



SEPTUAGESIMA

Sunday, February 12, 2017, 8:30 & 10:45am

Mount Olive Lutheran Church & School, ELS

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

Pastors John J. Petersen & Luke Ulrich / Principal Larry Rude

Welcome! In the name of our risen Savior we welcome you to Mt. Olive and thank you for worshipping with us this morning. If you are a guest please fill out a **Guest Card** (found in front of you in the hymnbook rack) or sign our guest book in the entry. We invite you to come and worship with us again soon. **Large Print** copies of the order of service from the ELS Hymnary are available from the usher stand in the back of the sanctuary. **For the Hearing Impaired:** Our facility is equipped with a hearing assistance system. Please ask an usher for a receiver.

Explanation of the Week:

The people of Israel contended with the Lord in the wilderness. (Ex 17:1-7) They were dissatisfied with His provision. In the same way, the first laborers in the vineyard complained against the landowner for the wage he provided them. (Mt 20:1-16) They charged him with being unfair. But in fact he was not being unfair but generous. The Lord does not wish to deal with us on the basis of what we deserve but on the basis of His abounding grace in Christ. The first, those who rely on their own merits, will be last. "Their bodies were scattered in the wilderness." But the last, those who rely on Christ, will be first. For Christ is the Rock. (1 Cor 9:24-10:5) He is the One who was struck and from whose side blood and water flowed that we may be cleansed of our sin. Therefore, "Let him who glories, glory in the Lord." (Jer 9:23-24)

~Prelude

~Boys Choir, "Praise God, Ye Servants of the Lord"

*Praise God, ye servants of the Lord,
O praise His name with one accord;
Bless ye the Lord, His name adore
From this time forth forevermore.*

*From rising unto setting sun
Praised be the Lord, the Mighty One;
He reigns o'er all, supreme in might,
Above the heav'ns in glory bright.*

*On whom but God can we rely,
The Lord our God who reigns on high,
Who condescends to see and know
The things of heav'n and earth below?*

***C: Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.***

~Hymn 226, By Grace I'm Saved

(Boys Choir, vv. 1-2; All, vv 3-4)

~Girls Choir, "Not Unto Us" – Kurt J. Eggert

*Not unto us, not unto us be glory, Lord;
Not unto us but to your name be praise;
Not unto us but to your name all honor be giv'n
For matchless mercy, forgiveness, and grace.*

*Amazing grace -- that chose us e'er the worlds were made;
Amazing grace -- that sent your Son to save;
Amazing grace -- that robed us in your righteousness
And taught our lips to sing glory and praise.*

*O faithful love -- that shepherded through faithless years;
Forgiving love -- that led us to your truth;
Unyielding love -- that would not let us turn from you
But sent us forth to speak pardon and peace.*

*Not unto us but to your name be glory, Lord,
For grace so rich, so wide, so high, so free.
Abide with us till trav'ling days are over and done,
And pilgrim feet lead us home, Lord, to you.*

~Prayer

C: Lord God, heavenly Father, through Your holy Word You have called us into Your vineyard: Send, we beseech You, Your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may labor faithfully in Your vineyard, shun sin and all offense, obediently keep Your Word and do Your will, and put our whole and only trust in Your grace, which You have bestowed upon us so abundantly; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, that we may obtain eternal salvation through Him; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

~Girls Choir, "God Is My Strong Salvation" – Richard Shephard

*God is my strong salvation; no enemy I fear;
He hears my supplication, dispelling all my care;
If he, my head and master, defend me from above,
What pain or what disaster can part me from his love?*

*I fully am persuaded, and joyfully declare,
I'm never left unaided, my Father hears my prayer.
His comforts never fail me, He stands at my right hand;
When tempests fierce assail me, they're calm at his command.*

*The ground of my profession is Jesus and his blood.
He giveth me possession of everlasting good.*

*My merry heart is springing, it can no more be sad;
With laughter and with singing, in God's own sunshine glad.
For Christ is now preparing his City new and bright;
Where saints his throne are sharing, and faith is turned to sight.*

~Hymn 226 vv. 8-10 *By Grace to Timid Hearts That Tremble*

~Old Testament Lesson

Exodus 17:1-7 Then all the congregation of the children of Israel set out on their journey from the Wilderness of Sin, according to the commandment of the Lord, and camped in Rephidim; but there was no water for the people to drink. Therefore the people contended with Moses, and said, "Give us water, that we may drink." So Moses said to them, "Why do you contend with me? Why do you tempt the Lord?" And the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses, and said, "Why is it you have brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, saying, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me!" And the Lord said to Moses, "Go on before the people, and take with you some of the elders of Israel. Also take in your hand your rod with which you struck the river, and go. Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it, that the people may drink." And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel. So he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the contention of the children of Israel, and because they tempted the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

~Hymn 227 vv. 6-7 *As Christ Hath Full Atonement Made*

~Gospel Lesson

Matthew 20:1-16 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. Now when he had agreed with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And he went out about the third hour and saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right I will give you.' So they went. Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour, and did likewise. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing idle, and said to them, 'Why have you been standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right you will receive.' "So when evening had come, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, 'Call the laborers and give them their wages, beginning with the last to the first.' And when those came who were hired about the eleventh hour, they each received a denarius.

But when the first came, they supposed that they would receive more; and they likewise received each a denarius. And when they had received it, they complained against the landowner, saying, 'These last men have worked only one hour, and you made them equal to us who have borne the burden and the heat of the day.' But he answered one of them and said, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what is yours and go your way. I wish to give to this last man the same as to you. Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with my own things? Or is your eye evil because I am good?' So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few chosen."

~**Apostles' Creed** (p. 46)

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 286 *Rock of Ages***

~**Epistle Lesson & Sermon Text**

1 Corinthians 9:24-10:5 Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified. Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in

the sea, all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.

~Sermon Theme

“A Prize Worth Striving For”

~Offering & Hymn 229 vv 1-4 *By Faith We Are Divinely Sure*

~The Litany

P: Kyrie eleison.

C: Lord, have mercy upon us.

P: Christe eleison.

C: Christ, have mercy upon us.

P: Kyrie eleison.

C: Lord, have mercy upon us.

P: O Christ, hear us.

C: O Christ, hear us.

P: O God the Father in heaven,

C: Have mercy upon us.

P: O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

C: Have mercy upon us.

P: O God the Holy Ghost, true Comforter,

C: Have mercy upon us.

P: Be gracious unto us.

C: Spare us, good Lord.

P: Be gracious unto us.

C: Help us, good Lord.

P: From all sin; From all error; from all evil;

C: Good Lord, deliver us.

P: From the temptations and assaults of the devil; From sudden and evil death; From disease and famine; From war and bloodshed; From sedition and rebellion; From storms and natural disaster; From all calamity by fire and water; And from everlasting death:

C: Good Lord, deliver us.

P: By the mystery of Your holy Incarnation; By Your holy Nativity; By Your Baptism, Fasting and Temptation; By Your Agony and Bloody Sweat; By Your Cross and Passion; By Your precious Death and Burial; By Your glorious Resurrection and Ascension; And by the coming of the Holy Ghost, the Comforter:

C: Help us, good Lord.

P: In all time of our tribulation; In all time of our prosperity; In the hour of death; And in the Day of Judgment:

C: Help us, good Lord.

P: We poor sinners do beseech You;

C: To hear us, O Lord God.

P: And to lead and govern Your holy Christian church in the right way; To preserve all pastors and servants of Your Church in the true knowledge and understanding of Your Word, and in holiness of life; To put an end to all godless teaching and causes of offense; To bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived; To beat down Satan under our feet; To send faithful laborers into Your harvest; To accompany Your Word with Your Spirit and grace; To raise up those who stand; And to comfort and help the faint-hearted and distressed:

C: We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

P: To give to all nations peace and concord; To preserve our country from discord and contention; To direct and defend our government, and all in authority; And to bless and keep all who administer justice, and all our people:

C: We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

P: To behold and sustain all who are in danger, necessity and tribulation; To protect all who travel; To preserve all women in the perils of childbirth; To strengthen and keep all sick persons and young children; To set free all who are innocently imprisoned; To defend and provide for all fatherless children and widows; and to have mercy on all people:

C: We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

P: To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts; To give and preserve to our use the fruits of the earth; And graciously to hear our prayers:

C: We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.

P: O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God:

C: We beseech You to hear us.

P: O Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;

C: Have mercy upon us.

P: O Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;

C: Have mercy upon us.

P: O Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;

C: Grant us Your peace.

P: O Christ, hear us.

C: O Christ, hear us.

P: Kyrie eleison.

C: Lord, have mercy upon us.

P: Christe eleison.

C: Christ, have mercy upon us.

P: Kyrie eleison.

C: Lord, have mercy upon us.

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.

P: The Lord has not dealt with us according to our sins:

C: The Lord has not punished us according to our iniquities.

P: Lord God Almighty, You do not fail to hear the sighs of the contrite nor disregard the longing of troubled hearts: Behold our prayer which we bring before You in our need and graciously hear us, so that all that strives against us of both the devil and men may come to naught and be scattered by Your good counsel, to the end, that, unharmed by all temptation, we may thank You with Your Church and praise You at all times; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. **C: Amen.**

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen

~Hymn 585 How Blessed Is the Little Flock

Preacher: Pr. Luke Ulrich / Liturgist: Pr. John J. Petersen
Organists: 1st: Cassie Johnson / 2nd: Mark DeGarmeaux
Boys' Choir Director: Larry Rude / Accompanist: Cassie Johnson
Girls' Choir Director: Donna Fosburgh / Accompanist: Lexi Fosburgh & Lois Johnson

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE/LORD'S SUPPER ATTENDANCE

Sunday: 8:30am; 279/181 10:45am; 198/120 Monday: 30/21

GIVEN LAST WEEK FOR THE LORD'S WORK: \$16,986.13

NEEDED EACH WEEK TO MEET ANNUAL BUDGET: \$15,760

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.

Mt. Olive Worship Services on TV:

Mt. Olive services are being shown on local cable channel 181 (Charter) and 7 & 507 (Consolidated Communications) on Wednesdays at 10AM and Thursdays at 11:30AM.

SERVING OUR LORD THIS WEEK

Ushers: 1st Service: Tom Bode (captain), Eli Bode, John Schauer,
Alex Schauer, John Pfeffer

2nd Service: Chris Kind (captain), Larry Rude, Dale Schaffer,
Izayah Harrision, Luke Buelow

Greeters: 1st Service: Dean & Cathy Kluge, Scott & Theresa Dzwonkowski

2nd Service: Steve & Lois Jaeger, Mark & Vivian Smith

Offering Counters: Andy Overn, Chris Kind

Altar Guild: Ellie Fisher, LuAnn Sting

WEEK AT A GLANCE: February 12, 2017 – February 19, 2017

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| Sunday February 12 | 8:30AM 9:40AM 10:45AM Noon 7:30PM | Girls' & Boys' Choirs Sing Divine Service Bible Class/Sunday School/BIC Divine Service Special Voters' Meeting Co-ed Recreational Volleyball |
| Monday February 13 | 9:30AM 10AM 4:45PM 5:30PM 6:30PM 6:30PM | Area Pastors' Conference Veterans' Bible Study Boys B&A & Girls A B-ball teams @ Risen Savior, Mnkt Board of Stewardship Divine Service Church Council |
| Tuesday February 14 | 8AM | Women's Bible Study – <i>Book of Genesis</i> |
| Wednesday February 15 | 8-10AM 8:05AM 9AM 3:45PM 4PM 7PM 7PM | MOM's Bible Study CDS Chapel NO Bible Study – <i>Table of Duties</i> 8 th Grade Confirmation Class 7 th Grade Confirmation Class Choir Luther movie <i>A Return to Grace</i> , w/ advanced tickets |
| Thursday February 16 | | |
| Friday February 17 | TBA | NO School Girls & Boys A teams @ MLC Tournament |
| Saturday February 18 | 9-1PM TBA | Baby Expo at Verizon Events Center Girls & Boys A teams @ MLC Tournament |
| Sunday February 19 | 8:30AM 9:40AM 10:45AM TBA 1PM 2PM 7:30PM | Divine Service w/ Holy Communion Bible Class/Sunday School/BIC Divine Service w/ Holy Communion Girls & Boys A teams @ MLC Tournaments Encourage One Another MVL Delegate Meeting Co-ed Recreational Volleyball |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flowers on the Altar: The flowers beautifying the altar today are given to God's glory by Alan & Ellen Mueller in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Our Monday evening services will be postponed during the Lenten season. The last Monday night service before Easter takes place February 20 and resumes Monday, April 24. Join us for midweek Lenten services starting Ash Wednesday, March 1, at 6:30 PM.

Applications Are Now Being Accepted for the position of part-time office manager assistant here at Mount Olive. Those interested should contact the church office.

Special Voters' Meeting: A special voters' meeting is scheduled for **today at noon**. The purpose for this meeting is to extend a call for an additional upper grade teacher for our school.

The January/February Edition of the Lutheran Sentinel is now available online. Read it on ELS.org.

Kindergarten Round Up has been scheduled for **Thursday, February 23** at Mt. Olive and will begin at 6:30PM. Kindergarten enrollment for next year is open to children who will be 5 by Sept. 1, 2017.

Thank You: Members of Mount Olive, Finnegan Robert is yet another present reminder to us that as parents we are only stewards of God's children. There is a point where we physically have nothing left to do but lay all of our cares in God's hands. What is so amazing is that He promises to answer those prayers! This is the second time that the members of Mount Olive have come to our aid in a time of need. We are so thankful for the generous blessings from this congregation. The meals, rides, and gifts allowed us to focus solely on our family and our faith. Most importantly, though, we are thankful for all of your prayers. God has blessed us beyond measure in answering those prayers and keeping Finnegan safe and healthy. The kindness and generosity displayed by this congregation is an uncommon light in this world and a reflection of God's amazing love for us all. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you. ~ Adam, Nicole, Owen, Autumn, Lillian, and Finnegan Saidler

2017 Directory: The Mt. Olive 2017 Directory is ready for the members of our congregation. Please pick up your copy (one copy per family, please) in the narthex today.

After School Care is in need of children's books. If you have books at home that your children have outgrown, the kids in After School Care would love to read them! Thank you!

Volunteers needed: The Evangelism Committee will be hosting a booth at the Baby Expo on **February 18**, 2017 from 9AM to 1PM, held at the Verizon Event Center. We will be engaging the community by giving away Gospel centered books, pamphlets on our church and school and upcoming programs. If you would like to volunteer to help with this outreach event, please contact Michelle Graham: (507) 720-7258

Kwik Trip Cards: Mt. Olive youth (grades 5-12) are selling Kwik Trip Cards as a fundraiser for our church Youth Groups. The groups currently receive 5% of the profits. Cards are sold between services on **Communion** Sundays year round. Contact Angie Younge: 389-9137 or Rebecca Strom: 386-0372 with questions.

New 2 You: Please continue to support New 2 You by volunteering, making donations, shopping our store, or praying for continued blessings on their efforts. If you would like to become a volunteer please call New2You at 507-385-1455. *~Mt. Olive provides volunteers on the first Saturday of every month. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the narthex.*

Mt. Olive School Scrip Program offers gift cards for purchase for a wide variety of retailers. A percentage of gift card purchases go towards Mt. Olive Tuition. Visit www.shopwithscrip.com to view the 400+ participating retailers. If you have questions or need help getting started email Tanya Norris scrip@mtolivelutheran.org or Tiffany Riesgraf triesgraf@yahoo.com.

Camp VBS 2017 is June 26-30. More information will be coming as summer nears.

Camp Indianhead 2017: Parents who wish to receive information for camp and bus transportation can provide their email on the sheet available on the Narthex table.

Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School

MVL Food Service Assistant Opening: Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School has a part-time position open in the food service at MVL. This position is for about 6 to 6 1/2 hours per day during the school year. Tasks include: food preparation and service, washing dishes and clean up. Individuals interested in this position should contact Principal Tim Plath at MVL at (507) 354-6851 or tplath@mvlhs.org.

Bethany Lutheran College

Adrian Lo Faculty Recital - Tuesday, Feb. 14 at 7 pm in the YFAC Theater - Adrian Lo performs a faculty recital with a full slate of guest musicians, plus Mankato's RakStar Fusion belly dancers. The music of Peter Ostroushko, Steve Cloutier, Beats Antique, Dreadnaughts, Taraf de Haïdouks and more will be performed. Free, and open to the public.

Art Lecture and Reception - Thursday, Feb. 16 at 7 pm in the YFAC gallery. Painter Anna Leigh Biedenbender is an artist currently working in St. Paul and Minneapolis, MN. She received her Bachelor of Art in Art at WLC in Milwaukee, WI, and in 2016 received her Master of Fine Arts degree in Visual Art at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design. Beidenbender's work will be on display February 16 - March 25.

New Music Recital, Thursday, Feb. 23 at 7 pm in Trinity Chapel. In this recital, Bethany students showcase compositions they have written during the academic year. All pieces, representing many musical genres, are performed by Bethany students and Bethany music ensembles. Free, and open to the public.

Community Events/Happenings

One-Night Movie Event: Don't miss this special event: a one-time showing of the new Martin Luther film at: **Carmike Theater on February 15 at 7:00pm, 220 Stadium Rd, Mankato, MN 56001**

IMPORTANT: All tickets must be purchased in advance. Tickets can be purchased at a special web site set up for the screening:

<http://Tugg.com/events/a-return-to-grace-luther-s-life-and-legacy-qmq>

*If you would rather not purchase tickets online, you can purchase tickets through our church contact: **Greg Vandermause (507) 469-4138 or greg@vandermause.com***

A portion of ticket sales are returned to our congregation for our mission and ministry.