

**Mt. Olive Night at MVL:** MVL will host “Mt. Olive Night” on Friday, **January 8**. Come and watch the Charger Girls’ teams take on the Cathedral Greyhounds. JV plays at 6PM; Varsity at 7:30PM. Free tickets are available in the church office.

**Annual Report Deadline Update:** At a recent voters’ meeting, it was decided to make our June 26, 2016 meeting the annual meeting. No reports are due at this time.

**Church Directory:** Please check the Church Membership Directory in the entry way for correct address, phone number, and email information. Mark any changes and double check with any extended family members or older children who now live away from home.

**2016 Offering Envelopes:** 2016 offering envelopes are available on the table in the entryway. Please note that your envelope number may be different than last year.

**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](tel: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.*

**Thrivent Members,** To designate Thrivent Choice Dollars go to [www.Thrivent.com](http://www.Thrivent.com), or call [1-800-847-4836](tel:1-800-847-4836). Options for designating funds include Mount Olive, Bethany College and Seminary, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, Thoughts of Faith, and others.

**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](http://www.shopwithscrip.com) to view the 400+ participating retailers. If you have questions or need help getting started email Tanya Norris [scrip@mtolivelutheran.org](mailto:scrip@mtolivelutheran.org) or Krista Petzel [krista.petzel@gmail.com](mailto:krista.petzel@gmail.com).

**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.



## Mt. Olive Lutheran Church

1123 Marsh Street  
Mankato, MN 56001

(507) 345-4966

[mtolivelutheran.org](http://mtolivelutheran.org)  
[mtolive@mtolivelutheran.org](mailto:mtolive@mtolivelutheran.org)

Pastors:

John J. Petersen  
Luke Ulrich

Principal:

Larry Rude

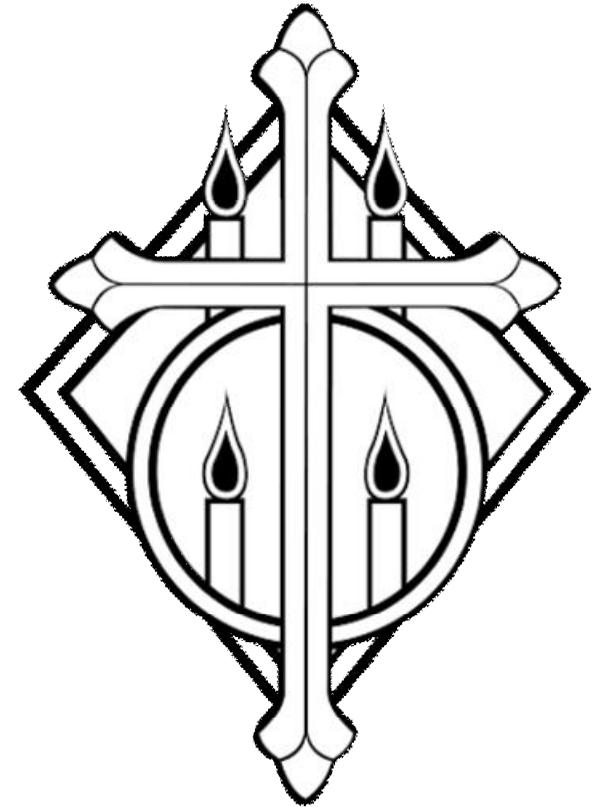
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**Christmas 2**

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Sunday,  
January 3, 2016  
8:30 & 10:45am

 Evangelical  
Lutheran  
Synod



**WEEK AT A GLANCE: *January 3, 2016 - January 10, 2016***

<b>Sunday</b> January 3	8:30AM 10:45AM 1PM 7PM	Divine Service w/Holy Communion Divine Service w/Holy Communion Encourage One Another Co-ed Recreational Volleyball
<b>Monday</b> January 4	6:30PM 6:30PM 6:30PM 7PM	<b>School Resumes</b> Divine Service w/Holy Communion Board of Deacons Board of Education Planned Giving Committee
<b>Tuesday</b> January 5	8AM 6PM 6:30PM	Women's Bible Study Board of Stewardship Jesus Cares Ministry
<b>Wednesday</b> January 6	8:05AM 9AM 3:45PM 7PM	CDS Chapel Bible Study Confirmation Choir
<b>Thursday</b> January 7		
<b>Friday</b> January 8	6:30PM	Mt. Olive Night at MVL
<b>Saturday</b> January 9	9AM	Christian Service Committee
<b>Sunday</b> January 10	8:30AM 10:45AM 7:30PM	Divine Service Divine Service Co-ed Recreational Volleyball

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Flowers on the Altar:** The flowers beautifying our altar today are given by Bill & Suzanne Bohning.

**2016 Flower Calendar:** The 2016 Flower Calendar for the church year is now up in the entry way next to the bulletin board. Thank you for signing up to bring flowers to beautify our altar this coming year!

**The next Red Cross Blood Drive** at Mt. Olive will be **Friday, Jan. 29** from 1 – 6PM.

~**Benediction** (pp. 56-57)

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 113 v. 4 Since All He Comes to Ransom**

~**Closing Prayer** (p. 57)

P: O Lord, we render unto You our heartfelt thanks that You have taught us what You would have us believe and do. Help us, O God, by Your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ, to keep Your Word in pure hearts, that we thereby may be strengthened in faith, perfected in holiness, and comforted in life and death. Amen.

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

*Organists: 1st: Cassie Johnson/ 2nd: Mark DeGarmeaux*  
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**LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE/LORD'S SUPPER ATTENDANCE**

**Sunday: 8:30am; 207 10:45am; 107 Monday: 9**

**Christmas Eve 4:30: 320 Christmas Eve 7PM: 153 Christmas Day: 201/151**

**GIVEN LAST WEEK FOR THE LORD'S WORK: \$40,406.14**

***NEEDED EACH WEEK TO MEET ANNUAL BUDGET: \$15,500***

*2 Corinthians 9:7 So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.*

***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.*

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**SERVING OUR LORD THIS WEEK**

**Ushers:** 1<sup>st</sup> Service: Steve Beilke (captain), Nate Beilke, Don Westphal, Eric Westphal, Elias Bonnet

2<sup>nd</sup> Service: Mike Pleiss (captain), Keith Eisberg, Loren Halvorson, Daniel Halvorson, John Halvorson

**Greeters:** 1<sup>st</sup> Service: Dean & Cathy Kluge, Eldon Sting, Keith Anderson

2<sup>nd</sup> Service: Bob & Ruth Heidenreich, Mike & Anita Smith

**Offering Counters:** John Pfeffer, Steve Lussky

**Altar Guild:** Connie Gullixson, Connie Meyer  
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## Christmas 2

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**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.  
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*Order of Service, Rite One (p. 41)*

~**Opening Prayer (p. 41)**

P: O Lord, our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter, we are assembled in Your presence to hear Your holy Word. We pray You to open our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that through the preaching of Your Word we may be taught to repent of our sins, to believe on Jesus in life and death, and to grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Christ's sake. Amen.

~**Hymn 162 This Little Babe**

~**Confession of Sin** (p.41, form I)

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

~**Kyrie Hymn 268 v. 6 My Sins Are Countless**

**My sins are countless as the sands, My crimes, O God, are crying,  
Deliver me from sin's dread bands And save me, Lord, when dying;  
O let me not, for evil past, Be lost at last, Grant me Thy grace, I pray Thee!**

~**Absolution** (p. 43, form II)

P: Hear the holy and comforting Word of our Lord: Come unto Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Lift up your hearts! By the authority of God and of my holy office I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

~**Gloria in Excelsis Deo** (pp. 44-45)

P: Glory be to God in the highest

**C: ♪ And on earth peace, good will toward men. All glory be to God on high Who hath our race befriended! To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended; God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall dwell on earth again; O thank Him for His goodness!**

~**Salutation** (p. 45)

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: ♪ And with your spirit.**

~**Collect** (p. 45)

P: Let us pray: O Lord God, heavenly Father, You allowed Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, to become a stranger and a sojourner in Egypt for our sakes, and led Him safely home to His fatherland: Mercifully grant that we poor sinners, who are strangers and sojourners in this perilous world, may soon be called home to our true fatherland, the kingdom of heaven, where we shall live in eternal joy and glory; 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.**

~**Epistle Lesson**

**I Peter 4:12-19** Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy. If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified. But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people's matters. Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter. For the time has come for

~**Lord's Prayer** (p. 53)

**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** (p. 54)

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."

~**Agnus Dei** (p. 55)

**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**

**Hymn 150 vv. 5, 6 *As Darkest Night Must Fade and Die***  
**Hymn 141 *Once He Came in Blessing***  
**Hymn 143 vv. 4-8 *The Lowly Savior Meekly Lies***

~**Dismissal** (p. 56)

P: Our crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ, who has now bestowed upon you His holy body and blood, whereby He has made full satisfaction for all your sins, strengthen and preserve you in the true faith unto everlasting life. Peace be with you. Amen.

~**Collect of Thanksgiving** (p. 56)

P: Let us give thanks and pray: We thank You, Lord God Almighty, that You have refreshed us with these Your salutary gifts; and we beseech You of Your mercy, to strengthen us through the same in faith toward You, and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. **C: ♪ Amen.**

**C: Lord, in Your mercy hear our prayer.**

P: Be merciful, O God, to all, according to Your great love in Christ Jesus, our Lord. When our final hour shall come, grant us a blessed departure from this world, and on the last day, a resurrection to Your glory.

**C: Amen. Grant us Your peace, O Lord!**

**~Apostolic Benediction** (p. 49)

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

**~Offering**

*(Guests: Please place guests cards in offering plate)*

*\* Holy Communion: This morning the confirmed, communicant members of our fellowship come to receive the true body and blood of Christ in the Holy Supper. Here Christ gives us this treasure for the remission of our sins. As we commune together we also outwardly demonstrate the unity of faith which we confess. If you are a guest and wish to commune with us, please speak to our pastor prior to the service. Thank you.*

**~Preface** (p. 50)

P: The Lord be with you. **C: ♪ And with your spirit.**

P: Lift up your hearts unto the Lord. **C: ♪ We lift up our hearts unto the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God. **C: ♪ It is good and right so to do.**

**~General Preface** (p. 51)

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, for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory, that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may be drawn to the love of those things which are not seen Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**~Sanctus** (pp. 51-52)

**C: ♪ Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God? Now "If the righteous one is scarcely saved, Where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?" Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to Him in doing good, as to a faithful Creator.

**~Gospel Lesson**

**Matthew 2:13-23** Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him." When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "Out of Egypt I called My Son." Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying: "A voice was heard in Ramah, Lamentation, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, Refusing to be comforted, Because they are no more." Now when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the young Child's life are dead." Then he arose, took the young Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea instead of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned by God in a dream, he turned aside into the region of Galilee. And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

**C: ♪ God be praised for His glad tidings.**

**~Nicene Creed** (p. 47)

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.

~Hymn 165 vv. 1, 2 *Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord*

~Old Testament Lesson and Sermon Text

**Isaiah 63:7-13** I will mention the loving kindnesses of the LORD And the praises of the LORD, according to all that the LORD has bestowed on us, and the great goodness toward the house of Israel, which He has bestowed on them according to His mercies, according to the multitude of His loving kindnesses. For He said, "Surely they are My people, children who will not lie." So He became their Savior. In all their affliction He was afflicted, and the Angel of His presence saved them; in His love and in His pity He redeemed them; and He bore them and carried them all the days of old. But they rebelled and grieved His Holy Spirit; so He turned Himself against them as an enemy, and He fought against them. Then he remembered the days of old, Moses and his people, saying: "Where is He who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherd of His flock? Where is He who put His Holy Spirit within them, who led them by the right hand of Moses, with His glorious arm, dividing the water before them to make for Himself an everlasting name, who led them through the deep, as a horse in the wilderness, that they might not stumble?"

~Sermon Theme

*"Recounting the Lord's Kindness"*

1. Looking back, remember what He has done.
2. Looking ahead, trust Him!

~Prayer of the Church (pp. 48-49)

P: Everlasting and merciful God, we beseech You in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ:

**C: To have mercy upon us and to hear our prayer.**

P: Look in mercy upon Your Church. Protect it and sanctify it by Your truth. May Your Word be taught in its purity and Your Sacraments be rightly administered. Grant unto Your Church faithful pastors who shall declare Your truth with power and shall live according to Your will. Send forth laborers into Your harvest and open the door of faith unto all unbelievers and unto the people of Israel. In mercy remember the enemies of Your Church and grant to them repentance unto life.

**C: O God, in the multitude of Your mercy, hear us in the truth of Your salvation.**

P: Let Your protecting hand be over our country and over all who travel. Prosper what is good among us and bring to naught every evil counsel and purpose. Protect and bless Your servants, the President of the United States, the Governor of this state, our judges and magistrates and all in authority. Fit them for their high calling by the gift of Your Spirit of wisdom and fear, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.

**C: Hear, O Lord, and have mercy! Lord be our helper.**

P: According to Your promise, O God, be the defender of the widow and the father of the orphan. Relieve and comfort the sick and the sorrowful (especially our brother/sister \_\_\_\_ who is ill/grieving). Graciously help those who are assaulted by the devil and who are in peril of death. Be the strength of those who are suffering for the sake of Christ's holy name. Grant that we may live together in peace and prosperity. Bestow upon us good and seasonable weather; and bless us with upright Christian counsel in all that we undertake.

**C: O Lord, be with all in trouble. Hear their prayers to the honor of Your Name.**

P: We especially commend to Your care and keeping this Your congregation which You have bought with a great price. Keep from us all offenses and bind us together in the unity of Your holy love. Grant that the little ones who are baptized in Your name may be brought up in Your fear. At Your table give to those who there commune with You peace and life everlasting.

**C: Let all rejoice who trust in You; let them shout for joy because You defend them.**

*(Special petitions are included)*

P: In Your mercy look upon.....In Christ's name we pray.