



## LENT 2/LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK

Sunday, February 28, 2021, 8:30 & 10:45 AM

Mount Olive Lutheran Church & School

Evangelical Lutheran Synod

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

Pastors John J. Petersen & Luke Ulrich | Principal Adam Pavelchik

**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 and the Welcome table in the narthex). We invite you to come and worship with us again soon. **For the Hearing Impaired:** Our facility is equipped with a hearing assistance system. Please ask an usher for a receiver.

**Explanation of the Week:** *“Do not be afraid. Stand firm, and see the salvation from the Lord.” (Ex 14:10-21) This is what the Canaanite woman did. With faith in Jesus to help her, she came to Him. Though Jesus seemed to ignore and reject her, she continued to call upon His name and look to Him for help. (Mt 15:21-28) This persistent woman of faith received glowing praise from Jesus: “O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire.” This is the sanctifying will of God, (1 Thess 4:1-7) to test our faith in order that it may be refined and strengthened. For tribulation produces perseverance; perseverance, character; character, hope. And hope in Christ does not disappoint. (Rom 5:1-5) As we also celebrate the beginning of our “Lutheran Schools Week,” we praise and thank God for the countless blessings that He has bestowed on our School. We seek to continue to do as God has encouraged us—to “stand firm” in our faith—remembering that God will continue to help our School and bless it into the future.*



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 (See “Prayers for Worship”—ELH p. 40)*

~Hymn 1 **Blessed Jesus At Thy Word**

1. *Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word  
We are gathered all to hear Thee;  
Let our hearts and souls be stirred  
Now to seek and love and fear Thee,  
By Thy teachings, sweet and holy,  
Drawn from earth to love Thee solely.*

2. *All our knowledge, sense, and sight  
Lie in deepest darkness shrouded  
Till Thy Spirit breaks our night  
With the beams of truth unclouded.  
Thou alone to God canst win us;  
Thou must work all good within us.*

3. *Glorious Lord, Thyself impart,  
Light of Light, from God proceeding;  
Open Thou our ears and heart,  
Help us by Thy Spirit’s pleading.  
Hear the cry Thy people raises,  
Hear and bless our prayers and praises.*

4. *Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
Praise to Thee and adoration!  
Grant that we Thy Word may trust,  
And obtain true consolation  
While we here below must wander,  
Till we sing Thy praises yonder.*

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

*(ELH p. 60; Matt 28:19)*

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

C: **♩ Amen.**

~**Confession & Absolution** — *Admitting our guilt & receiving God’s forgiveness*

*(ELH p. 60-62, II; Ps 124:8, Ps 32:5)*

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: **♩ Who made heav’n and earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord;

C: **♩ And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word,

and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C: O most merciful God, You have given Your only-begotten Son to die for us; have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You, and of Your will, and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only-begotten 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 shall be saved.

**C: Grant this unto us, O Lord. Amen.**

~**Introit** — *“Entrance Verse”*

*(ELH p. 143; Ps 25:2,6)*

P: Remember, O Lord, Your tender mercies and loving kindnesses,

**C: for they have been from of old.**

P: Let not my enemies triumph over me.

**C: Redeem Israel, O God, out of all their troubles.**

~**Gloria Patri** — *“Glory to the Father”*

*(ELH p. 62)*

**C: ♪ 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.**

~**Kyrie Eleison** — *“Lord, Have Mercy”*

*(ELH p. 63, II; Mk 10:47)*

**C: ♪ Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Christe eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.**

~**Salutation** — *The people’s blessing for the pastor’s work*

*(ELH p. 66; 2 Tim 4:22)*

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: ♪ And with your spirit.**

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

*(ELH p. 66; p. 152 #43)*

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, grant us, we beseech You, by Your Holy Spirit, that He may strengthen our hearts and confirm our faith and hope in Your grace and mercy, so that, although we have reason to fear because of our conscience, our sin, and our unworthiness, we may nevertheless, with the woman of Canaan, hold fast to Your grace, and in every trial and temptation find You a present help and refuge; through 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.**

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## 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 45:20-25** Gather! Come! Draw near together,  
you survivors from the nations.

They have no knowledge—  
those who are lifting up their idols of wood  
and praying to a god that cannot save.

Make an announcement and come close.

Let them consult together.

Who made this known ahead of time?

From time past who announced it?

Was it not I, the Lord?

There is no god except me,  
a righteous God and Savior.

There is no one except me.

Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth,  
because I am God,  
and there is no other.

I have sworn by myself.

From my mouth a righteous word has gone out,  
and it will not return unfulfilled.

Indeed, to me every knee will bow,  
and every tongue will swear allegiance.

“Only in the Lord,” they will say of me,

“Only in the Lord is there true righteousness and strength.”

To him they will come and be ashamed—  
all those who are angry at him.

In the Lord, all the descendants of Israel will be justified.  
They will be praised by him.

~Lenten Verse

(ELH p. 67)

**C: ♪ Christ has humbled Himself, and become obedient unto death; ev'n the death of the Cross.**

~Epistle Lesson

**1 Thessalonians 4:1-7** Therefore, beyond this, brothers, just as you received instruction from us about how you are to walk so as to please God (as indeed you are doing), we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus that you do so even more. To be sure, you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. Indeed, this is God's will: that you be sanctified, namely, that you keep yourselves away from sexual immorality. He wants each of you to learn to obtain a wife for yourself in a way that is holy and honorable, not in lustful passion like the heathen, who do not know God. No one is to overstep and take advantage of his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, just as we said previously and solemnly testified to it. For God did not call us for uncleanness, but in sanctification.

~Apostles' Creed — *Confession of faith*

(ELH p. 68-69)

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 258, vv. 1-5 Lord Jesus Christ, My Savior Blest**

1. Lord Jesus Christ,  
My Savior blest,  
My Hope and my Salvation!  
I trust in Thee;  
Deliver me  
From misery;  
Thy Word's my consolation.

2. As Thou dost will,  
Lead Thou me still  
That I may truly serve Thee.  
My God, I pray,  
Teach me Thy way,  
To my last day  
In Thy true faith preserve me.

3. Most heartily  
I trust in Thee;  
Thy mercy fails me never.  
Dear Lord, abide;  
My Helper tried,  
Thou Crucified,  
From evil keep me ever.

4. Now henceforth must  
I put my trust  
In Thee, O dearest Savior.  
Thy comfort choice,  
Thy Word and voice,  
My heart rejoice  
Despite my ill behavior.

5. When sorrows rise,  
My refuge lies  
In Thy compassion tender.  
Within Thine arm  
Can naught alarm;  
Keep me from harm,  
Be Thou my strong Defender.

**~Holy Gospel Lesson & Sermon Text**

**Matthew 8:1-4** When Jesus came down from the mountain, large crowds followed him. Just then, a leper came to him and bowed down to him, saying, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean."

Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean." Immediately he was healed of his leprosy. Jesus said to him, "See that you tell no one. Instead, go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."

**~Sermon Theme**

*"The Christian's Greatest Difficulty"*

~**Offertory** — *Prayer of renewal before offering*

(ELH p. 70-71; Ps 51:10-12)

**C: ♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with Your free Spirit. Amen.**

~**Prayer of the Church**

(ELH p. 71-72)

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

*(Special petitions are included)*

P: For..., let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord have mercy.**

P: O Lord, heavenly Father, by the power of the Holy Spirit we faithfully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. We praise You for His victorious resurrection from the dead. We thank You for the strength of grace and majesty of faith which He bestows on the Church by virtue of His ascension to Your right hand, where He intercedes for us as our Advocate and High Priest. Grant that the Holy Spirit will gather us into the company of all the faithful from the ends of the earth, so that we may celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end.

In Your mercy receive our prayers. Deliver us and preserve us. To You alone we give all glory, honor, and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forevermore. Amen.

~**Lord's Prayer**

(ELH p. 85; 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.**



**~Hymn 258, vv. 6, 7 *I Have Thy Word***

*6. I have Thy Word,  
Christ Jesus, Lord;  
Thou never wilt forsake me.  
This will I plead  
In time of need.  
O help with speed,  
When troubles overtake me!*

*7. Grant, Lord, we pray,  
Thy grace each day,  
That we, Thy law revering,  
May live with Thee,  
And happy be  
Eternally,  
Before Thy throne appearing.*

**~Collect of Thanksgiving**

*(ELH p. 85, 1)*

P: Let us give thanks and pray: We thank You, Lord God the Father, that You have given Your only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. We thank You, Lord Jesus Christ, that You have borne in Your sacred body all our sins, and by Your blood have blotted out all our transgressions. We thank You, Lord, the Holy Spirit, that You have created in our hearts true faith, that we know of nothing to trust for our salvation, except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. O God, grant us Your grace, that we may perfectly believe that all our sins are forgiven for the sake of the passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ, and so enlighten us by Your Holy Spirit, that, in the power of our Redeemer's death, we may day by day put off sin, and never forsake the Lord Jesus Christ, until we see Him face to face in life eternal. We ask it all in Christ's name.

**C: ♪ Amen.**

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

*(ELH p. 87; 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 178 *I Pray Thee, Dear Lord Jesus***

*I pray Thee, dear Lord Jesus,  
My heart to keep and train  
That I Thy holy temple  
From youth to age remain.  
Turn Thou my thoughts forever  
From worldly wisdom's lore;  
If I but learn to know Thee,  
I shall not want for more.*

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

*(See "Prayers for Worship"*

*—ELH p. 40)*

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*Liturgist/Preacher: Pastor Luke Ulrich  
Organist: 1<sup>st</sup> Service: Cassie Johnson  
Organist: 2<sup>nd</sup> Service: Mark DeGarmeaux*

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**LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE/LORD'S SUPPER ATTENDANCE:**

**Sunday: 8:30am, 132/109; 10:45am, 132/100**

**Live Online Viewing: 64**

**Monday: 30/24**

**Ash Wednesday: 142/98**

**Ash Wed Live Online Viewing: 40**

**SERVING OUR LORD THIS WEEK:**

**Greeters: 1<sup>st</sup> Service: Don & Kristen Lehne and  
Seth & Bethany Ferkenstad**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Service: Dan & Joanne Maas**

**Offering Counters: Andy Overn, Chris Kind**

**Altar Guild: Elli Fisher, Jane Zibrowski**

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**Weekly Financial Update:**

**Given Last Week: \$14,355.89 (includes text & on-line giving)**

**Fiscal Year To Date Surplus (as of 1/31/21): \$38,136.89**

*2 Corinthians 8:9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.*

***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.***

**WEEK AT A GLANCE *February 28, 2021- March 7, 2021***

<b>Sunday,</b> February 28	8:30AM 9:40AM 10:45AM 3PM	Divine Service SS/BIC/Bible Class/Sr. Youth Divine Service Youth Sledding at Spring Lake Park
<b>Mon,</b> March 1	6:30PM 7PM 7PM	Divine Service Board of Education Board of Deacons
<b>Tues,</b> March 2	6:30PM 7PM 6:30-8:30PM	Jesus Cares Ministry M.O.M.s Bible Study (Londgren Home) Kindergarten Round Up
<b>Wed,</b> March 3	8:05AM 9AM 4PM 6PM	CDS Chapel Bible Study Confirmation Classes Lent Divine Service
<b>Thurs.,</b> March 4	8:30AM 1PM	M.O.M.s Bible Study @Peace M.O.M.s Bible Study (Social Hall)
<b>Fri.,</b> March 5		
<b>Sat,</b> March 6	9AM-4PM	Volunteers at New2You
<b>Sunday,</b> March 7	8:30AM 9:40AM 10:45AM	Divine Service with Holy Communion SS/BIC/Bible Class/Sr. Youth Divine Service with Holy Communion

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Flowers on the altar** today are given to God's glory by Sandy Hansen in celebration of Jerry Hansen's 91<sup>st</sup> Birthday on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Please join us for Bible Class today** between services in the Social Hall. Bill Bukowski will give a presentation on "The Altarpiece in Christian Art."

**TODAY Youth SLEDDING @ Spring Lake Park** Sunday, February 28. Meet at Mt. Olive at 3pm, dinner provided, back to Mt. Olive by 6pm. Bring your favorite sled/tube/toboggan/lunch tray! (Please note: If there is no snow the Youth Group will still meet and have an alternative activity.)

**Don't miss Mt Olive's Kindergarten Round Up** on Tuesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6:30-8:30pm.

**ProMusica Minnesota** presents a concert of Bach, Debussy, and Brahms performed by pianist Bethel Balge, Estonian cellist Silver Ainomäe, and Costa Rican clarinetist Gabriel Campos Zamora on **Sunday, March 7, 6:30pm**, at St Paul's Church in New Ulm. For more information, visit [ProMusicaMN.com](http://ProMusicaMN.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, 2021**, to direct them. Go to [www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) to learn more. Or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.

**Wanted: Plastic Thread Spools!** After-School Care is collecting plastic thread spools to use as paint stamps. You may send the spools to ASC with your child or drop them off at the office. If you attend church, you may drop them off at the office or put them in ASC's mailbox cubby by the teachers' copier.

**The 5<sup>th</sup> Men of Truth Conference, Band of Brothers**, will be held **April 10<sup>th</sup>** at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, New Ulm, **8am-2:30pm** (in-person & livestreaming). Five featured speakers lead by Keynote Speaker Mark Jeske will explore topics of 1) Get a Brother. You're Not Alone. 2) Be a Brother. Don't Go Alone. And 3) Know Your Sisters. Listen. Treat Women Well. Lunch-on-your-own time will be 11:45-1pm. For more information and to register for the event, go to [www.menoftruth.org](http://www.menoftruth.org). Take advantage of an early registration discount! We will be following current health guidelines at time of the event).

**Food drive:** Out of gratitude and great love for our Savior we hope you will join us in sharing the abundance that we have with those in need. Mt. Olive will be collecting non perishable food donations for ECHO Food Shelf from **Sunday, March 07 through Sunday, March 28**. Please place your donations in the boxes under the band room window.

*Hebrews 13:16. And do not forget to do good and share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.*

**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. Please look for the sign up sheets in the Narthex. Thank you for your willingness to serve.

## **Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School**

### **Cancelled: MVL Pork Chop Meal**

Due to a low number of sign-ups, the MVL Booster Club pork chop meal scheduled for Sunday, February 28 has been cancelled. We hope to see you in 2022!

### **MVL Assistant Golf Coach Needed**

MVL is looking for an assistant golf coach for this spring. A person who wants to share their love and knowledge of the game with young people. Practices and meets take place after school. For more information contact Craig Morgan at [cmorgan@mvlhs.org](mailto:cmorgan@mvlhs.org) or 507-276-7576.

### **MVL Prom Pizza Fundraiser**

The MVL Prom Committee is still making plans to hold prom this spring. You can help in that planning by eating pizza! Orders for Swany's 12-inch pizzas can be made now through March 2. Pickup will be on Sunday, March 14 from 1-4pm; other arrangements can be made if needed. The order form is available on the [mvl.org](http://mvl.org) homepage - just download, fill out, and return to the MVL office along with your payment of cash or a check made payable to Swany's Pub.

### **MVLHS Director of Mission Advancement Position Open**

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).

## **Bethany Lutheran College**

**Open Positions:** BLC is currently taking applications for four different positions:

Assistant/Associate Professor- Business Administration

Assistant Director of Financial Aid

Computer Systems Specialist- IT

Dean of Students

More information on these jobs can be found at [www.blc.edu/jobs](http://www.blc.edu/jobs).

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## Midweek Lenten Services: February 17 – March 24, 2021; 6 PM “The Road to Redemption”

**March 3: Midweek Lent 3 — Pr. Ken Mellon**

“Garden to Garden” Genesis 3:15 — Eden/Gethsemane

**March 10: Midweek Lent 4 — Pr. Andrew Schmidt (St. Paul’s)**

“Seal to Seal” Daniel 6:16-23 — Daniel & Lions Den/Burial

**March 17: Midweek Lent 5 — Pr. Matthew Moldstad (Peace)**

“Pole to Pole” Numbers 21:4-8 — Bronze Serpent/Crucifixion

**March 24: Midweek Lent 6 — Pr. John Petersen**

“King to King” Deuteronomy 17:18-20 — Before Pilate



“Moms supporting Moms in raising godly children”

**Moms On a Mission Bible study (MOMs) Spring Session Starting Soon!** Choose one of three opportunities to study God’s Word with fellow moms in Christ. The Peace/Mt. Olive MOMs group is starting back up the week of February 15<sup>th</sup>. **All participants will need a copy of the book, Joy, a Study of Philippians, by Deb Burma.** Please see the table below to identify which study works best for you! If you have questions, contact the facilitator listed for the session you plan to attend. New moms welcome any time! Masks are required at these studies, per Covid guidelines.

	<b>Tuesday Evening M.O.M.s</b>	<b>Thursday Morning M.O.M.s</b>	<b>Thursday Afternoon M.O.M.s</b>
<b>When:</b>	<b>February 16-April 27</b> 7-8:30pm, <b>NO CHILDCARE</b>	<b>February 18-April 29</b> 8:30-10:00am (can drop children off in childcare at 8:10) <b>CHILDCARE PROVIDED</b>	<b>February 18-April 29</b> 1-2:30pm, <b>NO CHILDCARE</b>
<b>Where:</b>	Thalia Londgren’s house	Peace Lutheran Church	Mt. Olive Social Hall
<b>Study:</b>	<u>Joy, a Study of Philippians</u>	<u>Joy, a Study of Philippians</u>	<u>Joy, a Study of Philippians</u>
<b>Facilitator:</b>	Rachel Ulrich, <a href="mailto:renderle@gmail.com">renderle@gmail.com</a> &Thalia Londgren, <a href="mailto:thalia.pollard@blc.edu">thalia.pollard@blc.edu</a>	Heidi Graham, <a href="mailto:heidijennifergraham@gmail.com">heidijennifergraham@gmail.com</a>	Kristen Lukasek, <a href="mailto:mattlukasek@yahoo.com">mattlukasek@yahoo.com</a>