



PALM SUNDAY

Sunday April 14, 2019, 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 Silas Born

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.

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. We, therefore, keep our eyes fixed upon Him (Hebrews 12:1-6), confessing that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*



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 279 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna**

vv. 1-2: CDS Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd Grade Children's Choir; All, v. 3)

~**Invocation & Collect** — *Calling upon the Triune God (ELH p. 60; Matt. 28:19; p. 147, #2)*

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

C: ♪ Amen.

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank You, we bless and praise You forever, that You sent Your Son to rule over us poor sinners, who for our transgressions justly deserved to remain in the bondage of sin and Satan, and that in Him You gave us a meek and righteous King, who by His death became our Savior from sin and eternal death. We beseech You so to enlighten, govern and direct us by Your Holy Spirit, that we may ever remain faithful to this righteous King and Savior, and not, after the manner of the world, be offended by His humble form and despised Word, but, firmly believing in Him, obtain eternal salvation; 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. Amen.

~**Hymn 277, vv. 1, 3, 5 All Glory, Laud, and Honor**

~**Confession & Absolution** — *Admitting our guilt & receiving God's forgiveness*

(ELH p. 60-61, 1; Ps 124:8, Ps 32:5)

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

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

C: ♪ Who made heav'n and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord;

C: ♪ And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P: Let us bow before the Lord and confess our sins.

C: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them, and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

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

C: I do.

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

C: I do.

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

C: Amen

~Hymn 92, vv. 1-3 *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

~Collect — *The congregation's prayer of the day*

(ELH p. 66; p. 154, #52)

P: 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.

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

Zechariah 9:9-10 “Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey. I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim And the horse from Jerusalem; The battle bow shall be cut off. He shall speak peace to the nations; His dominion shall be ‘from sea to sea, And from the River to the ends of the earth.’

~Lenten Sentence

(ELH p. 67)

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

~Holy Gospel Lesson

P: The Holy Gospel for Palm Sunday is written in the 21st chapter of the Gospel according to St. Matthew, beginning at the 1st verse.

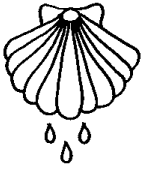
C: ♪ Glory be to You, O Lord!

Matthew 21:1-11 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! When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, asking, “Who is this?” And the crowds were saying, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

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

C: ♪ Praise be to You, O Christ!

The Order of Holy Baptism (2nd Service)



(Holy Baptism has the power to work the new life of faith in the hearts of sinners. This regenerative washing “with water through the Word” is intended for all people, since all — including infants and children — are members of a sinful human race and are in need of God’s grace and forgiveness. Jesus has also commanded that “all nations” be baptized. Confession of sins and absolution are a return to, and a renewal of, one’s baptism. Matt. 28:19, John 3:5, Eph. 5:26, Titus 3:5, Acts 2:38-39)

~Baptism of Eleanor Grace Saidler

(ELH p. 133ff)

~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 331, vv. 1-3, 9 *A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth*

~Epistle Lesson & Sermon Text

Hebrews 12:1-6 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us get rid of every burden and the sin that so easily ensnares us, and let us run with patient endurance the race that is laid out for us. Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, who is the author of our faith and the one who brings it to its goal. In view of the joy set before him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of God’s throne. Carefully consider him who endured such hostility against himself from sinful people, so that you do not grow weary and lose heart. You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood in your fight against sin. Have you also forgotten the encouragement that addresses you as sons?

My son, do not regard the Lord's discipline lightly, and do not become weary of his correction. For the Lord disciplines the one whom he loves, and he corrects every son he accepts.

~Sermon Message

"Fix Your Eyes on Jesus"

1. *He is the author of our faith.*
2. *He is the perfecter of our faith.*

~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.

~Offering & Hymn 94, vv. 1, 2, 5, 8 O How Shall I Receive Thee

*(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.)*

~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.

~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 pow'r and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

~Collect of Thanksgiving

(ELH p. 85, 1)

P: Let us give thanks and pray: We thank You, Lord God the Father, that You have given Your only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. We thank You, Lord Jesus Christ, that You have borne in Your sacred body all our sins, and by Your blood have blotted out all our transgressions. We thank You, Lord, the Holy Spirit, that You have created in our hearts true faith, that we know of nothing to trust for our salvation, except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. O God, grant us Your grace, that we may perfectly believe that all our sins are forgiven for the sake of the passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ, and so enlighten us by Your Holy Spirit, that, in the power of our Redeemer's death, we may day by day put off sin, and never forsake the Lord Jesus Christ, until we see Him face to face in life eternal. We ask it all in Christ's name.

C: ♪ Amen.

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

(ELH p. 87; 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 280 *Ride On, Ride On, in Majesty*

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

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

Preacher: Pastor John Petersen / Liturgist: Pastor Luke Ulrich

Organists: 1st: Cassie Johnson / 2nd: John Baumann

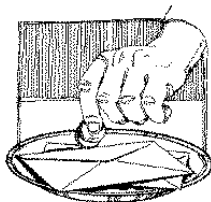
CDS Children's Choir Director: Miranda Dittmer / Accompanist: Anita Krienke

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

Sunday: 8:30am, 354/257; 10:45am, 231/160

Wednesday: 123

Monthly Giving Update:



**A TIME FOR
GIVING**

Given to the General Fund (Mar. 1-31)	\$79,844.26
Given to the Building Fund (Mar. 1-31)	<u>\$32,533.00</u>
Total Given (Mar. 1-31)	<u>\$112,377.26</u>
General Fund Budgeted (July 1-Mar. 31) (\$75,425/month x 9 months)	\$678,825.00
General Fund YTD (July 1-Mar. 31)	<u>\$620,796.00</u>
<u>Difference (Shortfall)</u>	<u>(\$58,029.00)</u>

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 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:** Ernie & Marge Lillo,
Lois Otto

2nd Service: James & Carolyn Gates

Ushers: **1st Service:** Ron Younge (captain), Brian Strom,
James Strom, Silas Born, Paul Gullixson

2nd Service: Jim Gullixson (captain), Peter Bloedel, Hans Bloedel,
David Gullixson, Spencer Olson

Offering Counters: Will Holt, Lance Schwartz

Altar Guild: Sharon Madson, Kristin Matzke, Lynette Merseth

WEEK AT A GLANCE: April 14, 2019—April 21, 2019

<p>Sunday, April 14</p>	<p>8:30AM 9:40AM 10:45AM 5PM 6PM 7:30PM</p>	<p>Palm Sunday K-2 Children's Choir Sings Divine Service Sunday School/Informational Meeting Divine Service Lutheran Pioneers Artemis Video Gaming Co-ed Recreational Volleyball</p>
<p>Monday, April 15</p>		<p>Olive Press Deadline No Evening Service</p>
<p>Tuesday, April 16</p>	<p>8AM 1PM 6:30PM 7PM</p>	<p>Women's Bible Study, Old Testament Book "Job" Mt. Olive Crafters Jesus Cares Ministry M.O.M.s Bible Study</p>
<p>Wednesday, April 17</p>	<p>8:05AM 9AM 4PM 7PM</p>	<p>Chapel Bible Class, "Portraits of Easter" Confirmation Class (8th Grade Only) Senior Choir</p>
<p>Thursday, April 18</p>	<p>6:30PM</p>	<p>Maundy Thursday (No CDS) Senior Choir Sings No M.O.M.s Bible Study at Peace Divine Service w/Holy Communion & Tenebrae</p>
<p>Friday, April 19</p>	<p>Noon-3PM 6:30PM</p>	<p>Good Friday (No CDS) Tre Ore, St. Paul's, North Mankato Divine Service w/Holy Communion</p>
<p>Sat., Apr. 20</p>	<p>9AM</p>	<p>Ambassadors</p>
<p>Sunday, April 21</p>	<p>7:30AM 8:30AM 10AM</p>	<p>Easter Sunday Senior Choir Sings Sunrise Service Easter Breakfast Festival Service w/Holy Communion No Co-ed Recreational Volleyball</p>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flowers: The flowers on the altar today are given to God's glory by Dean & Cathy Kluge, in memory of Dean's mom, Marlene Trebesch, who passed away a year ago.

Congregation Information Update: today, between services. There will be Sunday School for the children, but no Bible Study or BIC for the adults.

Baptized Today During 2nd Service: Eleanor Grace Saidler, infant daughter of Adam and Nicole Saidler, was born March 28, 2019, in Mankato. Her sponsors are Matthew Saidler and Ashley Saidler. May she ever grow in Christ and be blessed therein.

Senior Youth (8th-12th Graders): your help is needed to assist with our Annual Easter Breakfast. This year we are using signup online to streamline our volunteer and donation lists. If you have not received an email with the link to participate, please contact Angela Merseth at ammerseth@gmail.com so we can send you the link to sign up. We would love to have all of our youth, grades 8-12, join in this fun time of service to our church!

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, "heavenly eggs", fresh fruit, coffee, & juice! There will be a free will donation; 100% goes to sponsor our Mt. Olive 8-12th graders that are attending the LYA Convention here at Bethany Lutheran College in July. Hope to see you there!

Confirmation for 14 young people is scheduled for Sunday, **April 28**, at the 10:45AM service. In order to have adequate seating for the families and friends of the confirmands, please consider attending the 8:30AM service that day. Thank you!

From the family of Roger Holtz: Many sincere thanks for all of your thoughts, prayers, and financial gifts during Pastor Holtz's transplant. After an extended stay in the hospital, he is now settled at home in Kaukauna, WI. Though there is still a long road of recovery ahead, we thank God for His provision and for the support of so many Christian friends.

Volunteer Softball Coach(es) Needed: Mt. Olive Lutheran School needs volunteer coaches for our co-ed softball team, consisting of players in Grades 7-8. Practices could be from 3:30 to 5:30PM at Mt Olive on Tuesdays and Fridays. Times would be determined by when coaches are available. Practices are held at the softball field behind Washington Grade School. We have one tournament on Tuesday, May 14, at Caswell Park beginning at 9:00AM. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Mr. Zibrowski at mrz@mtolivelutheran.org. Thank you.

Softball Players: A sign-up sheet for the men's softball team is on the narthex table. The men's church league plays on Monday nights.

Planned Giving Update: At Mount Olive, we are blessed to have information, tools, an endowment fund, a trust fund, and also knowledgeable individuals connected to our church and school that can help you with the process of setting up a planned gift. To learn more, please pick up a planned giving brochure at the narthex table, or go to the Mount Olive webpage and look under the "Serving" tab. You could also mention your interest to our Mount Olive pastors, and they would be willing to direct you to the appropriate person to discuss setting up a planned gift for the church and school.

Happening at Bethany Lutheran College:

Today, at 4PM in Trinity Chapel: The Bethany Jazz Band looks forward to sharing a variety of swing, funk, and rock tunes at their spring concert. The concert will feature vocalist Natalie Dworak and music by the Cleveland High School Jazz Band

Monday, April 15, at 7PM in Meyer Hall, Room 101: a presentation for families of military personnel regarding ministry to combat veterans. The culture of military service and combat experience creates tremendous need for spiritual care. A WELS National Guard Chaplain will be speaking. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Tuesday, April 16, at 7PM in Trinity Chapel: the annual New Music Recital. Bethany students showcase compositions they have completed during the academic year. All pieces are performed by Bethany students and Bethany music ensembles.

Tuesday, April 23, at 7:30PM in Trinity Chapel: annual AGO recital by students from Bethany Lutheran College, Martin Luther College and Gustavus Adolphus College. This recital is sponsored by the local Sioux Trails American Guild of Organists.

Wednesday, April 24, at 7PM in Trinity Chapel: Spring Semester Honors Recital. Bethany students enrolled in private music lessons audition for the honor of performing at this recital. The recital is free; the public is cordially invited to attend.

Thursday, April 25, at 7PM in the YFAC Gallery: Student art show reception and award presentation.

Saturday, April 27, at 4PM in Trinity Chapel: From Age to Age Chamber Choir, directed by BLC alum Dr. Peter Durow, performs with the BLC concert choir. \$10 suggested donation at the door.

Sunday, April 28, at 4PM in Trinity Chapel: BLC Concert Band and Chamber Orchestra perform a concert featuring Edvard Grieg's piano concerto with soloist Sarah Wei. Pre-concert talk at 3:15PM by history major David Evans.

Notes From Minnesota Valley Lutheran:

MVL summer sports camps offer area youth a fun opportunity to improve their fundamentals for the game and learn from MVL's own coaches and players. Visit mvl.org to download a registration form now through April 26 or pick up a form from the narthex table.

Within Our Sister Synod:

Help with a building project this summer! Kingdom Workers is looking for volunteers to help with Builders For Christ projects in Appleton, WI and Greenville, WI. Application deadline is **April 15**. Learn more: www.kingdomworkers.com/volunteer.

On the narthex table are sign-up sheets for New2You volunteers and softball; **Camp Indianhead registration forms** and sign-up sheets; **registration forms for** MVL softball camp and summer camps, Scarville Lutheran School Olympics, and Lutheran Girl Pioneers camp; the **March edition of Mission News & Helping Hands**; **April editions of** the *Olive Press*, the *ELS President's Newsletter*, and *Thoughts of Faith*; and the **March 3-June 1 issue of Meditations Daily Devotions**.

Holy Week Services

April 18: Maundy Thursday

6:30PM: Divine Service & Tenebrae, with Holy Communion

Pr. Petersen: *"A Gracious Invitation to a Gracious Meal"*--Matthew 26:26-28, Luke 22:15

April 19: Good Friday

Noon-3PM: Tre Ore, St. Paul's, North Mankato

6:30PM: Divine Service, with Holy Communion

Pr. Ulrich: *"Three Words of Truth: It is Finished!"*--John 19:28-30

April 21: Easter

7:30AM: Sunrise Service

8:30AM: Easter Breakfast

10AM: Festival Service, with Holy Communion

Pr. Ulrich: *"Three Words of Truth: He Has Risen!"*--2 Timothy 2:8

A reminder: Our Monday evening services will resume on **April 29**.