

Mount Olive Lutheran Church



A Reconciling in
Christ Community

The Fifth Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 29, 2020

office@molive.org
www.molive.org
(507) 288-1580

2830 18th Avenue NW
Rochester, Minnesota
55901

Mount Olive is a welcoming and inclusive congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), serving our neighbors in Rochester, Minnesota.

*Our core identity is lived out in four ways:
Worship, Service, Education, and Fellowship.*

Mount Olive's Welcome Statement:

"We trust that God calls Mount Olive Lutheran Church to a ministry of reconciliation. We embrace as a gift the diversity of our neighborhood and the world, and we extend God's hospitality by welcoming, hearing, and treasuring: All gender identities and sexual orientations, all races and ethnicities, all ages and abilities, all economic statuses and education levels, all faith journeys and personal histories. As Christ welcomes all, we too welcome the full inclusion of all people into the life, ministry, and sacraments of Mount Olive, joining in a journey toward greater love, understanding, and mutual respect."

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who is present, who gives life, who calls into existence the things that do not exist. Amen.

P: If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand? Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you, knowingly and unknowingly. We have wandered from your resurrection life. We have strayed from your love for all people. Turn us back to you, O God. Give us new hearts and right spirits, that we may find what is pleasing to you and dwell in your house forever. Amen.

P: Receive good news: God turns to you in love. "I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live," says our God. All your sin is forgiven in the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, who is the free and abounding gift of God's grace for you.

C: Amen



GATHERING HYMN

"Christ, the Life of All the Living"

ELW #339



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
 2 You have suf - fered great af - flic - tion and have borne it pa - tient - ly,
 3 Then, for all that bought my par - don, for the sor - rows deep and sore,



Christ, your - self for me once giv - ing to the dark - est depths of woe:
 e - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion, ful - ly to a - tone for me;
 for the an - guish in the gar - den, I will thank you ev - er - more;



through your suf - f'ring, death, and mer - it life e - ter - nal I in - her - it.
 for you chose to be tor - ment - ed that my doom should be pre - vent - ed.
 thank you for the groan - ing, sigh - ing, for the bleed - ing and the dy - ing,



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
 Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
 for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you ev - er - more on high.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–1681; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
 Music: JESU, MEINES LEBENS LEBEN, *Das grosse Cantional*, Darmstadt, 1687

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: **Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**



WORD

Fifth Sunday in Lent

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 37:1-14

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL

John 11:1-45

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.

²Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." ¹¹After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." ¹²The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." ¹³Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though



they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

²⁸When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Intern Pastor Luke Hollander


A moment of silence follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Jesus is a Rock in a Weary Land"

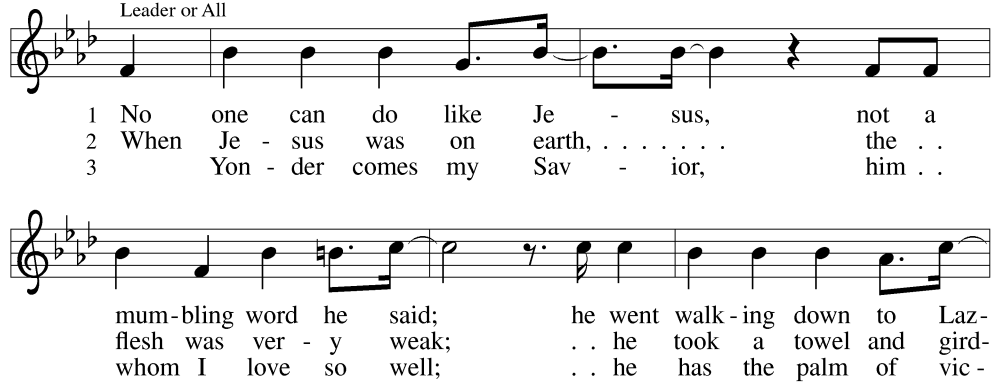
ELW #333

Refrain - All



Je - sus is a rock in a wea - ry land, a wea - ry land, a
 wea - ry land; my Je - sus is a rock in a
 wea - ry land, a shel - ter in the time of storm.

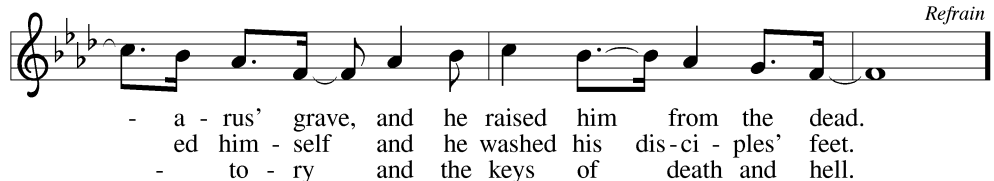
Leader or All



1 No one can do like Je - sus, not a
 2 When Je - sus was on earth, the . .
 3 Yon - der comes my Sav - ior, him . .

mum - bling word he said; he went walk - ing down to Laz -
 flesh was ver - y weak; . . he took a towel and gird -
 whom I love so well; . . he has the palm of vic -

Refrain



- a - rus' grave, and he raised him from the dead.
 ed him - self and he washed his dis - ci - ples' feet.
 - to - ry and the keys of death and hell.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: WEARY LAND, African American spiritual



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L: Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

L: Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.** *(Please share words of God's peace with one another.)*

MEAL

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

L: Let us pray:

C: **Merciful God, we do not presume to come to your table trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat and drink the body and blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, that we may live in him and he in us, now and forever. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace.

Gathered at the Lord's table, and around our own, we remember with thanksgiving that "in the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Holy God, we long for Spirit,. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gifts of peace and healing on earth. All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God Incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. **Amen**



THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your love and teach us to pray.

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

P: God's love is poured out in Christ for you. Open yourselves to receive it.

[Share the bread with one another, saying, "The body of Christ, given for you." Share the wine with one another saying, "The blood of Christ, shed for you."]

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and preserve you in his grace.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

L: Merciful God, in the stillness of our souls we listen for your voice to know again that you are God. Quiet our restless hearts with the knowledge that you are near us, keeping watch over your own. Rekindle our faith and light the lamp of hope within our hearts. Then take us by the hand into each day that lies ahead, for where you lead we can confidently go with Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

P: Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation. Holy God, speaking, spoken, and inspiring, ✠ bless you, unbind you, and send you in love and in peace. Amen.



SENDING HYMN

“What Wondrous Love is This”

ELW #666



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
 be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
 who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
 I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
 on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.
 Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

DISMISSAL

- L: Be at peace. Christ is with you.
- C: Thanks be to God!



Welcome, Worship Guests!

Thank you for joining us in online worship today. You are always welcome. You may also visit our website, www.molive.org, to learn about other ways you can be part of life at Mount Olive in this "exilic" time. Online classes, devotions, and suggestions for support and service are available to you as well. God's peace be yours.



Congregational prayers for healing and comfort ...

- ◆ Mount Olive members who are ill, grieving, or recovering from injury.
- ◆ Those sick, recovering, anxious, homebound, or grieving because of COVID 19.
- ◆ All homebound members

We pray that the good news of Christ's death and resurrection might be proclaimed through our companion congregations in Kijota, Tanzania and Bogota, Colombia. Grant that their good works might shine in the darkness, bringing glory to God and blessing to all.

Worship Participants

Preaching Pastor	Intern Pastor Luke Hollander
Presiding Minister	Rev. Dr. Glenn Monson
Organist	Deacon Travis Beck
Assisting Minister	Jill Mickelson

MOUNT OLIVE STAFF

Rev. Dr. Glenn Monson	<i>Senior Pastor</i>	glenn@molive.org
Rev. Lisa Janke	<i>Associate Pastor of Outreach</i>	lisa@molive.org
Intern Luke Hollander	<i>Intern Pastor of Children, Youth, and Family</i>	luke@molive.org
Deacon Travis Beck	<i>Director of Worship, Music, and Arts</i>	travis@molive.org
Richard Bruxvoort Colligan	<i>Cantor of Olive Branch</i>	richard@molive.org
Bill Hollander	<i>Congregational Administrator</i>	bill@molive.org
Nancy Britson	<i>Director of Congregational Life</i>	nancy@molive.org
Sherry Will	<i>Director of Missions and Service</i>	sherry@molive.org
Carrie Fletcher	<i>Administrative Assistant/Nursery Coord.</i>	carrie@molive.org

Next Week's Readings:

Isaiah 50:4-9a

The servant of the LORD submits to suffering

Psalms 31:9-16

Into your hands, O LORD, I commend my spirit.

Philippians 2:5-11

Humbled to the point of death on a cross

Matthew 26:14--27:66

The passion of the Lord

Updates from our Ministry Partners

Family Promise:

Family Promise families are now staying at Bear Creek Apartments. The Family Promise Day Center will be used to quarantine family members if a family member is exposed to or infected with COVID-19. Because Family Promise will now be paying rent of \$2000 monthly, monetary donations are especially welcome. You can also follow them on Facebook at *Family Promise Rochester* for other needs that they have.

Making Masks for Medical Workers:

Olmsted Medical Center (OMC) is asking for handmade fabric masks. The materials required are two 9x6 rectangles of 100% cotton and two 7" pieces of 1/4"-1/2" flat elastic. (ties may be used if elastic is unavailable). OMC recommends this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Hon3XuHKv0&t> as a tutorial for making masks. Please drop off finished masks at Olmsted Medical Center, Marketing and Foundation Offices, 102 Elton Hills Drive, Rochester between 8 AM and 12 PM, Monday through Friday. Contact Sherry Will at sherry@molive.org to let her know how many masks you donated. A pattern and more information is available on the front page of the Mount Olive website, www.molive.org.

The Dorothy Day Hospitality House is closed until further notice.

Offerings

Your financial gifts will be more important than ever during this time. If you do not already give automatically, you may contact Bill Hollander in the church office, to set this up. You may also make a gift by clicking the green "[Donate Now](#)" button at the bottom of the church website homepage, or simply put a check in the mail.

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If You Are In Need of Pastoral Care

If you are having difficulty at this time of crisis, are in need of pastoral care, help with errands or meals, or simply would enjoy a friendly phone call on a regular basis, please contact the church office at 507-288-1580. If you leave a message, we will return your call. In-person pastoral visits will only be done in the case of emergencies.

Sunday School Lessons Available

Intern Pastor Luke will work with others to offer a weekly Sunday School lesson. We will look at a Bible story and do a craft/activity together using regular household items. This will come out as a video which can be accessed on our website:

<http://molive.org/index.php/children> or the Mount Olive [Facebook](#) page.

Connecting Helpers with Those in Need

Several members have contacted the church office to say “how can I help?”. All members are encouraged to be caregivers for one another in this difficult time. Send cards, letters, and emails, and make calls to anyone you think of who might need encouragement. Offer to do errands for people who can’t get out or are afraid to do so or make a meal for a neighbor. To better facilitate connecting people, we have created a Google sheet for anyone willing to be a resource. It will be monitored and as requests come in, we will connect those in need with those who are willing to help. We’re calling it *Mount Olive Ambassadors for Christ* and you can find it at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/tga8yxu>

Hull Dining Hall Update

Construction on the Dining Hall at Hull High School in Kijota, Tanzania has begun. The staff and students there, are so thankful to Mount Olive for the funds raised to begin construction on this much needed dining hall. Mount Olive has raised \$26,000 of the \$30,000 needed. We are so close. For more information contact Sherry Will at sherry@molive.org.

