



## PALM SUNDAY

Sunday March 25, 2018, 8:30 & 10:45 AM

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. 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:**

*"Behold, your King is coming to you, lowly, and sitting on a donkey." (Zechariah 9:9-12; Matthew 21:1-9) Our Lord rides in this humble fashion because He is entering Jerusalem to humble Himself even to the point of death on a cross. (Philippians 2:5-11) His kingly crown will not be made of gold but of thorns, the sign of sin's curse. For His royal reign is displayed in bearing this curse for His people, saving us from our enemies by sacrificing His own life. The sinless One takes the place of the sinner so that the sinner can be freed and bear the name "Barabbas," "son of the Father." (Matthew 26 and 27) It is at the name of this exalted Savior, Jesus, that we bow in humble faith. With the centurion who declared, "Truly this was the Son of God!" we are given to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

I. *The Service of Preparation*

~**Prelude** *All Glory, Laud, and Honor with Lift High the Cross*, arranged by Stephen DeCesare

~**CDS Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Children's Choir** *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* (ELH 279, vv. 1, 2)

~**Hymn 280, vv. 1, 2, 4** *Ride On, Ride On, in Majesty*

~**Invocation** (p. 60)

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

**C: ♪ Amen.**

~**Confession of Sin** (pp. 60-62, form II)

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** (spoken)

P: Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!

**C: For His mercy endures forever.**

P: The Lord is on my side; I will not fear.

**C: What can man do to me?**

P: Save now, I pray, O Lord;

**C: Hosanna in the highest.**

P: O Lord, I pray, send now prosperity. Hosanna!

**C: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!**

P: Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!

**C: For His mercy endures forever.**

~**Hymn 277, vv. 1, 3, 4 *All Glory, Laud, and Honor***

~**Salutation** (spoken)

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And with your spirit.**

P: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

**C: Hosanna in the highest.**

~**Collect** (p. 66)

P: Let us pray: Almighty and everlasting God, You have caused Your beloved Son to take our nature upon Himself, that He might give us the example of humility and suffer death upon the cross for our sins: Mercifully grant us a believing knowledge of this, that we may follow the example of His patience, and be made partakers of the benefits of His sacred Passion and death; through the same, 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.**

I. *The Service of the Word*

~**Old Testament Lesson**

***Zechariah 9:9-10***

Rejoice greatly, Daughter of Zion!

Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem!

Look! Your King is coming to you.

He is righteous and brings salvation.  
He is humble and is riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.  
I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim  
and the horse from Jerusalem.  
The battle bow will be taken away,  
and he will proclaim peace to the nations.  
His kingdom will extend from sea to sea,  
from the River to the ends of the earth.

~**Lenten Sentence** (p. 67)

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

~**Holy Gospel** (p. 68)

P: The Holy Gospel for Palm Sunday is written in the 21st chapter of the Gospel according to St. Matthew, beginning at the first verse.

**C: ♪ Glory be to You, O Lord!**

**Matthew 21:1-9** As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, telling them, "Go to the village ahead of you. Immediately you will find a donkey tied there along with her colt. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you are to say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: Tell the daughter of Zion: Look, your King comes to you, humble, and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. The disciples went and did just as Jesus commanded them. They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their outer clothing on them, and he sat on it. A very large crowd spread their outer clothing on the road. Others were cutting branches from the trees and spreading them out on the road. The crowds who went in front of him and those who followed kept shouting, Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

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

**C: ♪ Praise be to You, O Christ!**

~**Apostles' Creed** (pp. 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 148 vv. 1, 3, 6-8 Praise God the Lord, Ye Sons of Men**

~**Epistle Lesson & Sermon Text**

**Philippians 2:5-11** Indeed, let this attitude be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus. Though he was by nature God, he did not consider equality with God as a prize to be displayed, but he emptied himself by taking the nature of a servant. When he was born in human likeness, and his appearance was like that of any other man, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

~**Sermon Theme**

***Christ's Humility Triumphs!***

- 1. Christ Humbled Himself.*
- 2. We Can Triumphantly Confess Him as Our Lord.*

~**Offering and Hymn 278 O Jesus, King Most Wonderful**

*(The members of Mt. Olive give offerings as a joyful response to what God has given them. These offerings support the work of Gospel ministry in our community and around the world. **Visitors:** Please do not feel obligated to participate in this offering. We ask you to fill out a Welcome Card and place that in the offering plate.)*

**~Prayer of the Church** (pp. 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** (p. 85)

**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.**

**~Collect** (p. 86, form II)

P: Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn and take them to heart, that by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; 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.**

~**Benediction** (p. 87)

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.**

~**Hymn 279, v. 3 Hosanna in the Highest!**

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*Preacher: Pastor Luke Ulrich / Liturgist: Pastor John Petersen*

*Organists: 1<sup>st</sup>: Cassie Johnson / 2<sup>nd</sup>: John Baumann*

*Musicians: Leah Kurth (flute), Madeline Halvorson (violin), and Kristin Matzke (clarinet)*

*CDS Choir Directors: Sue Beilke and Jessica Gunderson*

*Accompanist: Miranda Dittmer*  
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**LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE/LORD'S SUPPER ATTENDANCE**

**Sunday: 8:30am, 280/226; 10:45am, 187/137**

**Lenten Wednesday: 6:30pm, 177**

**GIVEN LAST WEEK FOR THE LORD'S WORK: \$14,686.38**

Online: \$5104.94



***NEEDED EACH WEEK TO MEET ANNUAL BUDGET: \$16,790***

*Psalm 116:12-13 What shall I render to the Lord / For all His benefits toward me? / I will take up the cup of salvation, / And call upon the name of the Lord.*

*Did you know you can give your offering online? Just go to [www.mtolivelutheran.org](http://www.mtolivelutheran.org) and click on the link, "donate on line." If you would like to continue using your assigned envelope, just **write the word "online" on the envelope and drop it in the plate** during the offering.*

***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 10:00 AM and Thursdays at 11:30 AM.*

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## SERVING OUR LORD THIS WEEK

**Ushers: 1st Service** – Bruce Gratz (captain), Alec Gratz, Seth Tweit,  
John Sehloff, Keith Anderson

**2nd Service** – David Munsen, Matthew Munsen, Dan Maas,  
Justin Maas, Craig Christensen

**Greeters: 1st Service** – Ron & Mary Younge, Eldon Sting, Peggy Harstad  
**2nd Service** – Don & Beth Westphal, Dave & Tanya Norris

**Offering Counters:** Lisa Holt, Brenda Garbers, Connie Meyer

**Altar Guild:** LuAnn Sting, Sharon Madson

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### ELS



Immediately after its reorganization in 1918, the ELS found its fellowship with the congregations and synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Synodical Conference. The former Norwegian Synod had helped to organize the conference in 1872. The ELS continued in the Synodical Conference until 1963 when it withdrew because of doctrinal concerns. The conference was dissolved four years later.

**ELS Historical Society Annual Meeting:** On Saturday, June 16, the ELS Historical Society will revisit the ELS convention of 100 years ago at Albert Lea and Lime Creek beginning at 3:00 p.m. The registration fee for the meeting and lunch is \$15. Following the catered lunch, we will go to the Lime Creek Church for a commemorative service. Bus transportation, if there are enough people to fill a bus, will be \$15 additional. The bus would depart from BLC at about 1:00 PM. and return by 9:30 PM. To determine if there is sufficient interest in taking a bus, there is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. The **deadline for signing up for the bus is today.** Registration for the meeting and lunch is due June 1, and information about payment will be coming in the future.

## HOLY WEEK AT A GLANCE: March 25, 2018 — April 1, 2018

<b>Palm Sunday</b> March 25	8:30AM	Divine Service
	9:40AM	Bible Class/Sunday School/Bible Information Class
	10:45AM	Divine Service
	<b>Noon</b>	<b>Special Voters' Meeting</b>
	7:30PM	Co-ed Recreational Volleyball
<b>Monday</b> March 26		No Evening Service
	10AM	Veterans' Bible Study
	5:30PM	Planned Giving Committee
<b>Tuesday</b> March 27	8AM	Women's Bible Study - <i>Colossians</i>
	2:45PM	Youth Choir
	7PM	MOM's Bible Study
<b>Wednesday</b> March 28		<b>No School</b>
		CDS Parent - Teacher Conferences
	9AM	Bible Study - <i>Daniel</i>
	4PM	Confirmation
	7PM	Senior Choir
8PM	Men's Chorus	
<b>Maundy Thursday</b> March 29		<b>No School</b>
	6:30PM	Divine Service with Holy Communion
<b>Good Friday</b> March 30		<b>No School</b>
	Noon-3PM	Tre Ore Service at St. Paul's, North Mankato
	6:30PM	Divine Service with Holy Communion
<b>Sat. March. 31</b>		
<b>Easter Sunday</b> April 1	7:30AM	Sunrise Service
	8:30AM	Easter Breakfast
	10AM	Festival Service w/Holy Communion
	7:30PM	Co-ed Recreational Volleyball

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Special Voters' Meeting:** Adam Pavelchik has declined the call to serve as Mt. Olive's next principal. A voters' meeting is now scheduled for **noon today**, to extend another call. The Voters will also consider a proposal for a covered drive up at the new church entrance.

**Easter Sunday flowers for the sanctuary:** A sign-up sheet is on the narthex table; cost is \$12.50. Please **sign up and leave your check in the office today**, as the order is going in Monday. We apologize for the late notice.

**EASTER BREAKFAST** - Please join us Easter morning between services for food and fellowship! The Mt. Olive Senior Youth is sponsoring an Easter breakfast of cinnamon rolls, sausages, fresh fruit and other goodies. There will be a free will donation and 100% of it goes to sponsor our Mt. Olive youth that are attending the LYA Convention in Tacoma, Washington in July. Hope to see you there!

**Teens and parents:** Check the table in the narthex for registration packets for LYA 2018 in Tacoma, WA, July 26-29. Confirmed youth through college age are encouraged to attend. For more information, or to register online, go to [els.org/lya18](http://els.org/lya18).

**Thank you Mt. Olive members:** Thank you for all of the cards, texts, foods, and prayers during this time. I greatly appreciate your friendship. ~Jerry Hanson

**Thank you** to all who donated craft items to After School Care! We will have fun creating with your generously donated supplies!

**No Monday evening services until** Monday, April 9th. We encourage our Monday worshipers to join us for our Maundy Thursday service at 6:30 PM and Good Friday service at 6:30 PM.

**Tre Ore Service** : St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 304 Monroe Ave., North Mankato, **March 30, Noon -3 p.m.** This service is a joint three hour worship service based on Jesus' seven last words on the cross by the clergy and musicians of our various WELS and ELS congregations. Everyone is welcome and may come and go as you please during the three hours. A free-will offering will be taken at the door. Local charities will receive a portion of these gifts.

**On the narthex table are** *Meditations* (March 4 – June 2); **extra copies of** the *Building On Our Mission* packets and the *Mt. Olive Herald*; **forms** for 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Sermon Notes and LYA registration; **signup sheets** for Easter Sunday flowers, ELS Historical Society annual meeting busing, Camp Indianhead busing information, volunteering at New 2 You, and softball teams; **February edition** of *Thoughts of Faith*; **March editions of** the *ELS President's Newsletter*, *The Olive Press* newsletter & calendar, and MVL's Memo; and **giving envelopes** for *MVL memorials*.

**Babysitters Wanted!** We are looking for babysitters during the Connect Group season. Most babysitters would be needed on weeknights. Babysitters will be contacted by

each group facilitator who needs babysitter(s). If you are interested, please call Jon Basel at 512-373-9064. Almost any age babysitter is welcome.

**For All You Softball Fans and Athletes:** It is that time of the year again, and we are forming softball teams! There are sign-up sheets out in the narthex if you would like to join us for family and fun. Men's church league is on Monday nights, and co-ed league is on Tuesday nights.

**Thrivent Choice Dollars Allocation:** Grant funding from Thrivent Financial through its Thrivent Choice® program can help support organizations you care about. Eligible members who have designated Choice Dollars have until March 31, 2018, to direct them to Mt. Olive Lutheran Church and School. Go to [thrivent.com](http://thrivent.com) or call 1-800-847-4836.

**Mount Olive would like to have a float with music** for the Fun Days Parade on July 7 and the Tater Days Parade on July 21. We are looking at easy hymns: *God Bless Our Native Land*, *A Mighty Fortress*, and the like. The Bonnett's are providing the trailer. Grade school, high school & college students, and adults are hereby encouraged to find their horns and get ready for some parade fun! Contact Dan Neubauer if you are interested.

**Mt. Olive's Tuition Scrip program** offers gift cards for purchase for 750+ participating retailers. A percentage of your purchase goes toward your Mt. Olive Tuition. Visit [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com) to view the list of vendors. If you have any questions or need help getting started, email Tanya Norris ([scrip@mtolivelutheran.org](mailto:scrip@mtolivelutheran.org)) or Tiffany Riesgraf ([triesgraf@yahoo.com](mailto:triesgraf@yahoo.com)).

**Have you given the church office your** email address? Using email for messages to the congregation will help us communicate better and will save on postage. Thanks!

### **Bethany Lutheran College**

**Today at 3 PM in Trinity Chapel:** The Classic Brass Quintet from Rochester, Minnesota will perform, and freewill donations will all go to the National Spasmodic Dysphonia Association to support research toward a cure for this condition. Everyone is welcome! For more information you may contact Steve Jaeger at 507-351-2900 or visit [www.dysphonia.org](http://www.dysphonia.org).

**Evidence for Easter:** Explore the Historical Records of the Resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth. The BLC History Dept. and the In Depth series invite you to join Christian

apologist Allen Quist, author of "The Reason I Believe" (CPH, 2017) **today, at 7 PM** in Trinity Chapel for a free lecture.

**Monday, March 26 at 7 PM in Trinity Chapel:** Senior music major Beret Ouren performs "The Rhythm of Life and Time: A Composition Recital", featuring her own original compositions. She will collaborate with many Bethany musicians, including BLC's own Chamber Orchestra.

**Parents of Young Children:** Bethany Library is teaming up with the Education Department in starting a story time for home school families and/or stay-at-home families with smaller children. The initial event on March 19 went quite well. Additional story time events have been scheduled for **Monday, March 26** and Monday, April 30, at 9 AM at the Library.

**Tuesday, March 27 at 7 PM in Trinity Chapel:** Soprano Kathryn Wurster performs music by American composers. Joining Kathryn on the program are accompanist Bonnie Jorgensen, soprano Jennifer Haugen, and baritone Jonathan Laabs. All are welcome to attend.

### **WELS**

**Help Wanted:** We are inviting anyone interested in working at Jesus Loves Me Learning Center, North Mankato, MN to stop in or call 507-508-2041 or email [lingjlm@hickorytech.net](mailto:lingjlm@hickorytech.net). Wages are competitive, working with kids is awesome, and hours can be flexible.

### **Community**

**March is Minnesota Food Share month:** Between March 1 and April 8, the March campaign will proportionally MATCH all donations to ECHO, our local food shelf. These donations can be check, cash or food item. ECHO is located at 1014 S. Front St., Mankato, MN 56001. NOW would be a good time to do so, or leave a donation of food in the donation basket at church. In 2017, ECHO gave out 1.7 million pounds of food and provided 6002 meals to children during the summer and Thanksgiving meals to 1155 households. 98% of every dollar received is spent directly on services provided.