



EPIPHANY 1

Sunday, January 17, 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.

Explanation of the Week: *In the days of Solomon, the Lord dwelt among His people in the temple. The glory of the Lord filled the house of the Lord in the form of a cloud. (1 Ki 8:6-13) Now He who is the glory of the Lord in the flesh, Jesus, enters the temple to show that He is Himself the everlasting temple and dwelling place of God. (Lk 2:41-52) Our young Lord, true man, subject to His mother Mary and Joseph, reveals Himself also to be true God, whose father is not Joseph but the Almighty Father in heaven. Jesus does this at the time of the Passover. For He came to be the sacrificial Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Even as He was found after three days, so He would later rise from the dead on the third day that the favor of God might rest also upon us. It is by these mercies of God that we present our bodies a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God through Christ. (Rom 12:1-5)*

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 Hymn 172, vv. 1, 4 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise**

*1. Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise;
Manifested by the star
To the sages from afar,
Branch of royal David's stem
In Thy birth at Bethlehem:
Anthems be to Thee addressed,
Word in flesh made manifest.*

*4. Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord,
Mirrored in Thy holy Word;
May we imitate Thee now
And be pure, as pure art Thou;
That we like to Thee may be
At Thy great epiphany,
And may praise Thee, ever blest,
God for all made manifest.*

~**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. 60-61, I; 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: Let us bow before the Lord and confess our sins.

C: **O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them, and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy**

and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: I ask each of you, in the presence of God who searches the heart: Do you confess that you have sinned, and do you repent of your sins?

C: I do.

P: Do you believe that Jesus Christ has redeemed you from all your sins, and do you desire forgiveness in His name?

C: I do.

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. May He comfort your heart by His holy Absolution, and strengthen you by His Sacraments, that your joy may be full. Peace be with you!

C: Amen

~Introit

P: I saw the Lord, sitting on a throne, high and lifted up. I heard the voice of a great multitude saying,

C: "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!"

P: Make a joyful shout to the Lord, all you lands.

C: Serve the Lord with gladness, Come before His presence with singing.

All: 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

(ELH p. 63, form 1)

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

~Gloria in Excelsis Deo

(ELH p. 64-66)

P: Glory be to God on high:

C: ♪ And on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You, for Your great glory. O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. You take away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. You are seated at the right hand of God the Father, have

mercy upon us. For You only are holy. You only are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

~**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. 149 #20)

P: O Lord God, we beseech You mercifully to receive the prayers of Your people who call upon You; and grant that they might both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and by Your merciful help may faithfully perform them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: ♪ Amen.

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**

Romans 12:1-5 Therefore I urge you, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice—holy and pleasing to God—which is your appropriate worship. Also, do not continue to conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that you test and approve what is the will of God—what is good, pleasing, and perfect. So by the grace given to me, I tell everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought, but think in a way that results in sound judgment, as God distributed a measure of faith to each of you. For we have many members in one body, and not all the members have the same function. In the same way, though we are many, we are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

~**Alleluia** — *"God Be Praised"*

(ELH p. 67)

C: ♪ Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

~Holy Gospel Lesson

P: The Holy Gospel for the first Sunday after Epiphany is written in the 2nd chapter of the Gospel according to St. Luke, beginning at the 41st verse.

C: ♪ Glory be to You, O Lord!

Luke 2:41-52 Every year his parents traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. When he was twelve years old, they went up according to the custom of the Festival. When the days had ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it. Since they thought he was in their group, they went a day's journey. Then they began to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us this way? See, your father and I have been anxiously looking for you." He said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be taking care of my Father's business?" They did not understand what he was telling them. He went down with them and came to Nazareth. He was always obedient to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and with people.

C: ♪ Praise be to You, O Christ!

~Nicene Creed — *Confession of faith*

(ELH p. 69)

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 182, v. 6 *I Have Naught, My God, to Offer*

*6. I have naught, my God, to offer,
Save the blood of Thy dear Son;
Graciously accept the proffer:
Make His righteousness mine own.
His holy life gave He, was crucified for me;
His righteousness perfect He now pleads before Thee;
His own robe of righteousness, my highest good,
Shall clothe me in glory, through faith in His blood.*

~Old Testament Lesson & Sermon Text

Isaiah 61:1-3 The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me
to preach good news to the afflicted.
He sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim freedom for the captives
and release for those who are bound,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor
and the day of vengeance for our God,
to comfort all who mourn,
to provide for those who mourn in Zion,
to give them a crown of beauty instead of ashes,
the oil of joy instead of mourning,
a cloak of praise instead of a faint spirit,
so that they will be called oaks of righteousness,
a planting of the Lord to display his beauty.

~Sermon Message

"An Amazing Exchange"

- 1. It's offered by the anointed Savior.*
- 2. Offered to afflicted people.*

~**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)

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.

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

(ELH p. 72 ff.; 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.

C: ♪ We lift them up unto the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C: ♪ It is good and right so to do.

~Epiphany Preface

(ELH p. 74)

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; and now we praise You that You sent us Your only-begotten Son and that in Him, being found in fashion as a Man, You manifested the fullness of Your glory. 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. 76)

C: ♪ Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heav’n and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

~Lord’s Prayer

(ELH p. 77-78; 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. 78; 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.”

~The Pax Domini — *“The Peace of the Lord”*

(ELH p. 79; Jn 20:19)

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: ♪ Amen.

~Agnus Dei — *“Lamb of God”*

(ELH p. 79ff; 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 148, vv. 1, 3, 6, 7 Praise God the Lord

*1. Praise God the Lord, ye sons of men,
Before His highest throne;
Today He opens heav'n again
And gives us His own Son,
And gives us His own Son.*

*3. He veils in flesh His pow'r divine
A servant's form to take;
In want and lowliness must pine
Who heav'n and earth did make,
Who heav'n and earth did make.*

*6. A wondrous change which He does make!
He takes our flesh and blood,
And He conceals for sinners' sake
His majesty of God,
His majesty of God.*

*7. He serves that I a lord may be;
A great exchange indeed!
Could Jesus' love do more for me
To help me in my need,
To help me in my need?*

~Hymn 182, vv. 8, 9, 10 *Jesus In Thy Cross Are Centered*

*8. Jesus, in Thy cross are centered
All the marvels of Thy grace;
Thou, my Savior, once hast entered
Through Thy blood the holy place:
Thy sacrifice holy there wrought
my redemption,
From Satan's dominion I now have
exemption;
The way is now free to the Father's
high throne,
Where I may approach Him, in Thy
name alone.*

*9. Joys unnumbered, peace and blessing,
Are the comforts full and free,
Richly now I am possessing,
For my Savior shepherds me.
How sweet the communion, beyond all
expression,
To have Thee, O Jesus, as my heart's
possession.
O nothing in me can such ardor unfold
As when I Thee, Savior, in faith shall
behold.*

*10. Henceforth Thou alone, my Savior,
Shalt be all in all to me.
Search my heart and my behavior,
Cast out all hypocrisy.
Restrain me from wand'ring in pathways unholy,
And throughout life's pilgrimage keep my heart lowly;
I'll value but lightly earth's treasure and store:
Thou art the One needful, and mine evermore!*

~Hymn 173, vv. 1-4 *The Star Proclaims the King Is Here*

*1. The star proclaims the King is here;
But, Herod, why this senseless fear?
He takes no realms of earth away
Who gives the realms of heav'nly day.*

*2. The wiser Magi see from far
And follow on His guiding star;
And, led by light, to Light they press
And by their gifts their God confess.*

*3. Within the Jordan's crystal flood
In meekness stands the Lamb of God
And, sinless, sanctifies the wave,
Mankind from sin to cleanse and save.*

*4. At Cana first His pow'r is shown;
His might the blushing waters own
And, changing as He speaks the word,
Flow wine, obedient to their Lord.*

~Dismissal — Assurance of blessing for those who have communed (ELH p. 81)

P: The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, and His precious blood strengthen and preserve you in the true faith to everlasting life. Depart in peace. Amen.

~**Nunc Dimittis** — *“Now I Depart”*

(ELH p. 81-82; Lk 2:29-32)

C: ♪ Lord, now You let Your servant depart in peace according to Your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which You have prepared before the face of all people, a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Your people Israel. 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.

~**Collect of Thanksgiving**

(ELH p. 82, 1)

P: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

C: ♪ And His mercy endures forever.

P: Let us pray: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through these salutary gifts, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through them in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: ♪ Amen.

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

(ELH p. 84)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ And with your spirit.

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

(ELH p. 84; 2 Cor. 13:14)

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: ♪ Thanks be to God.

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

(ELH p. 84; 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 173, v. 5 All Glory, Jesus, Be to Thee**

*5. All glory, Jesus, be to Thee
For this Thy glad epiphany,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Ghost forevermore.*

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

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

*Liturgist/Preacher: Pastor John Petersen
Organist: 1st Service: Dennis Marzolf
Pianist 2nd Service: Lexi Fosburgh
Monday Pianist: Lexi Fosburgh*

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE:

Sunday: 8:30am, 120; 10:45am, 111;

Sunday Live Online Viewing: 77

Monday: 23

SERVING OUR LORD THIS WEEK:

Greeters: 1st Service: Keith Anderson and Mark & Vivian Smith

2nd Service: Connie Meyer

Offering Counters: Steve Lussky; Jon Pfeffer

Altar Guild: Connie Gullixson; Connie Meyer

Weekly Financial Update:

Given Last Week: \$39,537.10 (includes text & on-line giving)

Fiscal Year To Date Surplus (as of 12/31/20): \$21,120

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

Catch Mt. Olive Worship Services Online at 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 and click on the link "**DONATE ONLINE**".*

*Or **TEXT 833-726-3742 along with the amount you wish to donate.** Or **Mail** your offering to the church office.*

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

WEEK AT A GLANCE: *January 17, 2021 – January 24, 2021*

Sunday, January 17	8:30AM 9:40AM 10:45AM	Divine Service with Holy Communion SS/BIC/Bible Class/Sr. Youth Divine Service with Holy Communion
Mon., Jan. 18	6:30PM 7PM	NO SCHOOL Divine Service with Holy Communion Board of Stewardship
Tues, Jan. 19	6:30PM	Jesus Cares Ministry
Wed, Jan. 20	8:05AM 9AM 4PM	CDS Chapel Bible Study Confirmation Classes
Thurs., Jan. 21		
Fri., Jan. 22		
Sat, Jan. 23		
Sunday, January 24	8:30AM 9:40AM 10:45AM	Divine Service SS/BIC/Bible Class/Sr. Youth Divine Service

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please pick up your 2021 offering envelopes from the table in the narthex.

Consider signing up for Sunday 9:40 AM coffee & treats: the sign-up link is at the bottom of the Mount Olive web site. Thank you to those who have graciously provided treats thus far.

Bethany Lutheran College

Job Postings: Bethany Lutheran College is actively searching for an additional Business Professor and a Computer Systems Specialist in the IT department. More information on these jobs can be found at www.blc.edu/jobs.

Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School

MVLHS Director of Mission Advancement Position Open MVLHS 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.