


Worship 2018-2019



Mount Olive Lutheran Church

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*With one mind striving side by side
for the faith of the Gospel.
Philippians 1:27*

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Worship at Mount Olive

Introduction

Worship at Mount Olive is:

- **Centered on Jesus Christ, the living Word of God.** In worship, we gather around Jesus Christ, present in the Word of God announced in the forgiveness of sins; read in the scriptures; proclaimed in preaching; sung in hymns and songs; encountered in the waters of baptism, where we are named and claimed as children of God; eaten and drunk in the Lord's Supper; and experienced wherever "two or three are gathered" (Matthew 18:20).
- **Liturgical.** We are committed to using the rich treasury of words, actions, and songs passed down through the ages to express our faith. Our Lutheran confessional documents affirm that "we do not abolish the mass but religiously keep and defend it" (*Apology to the Augsburg Confession*, 24). Our weekly worship follows an ancient pattern of worship and song used in Christian churches for centuries and is designed with the active participation of the congregation in mind—from music to prayers to spoken responses that can be learned by rote.
- **Contextual.** We live in an ever-changing world; our worship at Mount Olive reflects this. The pastors seek to connect the Word of God to life's daily joys and sorrows; we incorporate music in a variety of styles, including global and multicultural songs; we strive to regularly renew our worship in response to the world we are called to serve; and a variety of worship services are used throughout the year, changing to reflect seasons and congregational needs.
- **Open to All.** Communion is celebrated during each service, every weekend. All are welcome to receive communion, even the youngest among us; we invite parents to discern, in consultation with the pastors, how to include their children when they begin to show interest in receiving the sacrament.

Mount Olive expects and welcomes young children in worship. There is also a nursery at the later Sunday worship service for those who need it (10:30 a.m. during the program year, 9:30 a.m. during summer months).

Leadership

Each week, we rely on groups of volunteers to help lead us in worship:

- **Greeters** welcome worshippers as they enter the front doors
- **Ushers** assist all worshippers, handing out bulletins, receiving the offering, guiding communion recipients, and seek to be alert to special needs or emergencies
- **Lectors** read the appointed scripture lessons for the day
- **Acolytes** light candles, distribute offering baskets to ushers, assist pastors as needed
- **Musicians** lead the congregational song, highlight the Word through anthems and special music, support the sung liturgy through instrumental music
- **Assisting Ministers** prepare and lead the Prayers of Intercession, lead liturgical prayers, distribute communion, assist the pastors as needed
- **Communion Servers** assist the pastors in distributing communion

Contact Nancy Britson at nancy@molive.org for more information about how to serve as a worship volunteer. Training opportunities are offered throughout the year or on a one-on-one basis.



Nursery



What? We strive to provide a safe, caring, Christ-centered environment for children. The Nursery is supervised by two adults during the education hour and the late service. The Nursery is also open for parents to use during the Saturday evening service and the 8:00 a.m. Sunday service.

Adults sign their child into the Nursery and make contact with one of the adult volunteers. There will be a laptop located on top of the diaper bag cubby that will be used to sign your child in. You will be given a claim ticket and a pager. Please return to the nursery to collect your child just prior to communion. We will only release your child when you present the claim ticket matching the one to your child.

The Nursery is a well-child environment. In order to provide the best care in our nursery, we ask that your child does not attend if they have any of the following: cough, fever, diarrhea, vomiting, pink eye, or sore throat. We appreciate your cooperation.

The Nursery also has a diaper changing room with diapers and wipes available for parents to use. The changing room can also be used by nursing mothers. A glider rocker is there for your convenience. There is a small television broadcasting the service.

For the safety of our young ones, we encourage older children to participate in worship. There are colored activity bags and children's bulletins available.

There are opportunities to volunteer to serve as a caring adult in the Nursery during regular worship services, the education hour, or holiday services. Please contact Carrie Fletcher at carrie@molive.org or Nancy Britson at nancy@molive.org if you are willing to help.

Who? Children from 0-4 years of age are welcome.

Where? The Mount Olive Nursery is located directly to the rear of the sanctuary, across the hallway.



Music

Music is the primary way of worshipping God in Lutheran churches, and the main responsibility for making music in worship lies with the congregation. To assist the congregation in its music-making, Mount Olive seeks to provide opportunities for musicians of all ages and abilities to share their gifts in worship. These musicians serve the people by supporting and embellishing congregational singing and providing music which illuminates the scripture readings and themes for the day.

At Mount Olive, several musical ensembles have been set apart for this task:

Choir

Singers who are high school age and older are invited to join the choir. You do not need to be able to read music to participate! Rehearsals are every Wednesday evening from 7:30-9:00 pm. The choir provides music roughly twice a month at Sunday morning worship.

Junior Choir

3rd Grade through 5th Grade. Rehearsals are every Sunday from 9:20-9:40 am in the music room. The Junior Choir provides music several times throughout the year in addition to the Christmas Program.

Wee-Ones

Pre-K through 2nd Grade. Rehearsals are every Sunday from 9:20-9:40 am in room 5/6. Wee-Ones provide music several times throughout the year in addition to the Christmas Program.

Brass Ensemble

The Mount Olive Brass ensemble accompanies hymns and provides musical offerings throughout the year, especially on festival Sundays. Rehearsals are every Thursday from 8:30-9:30pm in the music room.



Handbell choir

The handbell choir, Glory Bells, accompanies hymns and provides musical offerings about once a month on Sunday mornings. Rehearsals are every Thursday from 7:30-8:30 pm in the music room.

Other Opportunities

Beyond these ensembles, there is always a need for other vocal and instrumental offerings, including solos, duets, trios, or other small ensembles. If you or someone you know may be interested providing vocal or instrumental music in worship, or if you are



interested in joining one of our

music ensembles, please contact Travis Beck for more information at travis@molive.org or by phone through the church office, 288-1580 x203.



Seasonal Observances

Church Year

Mount Olive has a strong sense of marking time through the various seasons of the Church year (Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Time After Pentecost). These liturgical seasons reflect the various seasons of life that we experience, and also help us tell the stories of God, God's People, and Christ's presence and work in the world.

Lectionary



Hundred of thousands of Christian congregations worldwide read the same Scriptures each week in worship. We are part of this rich tradition and sign of unity in Christ. This selection of Scripture is called The Revised Common Lectionary, and is a three-year reading cycle that guides us through many stages of life. As followers of Jesus, we continually and collaboratively engage these texts that reveal God to us in our world, and we look forward to reading and hearing them together day by day, week by week, and year by year. Look for next week's readings in the announcements section of the worship bulletin or find them at elca.org/lectionary.

Festival Days

Reformation Day. All Saints Day. Christmas Eve. Holy Week and Easter. Pentecost. These days tell some of the most important stories of who we are as God's people. Music, liturgy, and ritual mark these occasions and help to communicate the truths passed down to us from generations of faithful Christ-followers who have gone before. If you'd like to engage in one of these special observances, please contact, Pastor Glenn, Travis Beck, or Nancy Britson(, glenn@molive.org, travis@molive.org, nancy@molive.org)



Healing Services

On each month of the year that includes five Sundays we provide an opportunity for healing and prayer at all weekend worship services. One of the pastors is stationed at a single kneeling station on the far side of the worship platform during the distribution of Holy Communion. **Worshippers are invited to visit the kneeling station to receive prayers and an oil anointing after receiving Holy Communion.** We hope that this opportunity will be an important source of support for those who are enduring difficult times physically, emotionally, or spiritually.

Altar Guild

The Mount Olive Altar Guild is comprised of volunteers who prepare the sanctuary and altar for meaningful worship. They prepare the bread, wafers, wine, and grape juice for communion at each service using the sacramental vessels. They also care for the baptismal font, the banners, candles, and altar linens to make the worship services more beautiful and meaningful. For special seasons of the church year, the altar guild decorates the worship space. The altar guild also has a special role in funerals, weddings, and baptisms, organizing the details of the services and working with pastors and parishioners. Additionally, volunteers bake bread, sew baptism napkins, launder linens and albs, and many other behind-the-scenes duties.



All are welcome to serve with the Altar Guild. If you would like to be a part of this ministry, please contact Sharon Parker (sharonk2001@msn.com).



Worship, Music & Arts Ministry Team

The Worship, Music, and Arts Ministry Team meets quarterly to review practices, come up with new ideas, and support the pastors and staff who lead worship and other music and arts events.

Vision

Every aspect of our worship experience at Mount Olive elevates and inspires God's people in their encounter with the mystery of the presence of God.

Mission Statement

To coordinate the varying aspects of worship by enhancing communication and collaboration among worship leaders and the people of God.

Chair: Mark Schoer

Team members: Brad Natzke, Grant Natzke, Sharon Parker, Sandy Schlenker, Barb Seide, and Barb Sorensen

Staff Liaisons: Pastor Glenn, Travis Beck, Nancy Britson