bethany Auxiliary will host a tea honoring this academic year's Bethany female graduates on Tuesday, **April 5 at 7pm** in Honsey Hall. Any women of the congregation interested in attending are most welcome. A very important business meeting will follow the tea.

Bethany Lutheran College is proud to present *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* by John Bishop. In this exciting mystery, a group of people who come together to collaborate on a brand new Broadway musical find themselves caught in the middle of a real life murder mystery. Performances run **April 1, 2, 8, and 9 at 7:30pm**, and **April 3 at 2pm**. Adult tickets are \$10, and child/student tickets are \$5. Visit blc.edu/box-office to reserve tickets.

Minnesota Valley Chorale and guest instrumentalists present Vivaldi's Gloria. Traditional spirituals and sacred works are also performed. Concerts are held on April 2 at 7pm and April 3 at 3pm at Bethany Lutheran College, Trinity Chapel. \$10 tickets are available in advance online at Eventbrite or may be purchased at the door. Please note masks are optional at this event.

Bethany Lutheran College is taking applications for the following positions, please see our website for additional information. Maintenance Technician, Production Studio Specialist, Visual Communication and Social Media Specialist, Assistant/Associate Professor - Media Arts Faculty, - Clinical Mental Health Counseling.

Community Opportunities



New 2 You Family Thrift – Volunteers Needed! Mt. Olive is scheduled to provide volunteers at New 2 You on Saturday, **April 2**. Both morning and afternoon shifts are available. Duties include running the cash register, bagging customer purchases and helping display merchandise. Check out the new displays and shop while you are there! The sign-up sheet is on the narthex table. Please call New 2 You at 507-345-1455 if you have any questions. Thank you!

The annual meeting of New 2 You Family Thrift Store will be held Monday **April 25th**, 6:30 pm at Peace Lutheran Church. This meeting is open to any interested members of the five association congregations (Peace, Mt Olive, St Pauls, St Marks and Trinity)

Our ELS Military Monument: You may have heard that a generous donor has pledged to match up to \$20,000 of new donations until the end of March. If the entire amount is matched, we will have achieved the projected goal of \$315,000+ to complete the project (there was a material cost increase). We are about \$11,000 away from reaching the full potential of this match. Recently we had three well known ELS laymen veterans die: Norman Werner, Sigurd Lee and Christopher Faye. Even as a young man these humble servants of God impacted me and I thought it appropriate to give a gift to the military monument in their honor. Perhaps some of you also knew them and would like to honor their memory in this way as well. Then again, there may be other veterans who have impacted your lives, which you would like to honor at this time of the matching offer. Please consider making a gift that will have double the impact to make this important monument and memorial a reality. For details of this project and ways to donate please visit our ELS website (www.els.org, go to the "About" heading and click on Military Monument, click on the red "Donate to the Military Monument Project"). Or send a check to: ELS, 6 Browns Ct., Mankato, MN 56001 to be received by March 31 indicating it is for the Military Monument. Thank you.

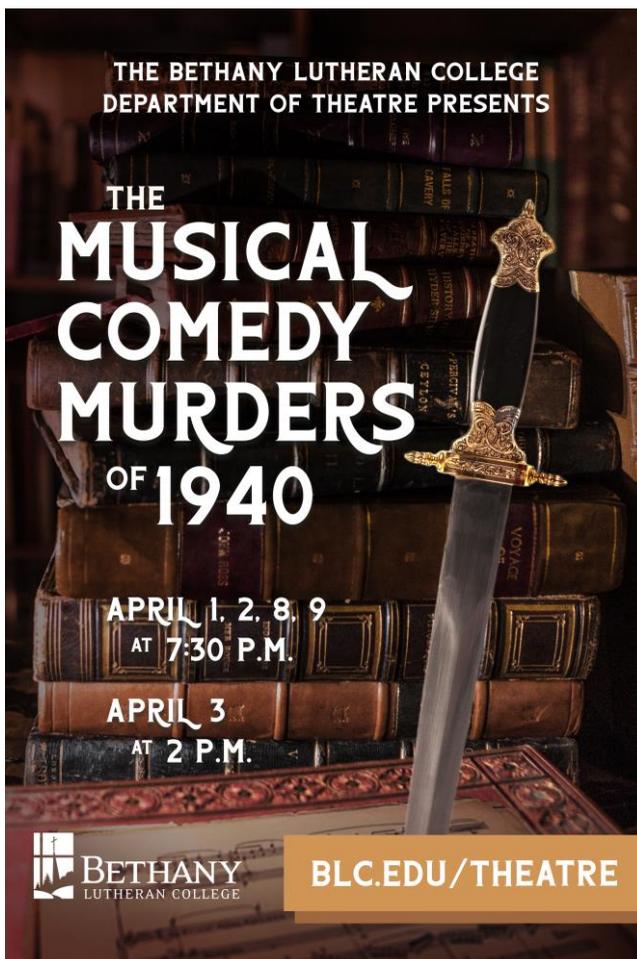
JLMC Position Openings Jesus Loves Me Learning Center in North Mankato, MN, is taking applications for 2 full-time infant teachers' aides and 1 full-time preschool aide. Teaching experience is encouraged but not required. We look for applicants with friendly dispositions, reliability, and flexibility. For information, contact LaShawn Smith at (507) 508-2041 or directorjlm@stpaulsnorthmankato.com.

Thrivent Choice Dollars® Through Thrivent Choice®, eligible members can recommend where Thrivent donates millions of charitable outreach dollars each year. Mount Olive is a participating organization. Eligible Thrivent Financial members with available Choice Dollars® have until **March 31, 2022**, to direct them. Go to

www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more. Or call 800-847-4836 and say “Thrivent Choice” after the prompt.

Thrivent Action Teams: Apply for a Thrivent Action Team to support Mt Olive. Thrivent clients bring together friends and family to form a volunteer team – Thrivent provides up to \$250 in seed money and promotional resources to jump-start the volunteer project.

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE ELS OLYMPICS 2022! -Open to Mt. Olive students and homeschool students alike! This year’s Olympics will be held on **Saturday, May 7**, in Scarville, Iowa. We sincerely hope that you and your family are able to attend! Contact the church office for a list of events, meal RSVP, and a medical release form



THE BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE PRESENTS

THE
**MUSICAL
COMEDY
MURDERS
OF 1940**

APRIL 1, 2, 8, 9
AT 7:30 P.M.

APRIL 3
AT 2 P.M.

 BETHANY
LUTHERAN COLLEGE

BLC.EDU/THEATRE

Dear Grandparents and Parents,



Come to the
Spring Scholastic
Book Fair

Wednesday, March 30, 2:45 – 5:45 PM

Thursday*, March 31, 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

6:00 – 8:00 PM

Friday*, April 1, 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Sunday, April 3, 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM

***Special times during “Grandparents’ Day”**

Mount Olive Lutheran Church Mission Statement

The mission of Mount Olive Lutheran Church is to proclaim the Gospel of Christ through God’s Word, so that souls are called into and kept in the Christian faith unto eternal life.