

# Mount Olive Lutheran Church



20th Sunday after Pentecost  
Sunday, October 18, 2020

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

"O Bread of Life from Heaven"

Travis Beck, piano

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

C: **Amen**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Faithful God,

C: **have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.**

**We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of ☩ Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.

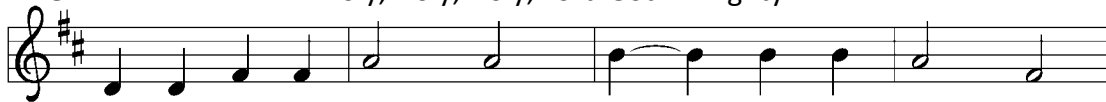
C: **Amen**



## GATHERING HYMN

## "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty"

ELW #413



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!  
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,  
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,  
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.  
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;  
 though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,  
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!  
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,  
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,  
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!



God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
 which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.  
 per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.  
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.  
 Music: NICAEA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

## 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: Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**



## WORD

20th Sunday of Pentecost

### FIRST READING

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 (NRSV)

<sup>1</sup>Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. <sup>2</sup>We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly <sup>3</sup>remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, <sup>5</sup>because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup>And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup>so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. <sup>8</sup>For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. <sup>9</sup>For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, <sup>10</sup>and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

L: Word of God, Word of Life,

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 96:1-9

“Sing a New Song For God”

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

### GOSPEL READING

Matthew 22:1-14 (NRSV)

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew

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

<sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. <sup>16</sup>So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. <sup>17</sup>Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” <sup>18</sup>But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? <sup>19</sup>Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. <sup>20</sup>Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” <sup>21</sup>They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” <sup>22</sup>When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

P: The Gospel of the Lord,

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

**SERMON**

"Grace Works"

Pastor Glenn Monson

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

"As Saints of Old"

ELW #695



1 As saints of old their first-fruits brought of or - chard, flock, and field  
 2 A world in need now sum-mons us to la - bor, love, and give;  
 3 In grat - i - tude and hum-ble trust we bring our best to - day



to God, the giv - er of all good, the source of boun-teous yield,  
 to make our life an of - fer - ing to God, that all may live.  
 to serve your cause and share your love with all a - long life's way.



so we to - day first - fruits would bring, the wealth of this good land,  
 The church of Christ is call - ing us to make the dream come true:  
 O God, who gave your - self to us in Je - sus Christ your Son,



of farm and mar - ket, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.  
 a world re-deemed by Christ-like love; all life in Christ made new.  
 teach us to give our - selves each day un - til life's work is done.

"As Saints of Old" Text © 1961, Ren. 1989 by The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188). Used by permission under ONE LICENSE #A-727717. All rights reserved.

**INTERCESSORY PRAYERS**

L: With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

L: Lord, in your mercy.

**C: Hear our prayer.**

**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.*



## STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Dallas, Serena, Lina, and Ella Oudekirk

# MEAL

## PRAYER OF PREPARATION

P: Let us pray:

**C: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

**We praise you, O God.**

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

**We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

**We thank you, O God.**

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.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. Amen.



## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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.**

P: Come to the banquet table where Christ gives himself as food and drink.

[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: We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

# SENDING

## BENEDICTION

P: Mothering God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

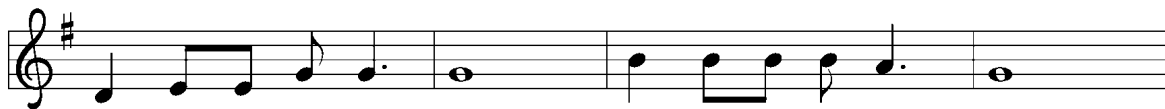
**C: Amen.**



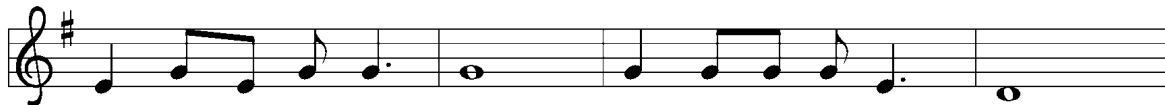
## SENDING HYMN

## "This Little Light of Mine"

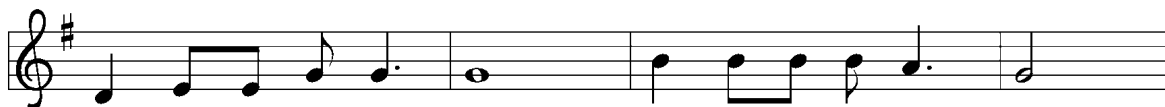
ELW #677



1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,



let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual

## DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C: Thanks be to God.

## 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](http://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	Deacon Travis Beck
Assisting Minister & Lector	Diane Banach
Psalmist	Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

### Congregational prayers for healing and comfort ...

- ◆ Mount Olive members and friends who are ill, grieving, or recovering from surgery.
- ◆ Those sick, recovering, anxious, homebound, or grieving because of COVID 19.
- ◆ All those affected by fires and hurricanes, especially those who have lost their homes and loved ones.
- ◆ All homebound members

We pray that God's generous welcome might be known to all people, especially our companions in ministry in Kijota, Tanzania and Bogota, Colombia. May God's welcome come to them and through them, that all might be blessed.

### October 18: Music and Money Event **Cancelled**

Due to the cold temperatures predicted for Sunday morning, the Music and Money event that was scheduled in the parking lot at 11:00 am has been cancelled. You are encouraged to drop your pledge card in the drop box at church (the church doors are open Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm), bring it by the office, or send by mail to the church - 2830 18th Ave. NW, Rochester, MN 55901. Thank you!

## **Stewardship Sunday October 18**

We hope that the videos we have shared in online worship this month have inspired everyone to generosity. Pledge cards and letters have been sent and Stewardship Sunday is October 18. We strongly encourage you to fill out your pledge card for 2021 and make a strong show of support to the mission and ministry of Mount Olive which means so much to so many people, both in our community and across the globe. Thank you.

## **October 25: Reformation Sunday with Holy Communion, 11:00 am**

Join us once again in the Mount Olive parking lot to celebrate Reformation Sunday. Pastor Luke, with help from our confirmation students, will lead us in a brief service of Holy Communion, in which we will have a chance to connect with our Lutheran roots. Please bring your own bread/cracker and wine/juice for Holy Communion. Please note the you can also listen to the service from the comfort of your car if you choose as it will be broadcast on an FM radio channel. Masks will be required, and physical distancing between households will be expected at all times. (Note: online worship will still be available as usual this weekend)

## **Reformation Sunday is Confirmation Sunday**

Back at the beginning of 2020, Pastor Glenn began meeting with a group of Mount Olive adults of varied faith backgrounds who expressed a desire to be confirmed in the Lutheran faith. The plan was to study together, meet and observe Lenten disciplines, look at what confirmation means, and then celebrate confirmation in the spring. Although plans changed, the desire on the part of these 5 adults to be confirmed has not changed, and so, on October 25 in online Reformation Day worship, you will be able to observe their confirmation and affirm your support for them. We celebrate with Dan and Sue Heitman, Jim Halling, Caitlin Krenz, and Sally Fritts as they make this step of faith.



## **November 1: All Saints Sunday, 5:30 pm. NOTE TIME CHANGE!**

On this day when we remember those in our number who have died, those saints triumphant, we will be hosting a Memorial Walk at dusk with luminaries. We will meet in the parking lot and all worshippers will be invited to walk the path provided, pausing to remember loved ones, grieving with those who grieve, as well as rejoicing in the promised Day of Resurrection. Masks will be required, and physical distancing between households will be expected at all times.

## Women of the ELCA Fall Gathering

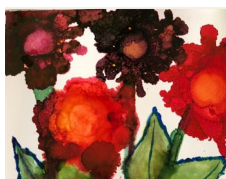
Pastor Heidi Heimgartner, senior pastor of First Lutheran Church in Blooming Prairie MN, is the guest for Mount Olive women's Virtual Fall Gathering. She played an active role in the adoption of the social statement, *Faith, Sexism, & Justice: A Call to Action by the ELCA*. She will be with us **October 19** on Zoom, 6:30 to 7:30 pm, to share her experiences and to help us better understand the statement and what it means for women and girls. Contact Regina Seabrook with any questions-rseabroo@gmail.com.

Meeting ID: 844 3311 6076 Passcode: 704488



## Online Sunday School

Online Sunday School including music, Bible stories, reflections, activities and/or crafts is now available weekly for both preschoolers and children kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade! The YouTube links are available each week on Mount Olive's YouTube channel. Pastor Luke **would like for you to get involved in them too!** If you would like to help by recording a song, story, or an activity/craft, please contact Pastor Luke— [luke@molive.org](mailto:luke@molive.org).



## Olive Branch kicks off Artist's Studio

Creative expression is one of the ways we can let all the pandemic and other life emotions to be felt - and set free. Our **October 19<sup>th</sup>** (6:30-8:30 pm) workshop is: **Alcohol Inks for Beginners**. Olive Branch pastor Lisa Janke will lead us in creating abstract designs with alcohol inks. Literally **NO EXPERIENCE** is required to walk away with something beautiful. We will provide everything you need, just show up! We are limited to 10 people each week in order to be safely distanced, and we will wear masks. Sign up and get all the details here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/artists-studio-presents-alcohol-inks-tickets-124347654181>

## Book Study on Racism with Pastor Glenn

A study with Pastor Glenn on racism in America began September 16 and will continue via Zoom on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm through November 11. Pastor Glenn is using a new resource called ***Dialogues on Race***. This is a resource especially well-suited for those for whom these questions are rather new. It's not too late to join the class! Please email Nancy Britson at [nancy@molive.org](mailto:nancy@molive.org) or call the church office, 507-288-1580 to reserve a copy of the study book (\$10) and be added to the class list.

## Personal Care Kit Collection Continues

Throughout the month of October, we will continue to accept donations of Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits or items needed to complete kits. Look for the collection boxes in the front entry at church. The kits are needed now more than ever due to the need for good hygiene to fight COVID 19. Items in a kit include: one lightweight dark colored bath towel, 1 sturdy comb, one toothbrush (in packaging or sealed in an envelope, 1 metal nail clippers, and 2-3 bath sized bars of soap equaling 8-9 oz.

### Next Sunday's Readings:

#### Jeremiah 31:31-34

*I will write my law  
in their hearts, says  
the LORD*

#### Psalms 46

The LORD of hosts is with  
us; the God of Jacob is  
our stronghold.

#### Romans 3:19-28

*Justified by God's  
grace as a gift*

#### John 8:31-36

*Jesus says, Continue in my  
word and you will know  
the truth*

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Worship, Service, Education, and Fellowship.***

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