



CHRISTMAS 1

Sunday, December 30, 2018, 8:30 & 10:45 AM

Mount Olive Lutheran Church & School

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Pastors John J. Petersen & Luke Ulrich | Principal Silas Born | Evangelical Lutheran Synod

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). 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: *A Rod has come forth from the stem of Jesse (Is 11:1-5), the Seed of David whose kingdom shall be established forever (2 Sam 7:1-16). In the fullness of time, God sent forth His Son Jesus to redeem us from the judgment of the Law (Gal 4:1-7). Now He is presented in the temple in fulfillment of the Law and revealed to be "a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of the people of Israel" (Lk 2:22-40). As we receive God's Word and Sacraments, the "mystery of Godliness"—of what Christ has done to win our salvation (1 Tim 3:16)—is shared with us.*

Order of Worship: Office of Prime



(This morning's liturgy is based on the "Office of Prime." This order of service was first developed & used around 400 AD, as a time of prayer, devotion, and scriptural encouragement during "prime"—the Latin term for "the first hour of the day." Though short & simple, it continues to serve as an excellent way to start our day & week. Found on page 108 in the front of our Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary (ELH), it would serve as a fitting order for you to use in any of your personal or family devotions.)



~**Prelude** — *Preservice music & opportunity for prayer*

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

~**Opening Hymn 268, vv. 1, 3, 5, 6** *On Mary, Virgin Undefined*

~**Versicles and Gloria Patri** — *Opening sentences & "Glory to the Father"*

(ELH p. 108)

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

C: Make haste to help me, O Lord. 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.

~**Confession & Absolution** — *Admitting guilt & receiving forgiveness* (ELH pp. 108-109)

C: Almighty God, heavenly Father: I have sinned against You through my own fault, in thought, word, and deed. For the sake of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me, forgive me all my sin, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

P: The almighty and merciful Lord has granted us pardon and forgiveness of all our sins, grace for true repentance and amendment of life, and the comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

~**Hymn 163** *O Rejoice, Ye Christians, Loudly*

~**Old Testament Lesson**

Isaiah 11:1-5 There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. His delight is in the fear of the Lord, And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, Nor decide by the hearing of His ears; But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, And decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall

strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, And faithfulness the belt of His waist.

~Holy Gospel Lesson

Luke 2:33-40 Joseph and the child's mother were amazed at the things that were spoken about Him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, "Listen carefully, this child is appointed for the falling and rising of many in Israel and for a sign that is spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too." Anna, a prophetess, was there. She was a daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old. She had lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, and then she was a widow of eighty-four years. She did not leave the temple complex, since she was worshipping with fasting and prayers night and day. Standing nearby at that very hour, she gave thanks to the Lord. She kept speaking about the child to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had accomplished everything according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town, Nazareth. The child grew and became strong. He was filled with wisdom, and God's favor was on Him.

~Apostles' Creed — *Confession of faith*

(ELH p. 68-69)

P: Let us confess our holy faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

C: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints, the Forgiveness of sins, the Resurrection of the body, and the Life everlasting. Amen.

~Chief Hymn 129 *I Stand Beside Thy Manger Here*

~Sermon Text

1 Timothy 3:16 Undeniably, great is the mystery of godliness: He was revealed in flesh, was justified in spirit, was seen by messengers, was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world, was taken up in glory.

~Sermon Message

The Mystery of Our Godliness as Christians

I. The mystery of godliness is not revealed of ourselves.

II. The mystery of godliness is revealed in Christ, our Messiah.

~Offering and Hymn 139 Once in Royal David's City

*(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 "Get Connected!" card and place that in the offering plate.)*

~Responsory — *Responsive prayer between pastor & congregation*

(ELH p. 108)

P: O Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy upon us

C: O Lord Jesus, seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy upon us.

P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.

C: O Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy upon us.

P: Arise, O Christ, and help us.

C: And deliver us for Your name's sake.

~Prayers & Special Petitions

~Lord's Prayer

(ELH p. 85; Mt 6:9-13)

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

~Collect — *Prayer for the start of a day*

(ELH p. 148 #12; p. 108)

P: Almighty and everlasting God, direct our actions according to Your gracious will, that in the name of Your beloved Son, we may be made to abound in good works; through the same, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

P: O Lord Jesus Christ, bright Sun of the world: shine upon my spirit and drive away the night of sin, that I may walk in Your holy light all my life and even forevermore. O everlasting God, You have ordained and constituted the services of angels and men in a wonderful order: Mercifully grant that, as Your holy angels always serve You in heaven,

so by Your appointment they may also help and defend us here on earth; 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.

~Canticle

(ELH p. 108)

P: Come, Holy Spirit, and fill the hearts of Your faithful people and kindle in them the fire of Your love.

C: Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven. Come, Holy Spirit, and fill the hearts of Your faithful people and kindle in them the fire of Your love.

~Closing Versicles & Blessing

(ELH p. 108)

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

C: Who made heaven and earth.

P: Let us bless the Lord:

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord Almighty order this day and all our doings in His peace.

C: Amen.

~Closing Hymn 134 *Let Us All with Gladsome Voice*

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

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

*Liturgist: Pastor John Petersen / Preacher: Seminarian Jacob Kempfert
Organists: 1st: Dennis Marzolf / 2nd: Elisabeth Urtel*

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

**Sunday: 8:30am, 270; 10:45am, 149;
Christmas Eve: 4:30pm, ~400; 7pm, 187
Christmas Day: 235/110**

Monthly Giving Update:



Given to the General Fund (Nov. 1-30)	\$59,062.15
Given to the Building Fund (Nov. 1-30)	<u>\$8,029.00</u>
Total Given (Nov. 1-30)	<u>\$67,091.15</u>
General Fund Budgeted (July 1-Nov. 30) (\$75,425/month x 5 months)	\$377,125.00
General Fund YTD (July 1-Nov. 30)	<u>\$303,174.27</u>
<u>Difference (Shortfall)</u>	<u>(\$73,950.73)</u>

Romans 12: 1 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.

*Did you know you can give your offering online? Just go to 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.

SERVING OUR LORD THIS WEEK:

Greeters: 1st Service: Scott & Theresa Dzwonkowski,
Steve & Lois Jaeger

2nd Service: Paul & Mary Jane Tweit,
Jon & Nikki Basel

Ushers: 1st Service: David Norris (captain), Jacob Norris,
Dan Gerdts, Bill Bohning, Joe Finken, Peter Finken

2nd Service: Jim Gates (captain), Dan Neubauer,
Jeremy Espeland, Kurt Shrader

Offering Counters: John Foede, John Baumann

Altar Guild: Heidi Graham, Sharon Madson

WEEK AT A GLANCE: *December 30, 2018—January 6, 2019*

Sunday, December 30	8:30AM 10:45AM	Divine Service No Sunday School/BIC/Bible Class Divine Service No Co-ed Recreational Volleyball
Monday, December 31	6:30PM	Offices closed for New Year's Eve New Year's Eve Service
Tues., Jan. 1		Offices closed for New Year's Day
Wednesday, January 2	8:05AM 3PM 4PM 7PM	CDS Classes Resume CDS Chapel Youth Choir Confirmation Classes Senior Choir
Thurs., Jan. 3		
Fri., Jan. 4		
Sat., Jan. 5	9:45AM-3:15PM	New2You Volunteers
Sunday, January 6	8:30AM 9:40AM 10:45AM 1PM 7:30PM	Epiphany Sunday; Connect Groups Resume Divine Service w/Holy Communion Sunday School/BIC/Bible Class Divine Service w/Holy Communion Encourage One Another Co-ed Recreational Volleyball

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Baptized on Friday, December 21: Presley Aloha Davis, infant daughter of Eric & Laura Davis, was born December 5, 2018. Her sponsors are Andy David and Tyler Davis. May she ever grow in Christ and be blessed therein.

Baptized today after 2nd service: Felicity Kay Reagles, infant daughter of David & Karla Reagles, was born December 6, 2018. Her sponsors are Travis & Stephanie Loeslie. May she be blessed through this Sacrament.

Flowers under the cross today are given to God's glory by David & Karla Reagles in honor of Felicity's baptism.

Join us for our New Year's Eve service on Monday, **December 31**, at 6:30 PM. This service includes Individual Absolution and Holy Communion.

Building Committee Update

The steel deliveries have begun, and columns and beams are beginning to be set with bar joists and roof deck to follow. The plan is to have all of the steel up before New Year's. With the cooperation of deliveries and weather, framing the exterior walls will begin January 2 with a tentative goal to complete the framing and roof deck by the end of January.

During the school break period from December 19-31, WEB will coordinate subcontractors for electricity, plumbing and the sprinkler system to bring those utilities from the basement across our current facility to the new construction. This will involve removing ceiling grid and panels in the hallway and possibly the social hall. The grid and panels will be replaced when that project is completed.

Sign up for flowers: The 2019 sign-up sheet for flowers for the sanctuary is on the wall in the entry way next to the bulletin board. Please consider providing flowers or a plant to beautify our sanctuary.

When you park on Marsh Street, please note: The neighbors on Marsh Street are asking that we not block the steps from the street to their houses. Thank you!

Our Winter Connect Group season begins the week of **January 6**. Keep an eye out for sign-up sheets and ask to join a group! There are a variety of Connect Groups who meet throughout the week to talk and delve deeper into God's Word and the sermons on Sunday. See details about each group at www.mtolivelutheran.org/connect-groups/ or in January's edition of the *Olive Press*.

Pick up your 2019 offering envelopes from the narthex tables.

Schedule your photo shoot for the Mt. Olive Picture Directory! Photos are on **January 6, 9, 12, and 13**. Go to our website and click on the banner to schedule your appointment, or go to this link: <http://signup.com/go/NBMjaTw>.

MOMs Group Diaper Drive: January is national Right to Life month. Please join the MOMs group in supporting Mankato's local pregnancy resource center, Options for Women, by donating diapers and new baby items. Options for Women is a life-affirming center, and its clients earn diapers and baby supplies through the Earn While You Learn program. Contact Karla Reagles (board member at Options) for more information. Once school resumes, a collection box will be available in the Narthex for your donations.

The MacPherson family is asking members of Mt. Olive for your prayers regarding Marie's father who will be receiving a liver transplant in the coming weeks. A letter containing additional information is on the bulletin board in the Narthex. As you are able, please consider donating funds to cover the medical costs of the transplant.

Knitters/crocheters--did you know that Mt. Olive has a group of volunteers that make chemohats for cancer patients undergoing treatment? They meet every Tuesday at 1PM at 25 Crown Hill Lane in Mankato. Needles, yarn, sewing machines, and supplies are available. Contact Janet Wassman at 507-380-3281 if you have questions.

On the narthex table are copies of the *Building On Our Mission* packets and the Time & Talents Survey; **sign-up sheets for** New2You; the **November edition of** the *Mission News & Helping Hands*; **December editions of** MVL's *Memo, Thoughts of Faith*, and the *ELS President's Newsletter*; the **December to March edition of** *Meditations Daily Devotions*; **the January edition of** the *Olive Press*; and **giving envelopes for** MVL memorials.

At Minnesota Valley Lutheran

The MVL school office will be closed December 31-January 1. The MVL faculty, staff, Board, and students wish you all a happy New Year!

Scrip Coordinator Needed: MVL is looking for a volunteer who would be willing to help order Scrip and fill orders for families. The time commitment for this position is about two hours on Monday and Friday mornings. If you're interested, contact the MVL office at 507.354.6851.

MVL has anniversary t-shirts available for purchase, \$10 for adults (S-3XL) and \$7 for youth (S-XL). Limited quantities in certain colors and sizes, so order yours soon! Contact Kristin Matzke at kmatzke@mvlhs.org or 507.354.6851.

ECHO Food Shelf thanks the members of Mt. Olive for their donations in 2018. ECHO helps feed an average of 1620 households per month and distributes 103,000 pounds of food per month. *For I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat* (Matt. 25:35).

<u>Date</u>	<u>Pounds</u>
January	28
February	27
March	39.5
April	15.5
May	9
August	18
September	34
October	2.5
November	27.5
December	76.5
Year's total:	277.5



For all other announcements, pick up your copy of the January, 2019 edition of the Olive Press today from the ushers.