

Mount Olive Lutheran Church



Sixth Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 9, 2021

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



A Reconciling in
Christ Community

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

PRELUDE

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!

P: Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy. We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life. Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



GATHERING HYMN

"Shout to the Lord"

ELW #821

My Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Lord, there is none like you.

All of my days I want to praise the won - ders of your might - y love.

My com - fort, my shel - ter, tow - er of ref - uge and strength;

let ev - ry breath, all that I am nev - er cease to wor - ship you.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth; let us sing pow - er and maj - es - ty, praise

to the King. Moun - tains bow down and the seas will roar at the

sound of your name. I sing for joy at the work of your hands;

for - ev - er I'll love you, for - ev - er I'll stand.

Noth - ing com - pares to the prom - ise I have in you.

"Shout to the Lord." Words and music by Darlene Zschech © 1993 Wondrous Worship (admin. by Music Services, Inc.) Used by permission under CCLI License #11371073. All rights reserved.

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: O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

Sixth Sunday of Easter

FIRST READING

Acts 10:44-48 (NRSV)

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

L: Word of God, Word of Life,

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 98

“Shout for Joy”

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

GOSPEL

John 15:9-17 (NRSV)

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ⁹“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

“The Astounding Ways of God”

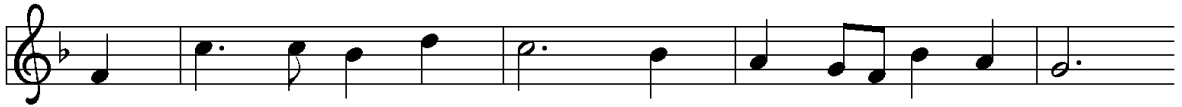
Pastor Glenn Monson



HYMN OF THE DAY

"Oh, Praise the Gracious Power"

ELW #651



1 Oh, praise the gra - cious pow'r that tum - bles walls of fear
 2 Oh, praise per - sis - tent truth that o - pens fist - ed minds
 3 Oh, praise in - clu - sive love, en - cir - cling ev - 'ry race,
 4 Oh, praise the word of faith that claims us as God's own,



and gath - ers in one house of faith all strang - ers far and near:
 and eas - es from their anx - ious clutch the prej - u - dice that blinds:
 ob - liv - i - ous to gen - der, wealth, to so - cial rank or place:
 a liv - ing tem - ple built on Christ, our rock and cor - ner - stone:

Refrain

We praise you, Christ! Your cross has made us one!

"Oh, Praise the Gracious Power." Text and music © 1984 Oxford University Press. Used by permission under ONE LICENSE #A-727717. All rights reserved.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

L: Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

L: Hear us, O God,

C: **Your mercy is great.**

PEACE

L: 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

P: Let us pray:

C: God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. 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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

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."

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With all your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C: 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: The risen Christ invites us to this table. Come, eat and be satisfied.

[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 keep you in his grace.
C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
C: Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

P: May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

ELW #547



1 Sent forth by God’s bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,



the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev - ’ry - day life we will face—



The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed
our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,



the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
em - brac - ing God’s chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.



The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now



reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.



Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing



to work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.
give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing." Words by Omer Westendorf. © 1964 World Library Publications. Used by permission under ONE LICENSE #A-727717. All rights reserved.

DISMISSAL

- P: Alleluia! Christ is risen
C: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
P: Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!
C: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

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.



Worship Participants

Preaching	Rev. Dr. Glenn Monson
Presiding Minister	Rev. Luke Hollander
Organist/Pianist	Deacon Travis Beck
Psalmist	Richard Bruxvoort Colligan
Assisting Minister/Lector	Jenn DeClercq

Congregational prayers for healing and comfort ...

- ◆ Mount Olive members and friends who are ill, grieving, or recovering from surgery.
- ◆ All who are impacted by COVID-19 and the essential workers who continue to respond to this crisis with deep courage and compassion.
- ◆ All who are suffering, those living in fear, and all who have experienced racial violence or discrimination. May we be open to deep learning and discomfort so that our words and actions dismantle racism, not perpetuate it.
- ◆ All homebound members
- ◆ For our companions in ministry in Kijota, Tanzania and Bogota, Colombia. May our partnership expand our appreciation for the work of the church in the world.

A Return to In-Person Worship for Pentecost!

We are excited to announce that **Sunday, May 23rd**, Pentecost Sunday, is the date when we will once again invite people back to indoor worship at Mount Olive. We know it has been a long time coming, but we feel that the time is right to begin again. This initial foray into in-person worship is not meant to be the permanent model going forward, but a model that we can live with in this interim time when we are still dealing with coronavirus cases, and many people are not yet vaccinated.

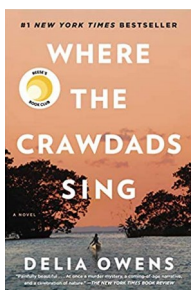
Worship will be offered in the sanctuary every Sunday at 9:00 am and every Sunday at 11:00 am outside in the parking lot in Tailgate style. We will continue to offer a full online service for at-home worshippers. The service will be posted on our YouTube channel on Sundays. A congregational letter will be coming your way which will include everything you will need to know prior to our first gathering. We look forward to seeing you!



Worship Volunteers Needed

With a return to in-person worship on May 23, worship volunteers will be more important than ever to keep the services running smoothly and to make everyone feel safe and welcomed each Sunday morning. At this time, we will be asking that all volunteers are fully vaccinated as a safety precaution. Past volunteers, click here to sign up:

www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0449a5a92aa1fb6-mount1 or contact Nancy Britson, Volunteer Coordinator, with your availability or questions—nancy@molive.org or 507-288-1580 ext. 202. We're looking forward to seeing you!



Monday Book Group

The **Monday Book Group** will wrap up their season of discussing literature when they meet via Zoom **May 10** at 6:30 pm. This month's selection is *Where the Crawdad Sings* by Delia Owens. This novel is at once an exquisite ode to the natural world, a heartbreaking coming-of-age story, and a surprising tale of possible murder. Owens reminds us that we are forever shaped by the children we once were, and that we are all subject to the

beautiful and violent secrets that nature keeps. If you would like to be added to the email list or receive the Zoom invitation, contact Jodi Schoer at mjschoer@charter.net.

Weekly Communication Update

You have probably noticed that Mount Olive has a new way of sending a weekly email update containing the week's worship service link, bulletin, and more about upcoming events. Soon, we will transition to sending this message from the office@molive.org email address. **Please mark this address safe so that our messages don't go to your junk folder.**



SUMMER CAMP

REGISTER TODAY

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

This summer Good Earth Village is offering intergenerational camps and Adventure Days this summer! Due to the COVID-19 pandemic they are unable to offer traditional overnight youth camps. Siblings can save \$10 with code **SIBLING21** on any Adventure Day camp

registrations. Visit goodearthvillage.org/summer2021 to learn more about these great offerings. Please call 507-346-2494 or email info@goodearthvillage.org with any questions or concerns.



Ripe Olives Meets May 14

After more than a year apart, the Ripe Olives, Mount Olive's group for retired folks, will gather IN-PERSON on Friday, May 14 at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. We will wear masks and observe social distance, and for this meeting, no food or drink will be served. We will, however, have the opportunity to enjoy one another's company and catch up on the past year. Contact Nancy Britson with questions 288-1580 ext. 202 or nancy@molive.org.

Prayer-a-thon Thank You!

Thank you for your generous contributions to the Prayer-a-thon youth fundraiser. We have raised over \$3,000 and are getting closer to our goal of \$4,000. It is not too late to donate, you can send a check to Mount Olive indicating Youth Trip in the memo or give online by clicking the ["Donate Now"](#) button on the Mount Olive website and select youth program.

Wear Red on Pentecost

On Pentecost Sunday we celebrate the birthday of the Christian Church, and we begin the long "green season" when the texts we read in worship move away from the life of Christ to the teachings of Christ. Everyone is encouraged to wear red for worship that day, whether at the 9:00 am service in the sanctuary, the 11:00 am Tailgate Worship service, or while you watch online worship at home. We celebrate the presence of God's Spirit at Mount Olive and throughout the Church of Christ.



Donate a Geranium for Pentecost

To decorate the sanctuary for worship on Pentecost, we are asking for red geraniums to be donated. If you would like to help, please drop off a red geranium in bloom to the church. You may bring it to Tailgate Worship on May 16, or drop off in the church office by noon on May 19. Later, we'll plant them at church. Thank you!



Meal Donation Opportunities for Homeless Families

Please see the Signup Genius link for more information and to sign up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c4fa4aa22a3f94-kitchen>

Please contact Erin Sinnwell, Mount Olive member and Family Promise

Board President with any questions: etracy515@hotmail.com or 507-990-6079.

Offerings

The generosity of our supporters is what keeps our ministry growing, thriving, and continuing to be a blessing to others. You may make a gift by clicking the green “Donate Now” button at the bottom of the church website homepage- www.molive.org or simply put a check in the mail to the church office at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 2830 18th Ave. NW, Rochester, MN 55901. If you are interested in learning more about electronic giving, please contact Bill Hollander in the church office and he can answer your questions. bill.h@molive.org. Thank You!



Next Sunday's Readings:

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Matthias added to the apostles

Psalms 1

The LORD knows the way of the righteous.

1 John 5:9-13

Life in the Son of God

John 17:6-19

Christ's prayer for his disciples

Portions from Sundays and Seasons.com © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Scripture quotations marked NRSV are from New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Psalm text, tone, and refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress Used by permission. All rights reserved. Portions may be reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-727717. All rights reserved.



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 STAFF

Rev. Dr. Glenn Monson

Senior Pastor

glenn@molive.org

Rev. Lisa Janke

Associate Pastor of Outreach

lisa@molive.org

Rev. Luke Hollander

Associate Pastor of Children, Youth, and Family

luke@molive.org

Deacon Travis Beck

Director of Worship, Music, and Arts

travis@molive.org

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

Cantor of Olive Branch

richard@molive.org

Bill Hollander

Congregational Administrator

bill.h@molive.org

Nancy Britson

Director of Congregational Life

nancy@molive.org

Carrie Fletcher

Administrative Assistant/Nursery Coord.

carrie@molive.org