



Easter Festival Service



Mt. Olive Lutheran Church & School

1123 Marsh Street Mankato, MN 56001 / (507)345-4966 / church@mtolivelutheran.org

Pastors John J. Petersen & Luke Ulrich / Principal Benjamin Springer

Evangelical Lutheran Synod

Easter Festival Service with Holy Communion

Sunday, April 9, 2023; 10 AM

~Preservice Prayer for Easter Morning:

The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed! Hallelujah! Heavenly Father, we worship you and adore You because You have raised Your Son from the dead and made Him to be Lord over all things in heaven and in earth. Fill us with confidence that in the risen Christ we can overcome all threats to the reality of Your love for us. Especially destroy in us the fear that death separates us from Your mercy. Give us of Your Spirit that we may live under Your Son in the freedom of those who have been delivered from death to life. Raise us each day from the depths of sin to the joys of forgiveness, and let us walk before You in righteousness; through our risen Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

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)*

~**Hymn 352 Jesus Christ is Risen Today**

~**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.

~**Kyrie Hymn 350, vv. 1, 4 He’s Risen, He’s Risen**

~**Absolution** — *God's declaration of forgiveness* (ELH p. 43, l; Mt 11:28, Jn 3:16)

P: Lift up your hearts unto God! Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us, and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To all who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God, and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized will be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all. Amen.

~**Canticle Hymn 359, vv. 1, 4, 5** *This is the Feast*

~**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. 154, #62)

P: Let us pray: Lord God, heavenly Father, You delivered Your Son for our offenses, and raised Him again for our justification: We beseech You, grant us Your Holy Spirit, that He may rule and govern us according to Your will; graciously keep us in the true faith, defend us from all our sins, and after this life raise us to eternal life; through the same, Your beloved Son, 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.)

~**Epistle Lesson**

(EHV)

1 Peter 1:3-12 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he gave us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, into an inheritance that is undying, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you. Through faith you are being protected by God's power for the salvation that is ready to be revealed at the end of time. Because of this you rejoice very much, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various kinds of trials so that the proven character of your faith—which is more valuable than gold, which passes away even though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise, glory, and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not see him now, yet by believing in him, you are filled with a joy

that is inexpressible and filled with glory, because you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls. The prophets, who prophesied about the grace that has come to you, searched and studied carefully concerning this salvation, trying to find out what person and what time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you, when they wrote about these things. These are the things that have now been announced to you by those who preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even the angels long to look carefully into these things.

~**Senior Choir** *O Death, Where Is Thy Sting?*

(John Stainer)

O Death, where is thy sting? O Grave, where is thy victory?

Thanks be to God, Who giveth us the victory, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hallelujah!

~**Holy Gospel Lesson**

(EHV)

Matthew 28:1-8 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. Suddenly, there was a great earthquake! For an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, and going to the tomb, he rolled away the stone and was sitting on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing was as white as snow. The guards were so terrified of him that they shook and became like dead men. The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid! I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here. He has risen, just as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. Go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has risen from the dead! And look, he is going ahead of you to Galilee. There you will see him.' See, I have told you!" They hurried away from the tomb, with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples.

P: This is the Holy Gospel Lesson:

C: ♪ God be praised for His glad tidings.

~**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. 1, 4, 5, 7 *Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands*

~Exordium—*Festival Exhortation and Introduction from the Preacher*

~Exordium Hymn 348 *He Is Arisen! Glorious Word!*

~Old Testament Lesson & Sermon Text

(EHV)

Psalm 16:8-11 I have set the LORD always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices. Even my flesh will dwell securely because you will not abandon my life to the grave. You will not let your favored one see decay. You have made known to me the path of life, fullness of joy in your presence, pleasures at your right hand forever.

~Sermon Message

"Jesus' Resurrection Gives Us Unshakeable Gladness and Joy!"

~Offering Hymn 353, v. 3 *Jesus Lives! For Me He Died*

~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.)

~Easter Prayer & Special Petitions

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: 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*”

(*ELH p. 51-52, ; Is 6:3, Rev 4:8, Ps 148, Mt 21:9*)

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 of Communion**

(*Communicants come forward at the direction of the ushers. During the Distribution, the congregation sings the following hymns:*)

Hymn 354, vv. 1, 2, 5, 6 *Like the Golden Sun Ascending*

Hymn 310 *At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing*

Hymn 351 *I Know That My Redeemer Lives*

~**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.

~**Hymn of Thanksgiving 354, v. 10 *For the Joy Thy Birth Doth Give Me***

~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.

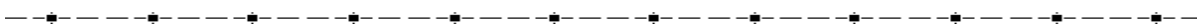
~Closing Hymn 341, vv. 4, 6 *Now Hell, Its Prince, the Devil*

~Announcements

~Postlude — *Opportunity for prayer & to greet one another!* (See "Prayers for Worship" —ELH p. 40)



Officiant: Pastor Luke Ulrich
Organist/Accompanist: Mark DeGarmeaux
Special Music: Dan Neubauer
Adult Choir Director: Tamara Omar
Cover Artwork: Jason Jaspersen (used with permission)



LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE/LORD'S SIUPPER

Sunday: 8:30am, 288/195; 10:45am, 173/121; Monday: 33/21

Sunday Live (8:30am) Online Viewing: 15

WE THANK THOSE SERVING OUR LORD TODAY:

Greeters: 1st Service—Ron & Mary Younge, Steve & Lois Jaeger

2nd Service—Peggy Harstad, Joni Bode

Offering Counters: Will Holt, Lance Schwartz

Altar Guild: Sharon Madson, Heidi Graham, Emily Christensen

Media Center: Daniel Norris

Weekly Financial Update

Given Last Week: \$16,033.18

Line of Credit (LOC) Challenge given last week: \$62.50

LOC total as of 4/2/23: \$14,610.66 (\$5,389.34 still needed to make \$20,000 goal)

Fiscal Year-to-Date Surplus (Deficit) as of 02/28/23: \$62,594.53

2 Corinthians 9:8 God is able to make all grace overflow to you, so that in all things, at all times, having all that you need, you will overflow in every good work.

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 available on local cable channel 181 (Charter) and 7 & 507 (Consolidated Communications) on Wednesdays at 10am and Thursdays at 11:30am.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: April 9, 2023 — April 16, 2023

Easter Sunday, April 9	7:30AM	Sunrise Service
	8:30AM	Easter Breakfast
	10AM	Festival Service w/Holy Communion; Adult Choir
		No Adult Pickleball
		No Artemis Gaming
	7:30PM	Coed Recreational Volleyball
Monday, April 10		No CDS
	5:30PM	Parish Ed & Youth
	6:30PM	Divine Worship w/Holy Communion
	6:30PM	Church Council
Tuesday, April 11	9AM	Ladies' Bible Study
	1PM	MOM's Bible Study @ Mt. Olive
Wednesday, April 12	8:10AM	CDS Chapel
	9AM	Adult Bible Study
	7PM	Adult Choir Practice
Thurs., April 13	8:30AM	MOM's Bible Study @ Peace
Fri., April 14		
Saturday, April 15	8:30-11AM	Thriving Families Brunch
	11AM-2PM	Spring Cleaning Day
Sunday, April 16	8:30AM	Divine Service w/Holy Communion
	9:40AM	BIC/Sunday School/Bible Study
	10:45AM	Divine Service w/Holy Communion;
	1PM	Encourage One Another
	2PM	Adult Pickleball
	7:30PM	Coed Recreational Volleyball

ANNOUNCEMENTS—Mount Olive Lutheran Church & School

Thank you, Mt. Olive members, for contributing food items to help Mt. Olive bring Easter Dinner to The REACH, a drop-in center for homeless and at-risk youth in the Mankato area. Also, our thanks to all who donated diapers, baby wipes, formula, and coin-filled baby bottles to benefit the clients of Options for Women. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated!

Mt. Olive members donated 42 lb. of food to the ECHO Food Shelf during the month of March. Thank you for your generosity.



Flowers adorning our sanctuary today are given in celebration of the glorious resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Rev. Ted & Diane Gullixson in honor of Ruth Webber
Cheryl Lueck in honor of Eunice Lueck
Becky Anton in honor of her parents
Elli and Joe Fisher in honor of Ron Fisher and loved ones
Bill & Suzanne Bohning in honor of loved ones
Janet & Greg Costello in honor of loved ones
Bruce Gratz in honor of our ELS military service members
Mark & Sharon Madson in honor of our fathers
Dan & Emily Christensen in honor of loved ones
Andy & Laurie Overn in memory of Christopher Faye
Art & Terri Westphal in honor of loved ones
Allen & Ellen Mueller in memory of our parents
Dave & Cindy Reimers in honor of loved ones
Dottie Kunkel in honor of Jim Kunkel
Neil & Barb Kaus in honor of loved ones
Brian & Rebecca Strom in honor of loved ones
Pam Davis in honor of loved ones
Bruno & Marian Wilinski in honor of our loved ones
Mark & Sandy Johnson in honor of Mary & Orville Sampson and Mark's sister, Lisa



Camp Counselors are needed for Camp Indianhead, MN, from July 9-14 at Lutheran Island Camp. We are looking for male counselors especially. Counselors are in charge of a cabin and participate in sports, games, campfires, and worship with campers. For more information and application forms, contact Prof. Shawn Stafford at ssafford@blc.edu; **applications are due April 15.**

Thriving Families Series: Join us on Saturday, **April 15**, for a presentation by Professor Peter Bloedel entitled “Deception, Suggestion, and Influence: Navigating the Truth in an Entertainment Culture.” Breakfast is provided. Childcare is also available from infants on up. A sign-up sheet is available in the narthex. Check the April edition of the *Olive Press* for more details.



Church Spring Cleaning Day is Saturday, **April 15**, from 11am-2pm. We will clean the inside (sanctuary, narthex, social hall, kitchen, etc.) and the outside grounds. In case of rain, the backup date for outside work will be Saturday, April 22.

<p><i>Encourage One Another</i></p> <p>SUPPORT GROUP @ MT. OLIVE</p> <p>Meeting: Sunday, April 16 1-2pm</p> <p><i>Gather with your fellow Christians to share with them, uplift them, and pray for them.</i></p> <p><i>For ANYONE needing encouragement and support (i.e. those who suffer from depression, anxiety, grief, & other struggles).</i></p> <p><i>"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing." 1 Thessalonians 5:11</i></p> 	<p>By: Prof. Adolph Harstad</p> <p>Where: Mt. Olive's Fireside Room</p> <p>When: Fridays, 1-2pm <i>(Beginning April 21st, Running for FIVE weeks)</i></p> <p>Why: To gain a basic understanding of the Hebrew Language!</p> <p>\$25 / Student</p> <p>New Students Welcome! No Experience Needed.</p> <p>FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Pr. Ulrich OR Todd Gavin (Call or Text) 507 995-9747</p>  
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Upcoming Meeting: All are welcome to join us on Sunday, **April 23**, at 9:40am, in the church Social Hall for our spring congregational informational meeting. Get an update from our Boards and Committees about how things at Mt. Olive are going!

Mt 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.