



2ND LAST SUNDAY

Sunday, November 15, 2020, 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

Explanation of the Week: *The Lord Jesus will return in glory on the Last Day with all His holy angels. We are told, "When the Son of Man comes...all the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats." (Matthew 25:31-46). Though it is a serious and fearsome day, God's people have nothing to fear. Eternal destruction does not belong to them—instead, we will be found as those "glorified among his saints." (2 Thessalonians 1:3-10) As we await that last day, we can do so as Isaiah encourages us to, "Lifting up our voices with strength...not afraid!" (Isaiah 40:9-11) We have peace as this final day approaches—peace that comes to us through our Baptisms and as we receive the Lord's Supper. Therefore, we can join Simeon in singing: "Lord, now You let Your servant depart in peace according to Your word." (Nunc Dimittis)*



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 101 The King Shall Come**

1. *The King shall come when morning dawns
And light triumphant breaks,
When beauty gilds the eastern hills
And life to joy awakes.*

2. *Not as of old a little child,
To bear and fight and die,
But crowned with glory like the sun
That lights the morning sky.*

3. *O brighter than the rising morn
When Christ, victorious, rose
And left the lonesome place of death
Despite the rage of foes.*

4. *O brighter than that glorious morn
Shall dawn upon our race
The day when Christ in splendor comes
And we shall see His face.*

5. *The King shall come when morning dawns
And light and beauty brings.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray:
Come quickly, King of kings.*

~**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 Psalm*

(ELH p. 62; Psalm 54)

P: Save me, O God, by Your name,
and vindicate me by Your strength.
Hear my prayer, O God;
give ear to the words of my mouth.
For strangers have risen up against me;
they have not set God before them.
Behold, God is my helper;
the Lord is with those who uphold my life.
He will repay my enemies for their evil.
Cut them off in Your truth.
He has delivered me out of all trouble,
and my eye has seen its desire upon my enemies.

~**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, 1; Mk 10:47)

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

~**Gloria in Excelsis Deo**— *“Glory to God in the Highest”*

(ELH p. 64-66; Lk 2:14; Jn 1:29)

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. 165 #133)

P: O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit, that, being ever mindful of the end of all things and the day of Your last judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You forever hereafter; 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.)

~Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 40:9-11 Get up on a high mountain, O Zion, you herald of good news. Lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, you herald of good news. Lift it up! Do not be afraid! Say to the cities of Judah, “Here is your God!” Look, God the Lord will come with strength, and his arm is ruling for him. Look, his reward is with him. The result of his work is in front of him. Like a shepherd he will care for his flock. With his arm he will gather the lambs. He will lift them up on his lap. He will gently lead the nursing mothers.

C: ♪ Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

~Holy Gospel Lesson

P: The Holy Gospel for the 2nd Last Sunday is written in the 25th chapter of the Gospel according to St. Matthew, beginning at the 31st verse.

C: ♪ Glory be to You, O Lord!

Matthew 25:31-46 “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was lacking clothes and you clothed me. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me.’ “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or lacking clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ “The King will answer them, ‘Amen I tell you: Just as you did it for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it for me.’ “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire, which is prepared for the Devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you did not give me food to eat. I was thirsty and you did not give me anything to drink. I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, lacking clothes and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not take care of me.’ “Then they will also answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or lacking clothes or sick or in prison and did not serve you?’ “At that time he will answer them, ‘Amen I tell you: Just as you did not do it for one of the least of these, you did not do it for me.’ And they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”

P: This is the Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

C: ♪ Praise be to You, O Christ!

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 532, vv. 7-10 *They Who Sorrow Here And Moan*

*7. They who sorrow here and moan
There in gladness shall be reigning;
Earthly here the seed is sown,
There immortal life attaining.
Here our sinful bodies die,
Glorified to dwell on high.*

*8. Then take comfort and rejoice,
For His members Christ will cherish
Fear not, they will hear His voice;
Dying, they shall never perish;
For the very grave is stirred
When the trumpet's blast is heard.*

*9. Laugh to scorn the gloomy grave
And at death no longer tremble;
He, the Lord, who came to save,
Will at last His own assemble.
They will go their Lord to meet,
Treading death beneath their feet.*

*10. O that ye would set your hearts
High above all earthly pleasures.
Take instead what He imparts
Who hath giv'n you lasting treasures.
There your heart's affections give
Where ye shall forever live.*

~Epistle Lesson & Sermon Text

2 Thessalonians 1:3-10 We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is fitting, because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all abounds toward each other, so that we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure, which is manifest evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer; since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed.

~Sermon Message

"A Meaningful Compliment"

1. *Meaningful, because it comes from Christ Himself.*
2. *And, because it's true.*
3. *And, because it's so needful!*

~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.

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.

~Proper Preface

(ELH p. 73, 75)

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God; but chiefly are we bound to praise You for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; for He is the very Paschal Lamb, which was offered for us and has taken away the sins of the world. By His death He has destroyed death, and by His rising to life again He has restored to

us everlasting life Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

~**Sanctus** — *“Holy”*

(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 hymn:)

~Hymn 539 Jerusalem, My Happy Home

1. *Jerusalem, my happy home,
Name ever dear to me!
When shall my labors have an end?
Thy joys when shall I see?*

2. *O happy harbor of the saints!
O sweet and pleasant soil!
In thee no sorrow may be found,
No grief, no care, no toil.*

3. *In thee no sickness may be seen,
No hurt, no ache, no sore;
In thee there is no dread of death,
But life forevermore.*

4. *Thy saints are crowned with glory great;
They see God face to face;
They triumph still, they still rejoice:
Most happy is their case.*

5. *There David stands with harp in hand
As master of the choir;
Ten thousand times that man were blest
That might this music hear.*

6. *There Mary signs Magnificat
With tune surpassing sweet;
And all the virgins chant their parts,
Sitting about her feet.*

7. *There Magdalene hath left her moan
And cheerfully doth sing
With blessed saints whose harmony
In ev'ry street doth ring.*

8. *Apostles, martyrs, prophets there
Around my Savior stand;
And soon my friends in Christ below
Will join the glorious band.*

9. *Jerusalem, my happy home!
My soul still pants for thee;
Then shall my labors have an end,
When I thy joy shall see.*

~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. 83, 11)

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup;

C: ♪ We proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

P: Let us pray: O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in lovingkindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; 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 98, v. 4 *Yea, Amen, Let All Adore Thee*

*4. Yea, amen, let all adore Thee,
High on Thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the pow'r and glory,
Claim the kingdom for Thine own.
O come quickly, O come quickly, O come quickly!
Alleluia! Come, Lord, come!*

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

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

*Liturgist/Preacher: Pastor John Petersen
Organist: 1st Service: Cassie Johnson
Organist: 2nd Service: Mark DeGarmeaux
Monday Service: Kristin Matzke*

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE:
Sunday: 8:30am, 135; 10:45am, 132
Monday: 20

SERVING OUR LORD THIS WEEK:
Greeters: 1st Service: Deb Johnson, Mark & Vivian Smith;
2nd Service: Lois Johnson, Keith Anderson
Offering Counters: Seth Ferkenstad, Joe Meyer
Altar Guild: Carol Petersen, Sherri Bukowski

Weekly Financial Update:
Given Last Week: \$12,093.95 (includes text & on-line giving)
Fiscal Year To Date Deficit (as of 10/31/20): \$16,900

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: *November 15, 2020 – November 22, 2020*

Sunday, November 15	8:30AM	Divine Service with Holy Communion
	9:40AM	SS/BIC/Bible Class/Sr. Youth
	10:45AM	Divine Service with Holy Communion
Mon., Nov. 16	6:30PM	Divine Service with Holy Communion
	6:30PM	Board of Stewardship
Tues., Nov. 17	6:30PM	Jesus Cares Ministry
	7PM	M.O.M.s Bible Study (Ulrich Home)
Wed, Nov. 18	8:05AM	CDS Chapel
	9AM	Bible Study
	4PM	Confirmation Classes
	6:30PM	PTF Large Group Meeting
Thurs., Nov. 19	8:30AM	M.O.M.s Bible Study (Peace)
	1PM	M.O.M.s Bible Study (Mt Olive Social Hall)
	7PM	Altar Guild Meeting (Social Hall)
Fri., Nov. 20		
Sat, Nov. 21	9AM	Long Range Planning Committee Meeting
Sunday, November 22	8:30AM	Divine Service
	9:40AM	SS/BIC/Bible Class/Sr. Youth
	10:45AM	Divine Service

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flowers on the altar today are given to God’s glory by Antonino Guerrero Jr.

Coffee & treat volunteers: We are looking for more volunteers who are willing to make coffee before our services, pick up treats, and serve them for our Sunday morning Bible Study. If you would like to volunteer please go to the Mount Olive website and click on the link at the bottom of the page titled "Coffee Servers Sign Up". If you have any questions, please contact Sam Barbosa. Email: sambarbosa3@gmail.com or call/text: (507) 382- 4928.

Altar Guild Meeting: Thursday, November 19th @ 7pm in the Social Hall. We are always looking for new members! Please join us if you are interested in learning more about the Altar Guild. Questions? Contact Sharon Madson sdmadson@hickorytech.net or 507-351-4516.

Military and Veteran Info Needed: In the social hall there is a display honoring our military and veterans. We need to update our veteran list and display. Please send a picture and information (including branch and dates of service) to Lois Johnson Lannej12@gmail.com.

After School Care is in need of buttons, rik rak, yarn, and narrow ribbon for Christmas crafts. Thank you!

Food Drive: Out of gratitude and great love for our Savior we hope you will join us in sharing the abundance we have with those in need. Mt. Olive will be collecting non-perishable food donations for ECHO Food Shelf from **Sunday, November 8 through Sunday, November 22**. Please place your donations in the boxes under the band room window. Then stop in the office for a Mt Olive window sticker for your car (1 per household). *Hebrews 13:16 And do not forget to do good and share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.*

Mt. Olive's Annual Thanksgiving Dinner: Due to the current circumstances, we are NOT planning on hosting a Thanksgiving meal at church this year. However, our Evangelism Committee is working to gather food items to supply Thanksgiving dinner for the homeless youth in the Mankato area. The staff at 'The Reach' shelter has 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!

Blood Drive at Mt Olive Friday, November 27th from 10am-3pm To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-733-2767 or visit their website at www.redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code MTOLIVEKATO. 1 pint can save 3 lives!

Job Opening: New 2 You is seeking a part-time person to work at the thrift store. We need someone who can work up to 15 hours a week. You would be helping with donations, sorting, pricing, and other duties to maintain the store. This is a great job for retired people or someone looking for a fun, Christian environment to work in. If interested please contact Christine at 507-385-1455 or send an email to New2YouFamilyThrift@gmail.com.



New 2 You Family Thrift Holiday Hours:

Extended Holiday hours during November and December only. New 2 You will be open 9:30 am to 4:00 p.m. We are looking for volunteers to work our two shifts at the register.

9:00 am - 1:00 pm morning shift

12:00 pm - 4:00 pm afternoon shift

Please call New 2 You at 507-385-1455 and talk to Christine or Jen to schedule a time you can help us. As a bonus, we are also celebrating Volunteer Appreciation Month in November. The day our volunteers work they can purchase all items at half price for the month of November. New 2 You donates 75% of proceeds to MVL to support Christian Education, the other 25% is split between the WELS/ELS churches in Mankato, North Mankato & Nicollet. Thank you for considering to give of your time at New 2 You.

Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School

Spirit of MVL Virtual Gala & Auction

The Spirit of MVL Recognition Reception and Gala are combining and going virtual with the fitting theme Together in Spirit. Please join us online on Saturday, November 21, 7-8pm! We'll be honoring the 2020 Spirit of MVL award recipients, John Apitz, Lynn & Dan Hacker, and Fred & Joy Struck; auctioning awesome items; and raising funds for our livestream technology project and the Partnership Fund. Virtual door prizes and the Appeal to the Heart open Thursday, November 19. Register today at www.spiritofmvl.givesmart.com! Contact Kristin Matzke for questions: kmatzke@mvlhs.org or 507-233-8662.

MVL Wreath Sales

The annual Christmas wreath and greenery sales are going digital this year. Visit mvlwreaths.givesmart.com to place your order, or call the MVL office at 507-354-6851. Orders must be placed by Sunday, November 15 in order to pick-up at your church before Thanksgiving. Not only will you get to enjoy the scents of Christmas, but you'll also be helping fund the purchase of new hymnals for students to use in chapel!

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.

ELS Military Monument Project:

As you probably have heard the goal of this project is to construct a beautiful tribute to our veterans on Bethany Lutheran College campus. The monument will serve to honor any and all veterans and ensure that this and future generations will be aware of the cost of the freedoms they enjoy as citizens of our great nation through this God-pleasing vocation of warrior. The ELS Military Monument Committee has established a Veteran's Day 2020 through Memorial Day 2021 Matching Funds Challenge. We invite all donors to double the impact of their offering from Nov. 11, 2020 – May 31, 2021. We already have commitments of a \$32,600 match and expect in the weeks to come that we will be increasing this amount and will announce periodically when the match amount is increased. These donors are challenging us in the ELS and beyond to give to this worthwhile project. Please consider a generous (tax deductible) contribution to be matched dollar for dollar during this designated time period. (While not part of this match offer, we continue to encourage contributions honoring individual veterans with engraved pavers, benches and branch pillars to be part of the site. Ordering information is available on our website: www.els.org/monument).

Donor Recognition:

Donors that donate amounts of \$1000.00 and more, other than Bench and Pillar purchases, will have the opportunity to have their name engraved on the 3-foot by 12-foot monument base. These donors will be recognized in three categories.

Those donating \$1000 to \$4999 will have their name inscribed in the Bronze Donor Level list.

Those donating \$5000 to \$9999 will have their name inscribed in the Silver Donor Level list.

Those donating \$10,000 and above will have their name inscribed in the Gold Donor Level list.



Lutheran Military Support Group AMMO Can Campaign

As Veterans Day approaches, Lutheran Military Support Group (LMSG) is seeking donations in support of our military men, women and their families. LMSG, a partnership of ELS and WELS veterans, is working to grow awareness of and bring Christian support to military members and their families in our congregations and beyond. By placing your gift in the AMMO can located in the narthex, you are supporting the work of local congregations that are ministering to nearby military families, the WELS chaplain program, the MCP (Military Contact Pastor program training and more. Questions? Visit www.lutheranmilitary.org.

THANK YOU for standing shoulder to shoulder with those serving our nation!!



No End in Sight

When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come (Mark 13:7).

They thought it would be the war to end all wars. They told the Soldiers in August of 1914 that they would be home before the leaves fell.

Neither turned out to be true.

By the time that war ended, 20 million were killed and 21 million were wounded.

Then, the children of those Soldiers marched off to the next war— with even more casualties.

Another war followed. Then another one. And the end of wars has not yet come.

There is no end in sight.

That can be a frightening thought. But it should come as no surprise. It merely affirms what Jesus said thousands of years and uncounted wars ago.

War will end when time ends.

We may find ourselves asking, “Why?” Is this God’s way of punishing us? Should we not work to end wars? Should we not pray for that?

We regularly do pray, *“Where there are wars, let there be peace.”*
Is Jesus telling us there will never be peace? Is our prayer useless?

Never! Jesus is the Prince of Peace!

So, why does he tell us that such things as wars must happen?

Because it is true. So that we do not despair. He still rules.

The Bible points to the cause of wars. It asks, *“What causes fights and quarrels among you?”* Then it answers, *“Don’t they come from your desires that battle within you?”* (James 4:1)

Wars fought on blood-soaked battlefields are extensions of the wars fought inside of us.

There is such a thing as evil in this world. Evil always threatens peace, always seeks to harm, always seeks to kill.

Evil must always be resisted, or it will overwhelm and rule.

We need to expect wars to take place until the end of time because evil will be with us until then.

The thought can be depressing—and scary. Until we remember that the Lord of the Nations is in control.

Yet that does not mean that we cannot have times of peace. Our nation has had long years of peace between wars. That has been a special blessing from the Lord of Nations. We must thank him for that and implore him to grant that blessing in days to come.

Wars will continue. But peace is something we can have now.

Peace inside of us. Peace of mind. Peace with God.

Our veterans need to know that. They need to have that peace.

We pray that they might have it.

We strive to share that peace with them.

It is the very best way to thank a Vet.

“And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:7).



LUTHERAN MILITARY
SUPPORT GROUP
Shoulder to Shoulder in Service

From the Mt. Olive Deacons:

Dear Mt. Olive Family and Friends: We acknowledge that there are wide differences of opinions concerning COVID19 and that these opinions are constantly changing day by day. We understand that everyone has a different comfort level for gathering together. We appreciate how people's consciences are affected differently as they consider their own personal situations, families, and lives. We also recognize that our members have individual spiritual needs that must be met.

As our church works to meet the challenges before us, we humbly request your continued prayers for our church and school, our church leadership, pastors and teachers; we appeal to your patience and perseverance as we continue to wrestle through these things; and we also ask that you, our members, might approach one another with love, putting the best construction on each other, refraining from trying to judge the hearts of our fellow members for the choices that they are making. Let us instead rejoice that in spite of our differences of opinions, we are still united together by faith in our Savior Jesus Christ.

Moving forward, our intention is to be able to provide opportunities for all of our members to be able to receive the Means of Grace and Worship. With this goal in mind, **we are going to be making some adjustments to our Worship Services, beginning Sunday, November 15th:**

Sunday, 8:30am Service – Face Coverings required (No exemptions please).
Congregational singing of liturgy and hymns. Return to our regular liturgies.
Live-Streamed and archived online for those who remain at home.

Sunday, 10:45am Service – Face Coverings (We ask that those who have a face covering exemption to please attend this service). Singing. Regular liturgical forms.

Monday, 6:30pm Service – (Designed for those who are vulnerable and cautious.)
Face Coverings (no exemptions please). No singing—spoken service.
Abbreviated length.

Please Note:

- **Registration:** At this time, we will **discontinue our online pre-registration**. Instead we will ask that **those who attend our services fill out a “Connect Card”** with name and email/phone and leave it in the offering plate.
- **Communion:** Our practice for **Holy Communion will continue as it has been**. Those who request to take of the Common Cup may do so from the pastor when they come forward. Our Deacons will be continuing to review and discuss our communion distribution process in the coming months.
- **Social Distancing:** We do ask that everyone take special care to maintain appropriate distancing between households. Please **use the pews labeled “1”** for

the 8:30am Service, and “2” for the 10:45am Service. Please follow the direction of the Ushers who will be working to ensure social distancing. We ask those attending **Monday Services to seat themselves at appropriate distances.**

- **Face Covering Exemptions:** If you have an exemption to wearing a face covering, we invite you to use that exemption. (You can find the exemptions listed in paragraph 8 of EO 20-81 – <https://www.leg.mn.gov/archive/execorders/20-81.pdf>) We do ask that **if you have an exemption, you would attend our 10:45am Sunday Service.** We trust our members to honestly determine for themselves if they qualify for an exemption—we ask our other members to not be judgmental of those who are using an exemption. Executive Order 20-81 does not apply to children under the age of 5. **Children are welcome at all of our Services.**
- **Feeling Ill?** Please stay at home. We would invite those who are sick or have any symptoms to watch our service online.
- **If You Feel Hesitant or Uncomfortable:** If you are struggling to determine which service you would be comfortable to attend, please speak with one of our Pastors. If you desire extra space or would like to leave early, we can make arrangements for you to do this (i.e. we would suggest requesting a seat in our Narthex.). If you do not yet feel as if it is time to return to in-person worship, we do ask that you reach out to our Pastors who want to minister to your needs and share communion individually with you in ways that you find comfortable.

We continue to monitor the situations before us. We want people to feel safe as they come to God’s house. We also want our people to have the comfort of Word and Sacrament in this time of distress—that which keeps us safe from Satan and death. Please consider which service is right for you to attend. Our Pastors and Deacons are also available to you if you have any questions or feedback that you would like to share. Please don’t hesitate to contact them.

In closing, please consider St. Paul’s encouragement in Ephesians 4:1-6 *“I urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called. ² Live with all humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another in love. ³ Make every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in the one hope of your calling. ⁵ There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all, and through all, and in us all.”* Thank You!

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