

**P: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
C: have mercy on us.**

These words stand at the center of our worship together on Ash Wednesday, marking the beginning of the liturgical season of Lent. The thought of asking for God's mercy can seem like an unnecessary appendage of an age long past, but I tend to see this pleading for mercy as more of a recognition that we continue to be people who are in need: in need of peace, in need of sustenance, in need of guidance, in need of one another, and indeed, in need of God. As we enter into this season, Lent uniquely invites us to open our lives to the presence of Christ walking with us, as we move together towards the Cross, and beyond, to Resurrection Sunday (Easter).

This journey towards the cross takes us through many scripture stories this Lenten season. The Gospel texts proclaimed in our weekend worship include the temptation of Jesus, the death threats of King Herod, the tragedy at Siloam, and the parable of the father whose lost son returns. Pastor Glenn's Bible study on Sundays and Wednesdays will open us to the Apostle Paul and his letter to the Philippians, as we learn what it means to be joyful in Christ, and, on Wednesdays during Holden Evening Prayer, a courtroom drama will be performed as we ponder the free grace and justice of God.

Throughout this season, it is my hope that God's movement of death to life will be found in our own lives, individually and as the whole people of God.

There is much richness to wade in together in these weeks to come.

Pastor Paul

MOUNT OLIVE LIFE

Lenten Season Brings Drama!

You will be in the courtroom every Wednesday evening this Lenten season as we bring you the drama, "The People vs. Judas Iscariot." This drama holds in tension the justice of God and the free grace of God. We are asked to ponder the extent to which God's forgiveness extends. This promises to be a very enriching series for all worshippers. This drama will be done each Wednesday night as part of the Holden Evening Prayer service which will comprise the remainder of the worship. Ash Wednesday is February 10, and this series will be begin Wednesday, February 17 at 7:00 pm.

Sunday Forum to Highlight Spiritual Disciplines

On Sunday, February 7, Pastor Glenn will present a forum on spiritual disciplines as a path to spiritual growth. For centuries Christians have practiced spiritual disciplines such as prayer, fasting, meditation, and solitude, and in the Lutheran tradition we often associate the season of Lent with such practices. Pastor Glenn will present these practices using the work of Richard Foster, who talks about them as "the door to liberation." Come at 9:15 on February 7 and join the discussion.

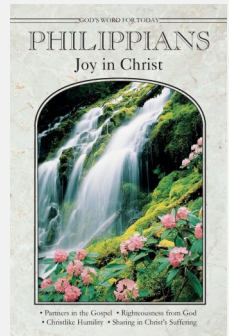
Pick up your Lenten devotional on the table in the front hallway



Lenten Bible Study

**Two options:
Wednesday and Sunday**

The season of Lent at Mount Olive this year will be following a decidedly 'un-Lenten' theme as we lift up the joy we have in Christ. The vehicle for this reflection of our joy in Christ will be the



Apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians. This letter is Paul's most joyful letter, written to the fledgling church at Philippi in Macedonia (modern day Greece) in the mid-to-late 50's C.E. The development of the emerging structure of the early Church is in evidence in this letter as we encounter the terms "bishop" and "deacon" for the first time. While Paul spends some time warning about those who might be enemies of the gospel, the letter is filled with exhortations to joy, even in the most difficult circumstances.

Pastor Glenn will be leading this study of Philippians Sundays (February 14 – March 20) at 9:15 am, and Wednesdays (February 17 – March 23) at 6:00 pm. Sign up in the front entrance. Study guides are available for \$7 each. Please come!

Mount Olive on Facebook



Find us on Facebook

On Facebook? Want to see what Mount Olive is posting, have a question, want to share a photo you took of an activity or want interact with others? You are invited to check out our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/MountOliveRochester.

Have you liked the page, but are not seeing our posts? You are not alone. Because of how Facebook prioritizes posts for pages, only 7% posts will show up in a follower's feed. That could mean you only see a few posts every couple weeks. (Note: we typically publish 3-4 times a week.)

To increase the number of posts from Mount Olive you see, here are a couple things you can do"

- 1) Go to Mount Olive's Facebook page and hold your mouse over the "like" button. If you have already liked the page you will see two options: "Post in News Feed" and "Notifications."
 - If you select "Post in News Feed" you will have a better chance of seeing the posts in your news feed. And, depending on your Facebook settings (e.g., "top stories" or "recent posts") and where you view your Facebook account (e.g., on a mobile device or desktop computer), the post may show up first in your feed.
 - If you select "Notifications," you will receive a notification on your personal profile each time we post an update.
- 2) Visit the Mount Olive page by typing "Mount Olive Lutheran Church" in the search line of Facebook. This will take you directly to our page. Once there, you can see what has been posted, leave a comment or share a photo.

We look forward to connecting with you on Facebook!



New Member Coffee February 14 at 9:15 am

Interested in membership at Mount Olive? There will be an informational coffee for interested visitors between worship services February 14 in the library. Please come to meet the staff, other new members, and learn about the ministries at Mount Olive. Childcare is available. New Members will be received into membership on February 28. For more information, please contact New Member Coordinator, Nancy Britson, nancy@molive.org or 288-1580 ext. 210.

Welcome New Members February 28 at 10:30 am

New members will be joining Mount Olive on February 28 at the 10:30 service. A reception will follow the service in the fellowship hall. Please plan to attend to enjoy some cake and punch and give our newest members a warm welcome!

If you would like to help with the reception or welcoming the new members, please contact New Member Coordinator, Nancy Britson, nancy@molive.org.

FRIENDS, FAMILY AND FAITH MINISTRY

LEARNING, GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP

Welcome to Holy Communion

February 7

11:45 am, Sanctuary

All are welcome to join the whole church at the Communion table. Do you have a child who is ready to commune? Do you want to learn more about this Holy Sacrament? Pastor Paul will teach an introduction to the sacrament in the sanctuary at 11:45 am on February 7.



February 7 9:15 am

Parents of infants and toddlers not yet in Sunday School join together in conversation and fellowship on the first Sunday of each month. Gather in room 13.

WALK FOR WATER during Lent!

Water is a precious element for our sacrament of baptism, an element needed to live. Join with the 6-8 graders to raise funds for others who are in need of *Clean Water*. Information will be shared to encourage us to BE AWARE of our use of water and how we can help others.



PK3 Sunday School class
learning about baptism

Grades 6-9: All Hands on DECK PROCLAIM JUSTICE WORK

Sign up at Metamorphosis!

February 6
Noon

Frozen Goose Run/Walk 5K 10K
Benefits Childhood Cancer
Campaign
(Registration Fee: \$30/individual
\$50/Family)

February 17
6 pm - 7 pm

Lutheran World Relief Quilt Tying
Mount Olive

March 15
6 pm - 8 pm

Channel One Food Shelf

March 16
4 pm - 7:15 pm

Ronald McDonald House Dinner

Adventure Club

February 5 6-9:00 pm	Candle Light Ski at Quarry Hill \$10 Meet at Quarry Hill. Arrive early for rental skis.
February 6 10 am—4:00 pm	Sleigh Rides at the History Center Set a time to meet with another Mount Olive Family/Friend or group. Free Will donation
February 6 Noon	Frozen Goose Walk/Run Preregistration \$30/individual \$50/Family Supports Childhood Cancer Run begins at 1:00 pm

Opa!

**Join the Mount Olive Youth
for an evening of Greek decadence
at Mount Olive**

February 27, 6:30 pm

Meal Ticket \$15

Raffle Tickets: \$5 or 5 for \$20

Tickets are available near the welcome
desk. This is a fundraiser for the 2016
youth summer mission trip to the
Pine Ridge Reservation.

GUSTAVUS 
GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS COLLEGE

Grade 9-12: Step Up Leadership Development at Gustavus Adolphus College

**March 10, leave from Mount Olive at
8:00 am and return by 6:00 pm**

- Leadership opportunity for high school youth to develop a stronger personal plan for continuing to grow as a leader. Participants will receive a certificate from Gustavus Adolphus College certifying completion of Step Up leadership curriculum and a t-shirt.
- Mount Olive will cover the early registration fee. Your cost is \$20 for transportation & meal.

**Pick up an application from Sara
Hollander. Return the completed
application to her by February 15.**



ADULTS

LEARNING, GROWTH AND FELLOWSHIP

Faith Seeking Understanding (FSU)

Faith Seeking Understanding reads and shares conversations about books on theology, religion, spirituality and Christianity and our changing church. All are welcome. Please contact Jody Myers if you have questions at jodyjpmymers@gmail.com.

February 2

The Mayo Clinic Guide to Stress Free Living
by Amit Sood M.D., M. Sc.

March 1

Video Clip Discussion:
How Jesus Became God: Origin of the Trinity

Monday Book Group

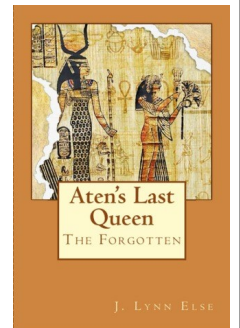
All are welcome. Meet in the Mount Olive library the second Monday at 6:30 pm. If you have any questions, please contact Jodi Schoer at mjschoer@charter.net or Darlene Vowels at vowelsjd@charter.net.

February 8

The Forgotten: Aten's Last Queen

By J. Lynn Else (Mount Olive member Jessi Hafeman)

In a time where there was more change and unrest than any other period in Egyptian history, one girl became a queen at age 12 over the most powerful nation of the ancient world. With a twist of biblical history, Queen Ankhesenamun, the sole wife of King Tut, finds herself longing for true love and the ability to worship a God now banned from her country.



Prayer Shawl Ministry
Tuesday, January 12
9:00 am

All knitters and crocheters are invited. Yarn, treats, guidance, wisdom, support, and humor are shared! Gather in the front conference room.

Mount Olive Quilters
Each Thursday, 9 am

You are invited each
week to enjoy
quilting and fellowship.





Sunday Forum 9:15 am
Grab some coffee or tea and gather in the fellowship hall.

February 7	Introduction to Spiritual Disciplines with Pastor Glenn
February 14 February 21 February 28	Lenten Bible study: <i>Philippians, Joy in Christ</i> with Pastor Glenn

Ripe Olives

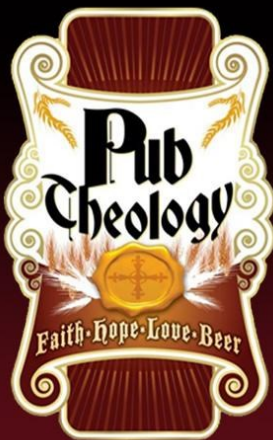


Lunch and Social Time **Friday, February 12** **Noon at Gramercy Complex**

The Ripe Olives is a group of Mount Olive's more experienced adults who meet monthly for fellowship and educational programs. While anyone is welcome, most attendees are retired folks.

Sign up is required. The sign up sheet is available in the gathering area.

Contact LouAnn Wiebke with questions, 282-0355.



Pub Theology **See what's trending.**

Come to Life's Too Short Brewing Company (2001 32nd Ave NW) on Monday nights for food and catching up at 5:30. The discussion begins at 6:00.

Pastor Paul Moody leads conversation surrounding a weekly topic which is published at Rochesterpublictheology.wordpress.com and distributed by email. If you would like to be included on the email distribution list, please email Pastor Paul at paul@molive.org.



Spiritual Care

Please contact the church staff if you have any prayer concerns:

- Pastor Glenn: glenn@molive.org
- Pastor Paul: paul@molive.org
- Church office: 507-288-1580

In addition, Mount Olive has a Prayer Chain, coordinated by Kim Ignatius. If you have a prayer request and would like the prayer chain to be in prayer for you or someone you love, please contact Kim at: 507-271-6087 or ignatius.kimberlie@charter.net.

SERVICE AND SOCIAL OUTREACH MINISTRY (SSOM)

Women of the ELCA 



**Saturday
April 16
9:00 am - 1:00 pm**

Mount Olive Women's Day of Service

All women and girls grades 6-12 are invited to participate in this event of service, fellowship and spiritual growth. Look for more details coming in March.



Mount Olive is using an online service called *Meal Train* to organize meals for Mount Olive members in need. There are currently two recipients. Volunteers simply sign on the service and choose a date to provide a meal using an individualized link for each recipient. Dietary requirements, maps, email reminders, and special instructions can be viewed. If you are willing to help provide meals, please email Nancy Britson at nancy@molive.org, and she can send the Meal Train links to you.

An ongoing coordinator is needed for this ministry; please contact Nancy or one of the pastors if you would be willing to help coordinate this ministry to our members.

Sign up to help with Lenten Soup Suppers

Soup suppers will be served each Wednesday night during Lent from 5:45-6:45. The first meal will be Ash Wednesday, February 10. Many volunteers are needed each week to bring soup, serve and clean up. Helping with a soup supper is a great opportunity for fellowship while working together. Small groups or ministry teams are encouraged to choose a week and sign up to serve together. The freewill offering for the meals will go to ELCA World Hunger. Please sign up in the gathering area. Contact Nancy Britson with questions at nancy@molive.org.



Volunteer Update

Worship and Coffee Fellowship

February Worship and Coffee Fellowship Volunteer Schedules have been sent to all participants. The schedule is also available on the church website.

Here is a direct link:

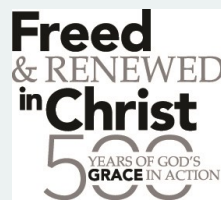
<http://tinyurl.com/lmjbljr>

Volunteers have also been invited to help at worship services in March via the online sign up site: *Sign Up Genius*. If you did not receive the email invitation or "don't do computers" but are willing to serve, please contact Nancy Britson, Volunteer Coordinator, and she will help you: 288-1580 ext. 210 or nancy@molive.org

Nursery Volunteers are needed

Adult Volunteers are needed to help out in the nursery during

- Lenten Bible Study, 6 - 7 pm
- Lenten Holden Evening Prayer services, 7 - 8 pm



2017 Germany Trip: Reserve Your Spot

In 2017, Protestants and Lutherans around the world will celebrate the 500th year of the Reformation. Pastor Paul is planning a week-long trip that will include travel to many of the important locations in Martin Luther's life, possibly including Wittenberg, Torgau, Leipzig, Eisleben, Erfurt, and Berlin, among others. If you would like to learn more, please contact Pastor Paul or add your name to the list on the Gathering Area signup tables.

Adult Spring Service Trip March 4 - 6

Please join us for an Urban Immersion program in the Twin Cities. We will carpool up Friday late afternoon and spend the weekend doing various service activities (working at a soup kitchen, stocking food bank shelves, cleaning homeless shelters, etc.), participate in evening programming and have wonderful fellowship. Cost is \$100 per person, which includes lodging in apartments (dorm style with shared bathrooms and bedrooms), snacks and meals. Please contact Erin Sinnwell ASAP if you are interested. We will start registering people the first two weeks in January. Contact Erin at etracy515@hotmail.com or 507-990-6079 with questions.

Fair Trade Coffee

Stop by the
Fair Trade
Coffee



display in the gathering area to check out the varieties of ground and whole bean coffee and tea available for purchase. You can also sign up to sponsor the coffee on an upcoming Sunday. For \$15 you can help offset the cost of the coffee served during fellowship time and celebrate an occasion such as a birthday, anniversary, or the memory of a loved one.

Welcome to Lent

Ash Wednesday
February 10

Noon Worship with Imposition of Ashes
5:00 pm Worship with Imposition of Ashes
5:45 pm Soup Supper
7:00 pm Worship with Imposition of Ashes



Wednesdays
beginning
February 17

5:45 pm Soup Supper
6:00 pm Bible Study: *Philippians, Joy in Christ*
7:00 pm Holden Evening Prayer with "The People vs. Judas Iscariot"

Saturdays

5:00 pm Worship

Sunday
Mornings

8:00 am Worship
9:15 am Bible Study: *Philippians, Joy in Christ*
10:30 am Worship

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 5:30p Public Theology 6:30p Boy Scout Troop Meeting	2 9:15a Staff Meeting 6:30p Volleyball 6:30p Faith Seeking Understanding Book Group 6:30p Service and Social Outreach Ministry Team 7:30p Glory Bells Rehearsal	3 5:30p Gather Meal 6:00p Metamorphosis 6:30p Fun In Serving Him 6:30p Lutheranism Class 7:30p Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:30p Pack Backpacks for JA 8:45p Adult Brass Rehearsal	4 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 6:30p Scouts: Dens 3,4,5,6,7 7:00p 'In the Process' Al-Anon	5 6:00p Serve at Dorothy Day House 6:00p Adventure Club - Candle Light Ski at Quarry Hill	6 8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 10:00a Adventure Club - Sleigh Rides for All 12:00p Adventure Club - Frozen Goose Walk/Run 5:00p Worship
7 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Education Hour 9:15a Little Leapers 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 11:45a Welcome to Communion Class 2:00p Den 1 Cub Scout Meeting 3:00p Rochester Pops Orchestra Rehearsal	8 5:30p Public Theology 6:00p Widowed Persons Event 6:30p Lydia Circle 6:30p Monday Book Group 6:30p Scout Venture Crew	9 9:00a Prayer Shawl Ministry 9:15a Staff Meeting 6:30p Full Council Meeting 7:30p Glory Bells Rehearsal 8:00p Volleyball	10 Ash Wednesday 12:00p Ash Wednesday Worship 5:00p Ash Wednesday Worship 5:45p Soup Supper 7:00p Ash Wednesday Worship 8:00p Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:45p Adult Brass Rehearsal	11 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 9:00a Rochester Keyboard Club 5:30p Facility and Grounds Ministry Team 6:00p Widowed Persons 6:30p Scouts: Dens 3,4,5,6,7 7:00p 'In the Process' Al-Anon	12 12:00p Ripe Olives Lunch and Social Time at Gramercy	13 8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 9:00a Habitat for Humanity Work Day 5:00p Worship
14 First Sunday in Lent 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Education Hour 9:15a New Member Coffee 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 2:00p Den 1 Cub Scout Meeting 2:00p Zumbro River Conference Meeting 7:00p Rochester Pops Orchestra Rehearsal	15 5:30p Public Theology	16 9:15a Staff Meeting 6:00p Children, Youth and Family Ministry Team 6:30p Volleyball 6:30p WomenHeart Support Group 7:30p Glory Bells Rehearsal	17 5:45p Soup Supper 6:00p Lenten Bible Study 6:30p Anna Circle 7:00p Lenten Service 6:00p Youth Quilt Tying 7:45p Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:45p Adult Brass Rehearsal	18 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 6:30p Adult Faith Ministry Team 7:00p 'In the Process' Al-Anon	19 6:30p Scout Pack Committee Meeting 6:30p Rochester Pops Orchestra Dress Rehearsal	20 8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Altar Guild Meeting & Setup 10:00a District 41 Al-Anon Meeting 5:00p Worship
21 Second Sunday in Lent 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Education Hour 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 2:00p Den 1 Cub Scout Meeting 3:00p Rochester Pops Orchestra Concert at Mayo High School	22 5:30p Public Theology 6:30p Cub Scout Troop Meeting	23 9:00a Ruth Circle 1:00p Naomi Circle 7:30p Glory Bells Rehearsal	24 9:15a Staff Meeting 5:45p Soup Supper 6:00p Lenten Bible Study 7:00p Lenten Service 7:45p Adult Choir Rehearsal 8:45p Adult Brass Rehearsal	25 9:00a Mount Olive Quilters 4:00p Blue and Gold Banquet 6:30p Rachel Circle 7:00p 'In the Process' Al-Anon	26 9:30a Mary Circle	27 8:30a Men's Discipleship Group 9:00a Altar Guild Setup 5:00p Worship 6:30p "Opal" Greek Meal Youth Fundraiser
28 Third Sunday in Lent 8:00a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 9:15a Education Hour 10:30a Worship & Coffee Fellowship 11:30p New Member Reception 2:00p Den 1 Cub Scout Meeting 7:00p Rochester Pops Orchestra Rehearsal	29 5:30p Public Theology 6:30p Boy Scout Troop Meeting	F e b r u a r y 2 0 1 6				