# Mount Olive Lutheran Church




A Reconciling in Christ Community

1st Sunday of Advent
Sunday, November 29, 2026
8:00 am & 10:30 am

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, gender expressions, and sexual orientations; All races and ethnicities; All ages and abilities; All economic statuses and education levels; All faith journeys and personal histories. We work for racial equity and commit to anti-racism as the way of right relationship with God and one another. 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."

**About Worship at Mount Olive Lutheran:**

**Welcome Center**

As you leave the Sanctuary, directly to the right, you'll find the Welcome Desk. Please stop by to introduce yourself and ask any questions you may have about Mount Olive. Please talk to an usher if you would like a large print bulletin or a Auracast hearing assistance device. Feel free to contact Nancy Britson, Director of Congregational Life if you have further questions.

**Communion**

We celebrate Holy Communion each week. All are welcome to the Lord's Supper. If you choose to come forward, please cup your hands to receive a wafer. You are then invited to take a small cup of red wine or white grape juice from the tray . Gluten free wafers are available upon request; please verbally indicate your choice to the server. Leave your empty cup in the basket provided.

**The Lord's Prayer**

While we have only one version of the Lord's prayer printed in the bulletin, everyone is invited to say it aloud in any language or version of their choosing. Each week we choose an address for God based on the scripture readings/theme for the day. You are always welcome to open with any image of God that is comforting and life-giving for you.

**Creeds**

When we recite creeds in worship, we are connected across time and place with the multitudes who have recited the same or similar words. We use different creeds from week to week as a way to acknowledge there are many different ways of expressing that in which we put our trust. Try not to think of creeds as a line in the sand – you're in, or you're out. Rather, think of it as a time to be curious, and to place trust outside yourself and what you can comprehend.

**Video Recording**

This service is recorded and published on YouTube. Note that parishioners will not generally appear in the recording unless seated in the front rows of the sanctuary. You can find the services at www.youtube.com/MountOliveELCA.

# GATHERING

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING** Swanson Family (8:00 am) Mannix Family (10:30 am)

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM** *(8:00 am) (Please stand as you are able.)*

P: Blessed be God, the Great Mystery - Creator, Friend, ☩ and Spirit who holds us in love.
**C: Amen.**
P: Joined to the new life of Christ in baptism, we are held close in God's endless compassion.
**C: A sign of God's love!**
P: In ordinary water from river, faucet, well, and hose, we remember and celebrate.
**C: A sign of God's love!**
P: We give thanks for the spirit breath that fluttered over the waters of creation and is ever present with us, through Christ our living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
**C: Amen**

**GATHERING HYMN** *(Please stand.)* "There is a Longing in Our Hearts"

There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord,
for you to reveal yourself to us.
There is a longing in our hearts for love
we only find in you, our God.

1 For justice, for freedom,
for mercy: hear our prayer.
In sorrow, in grief:
be near; hear our prayer, O God.
*Refrain*

2 For wisdom, for courage,
for comfort: hear our prayer.
In weakness, in fear:
be near; hear our prayer, O God.
*Refrain*

3 For healing, for wholeness,
for new life: hear our prayer.
In sickness, in death:
be near; hear our prayer, O God.
*Refrain*

4 Lord, save us, take pity,
light in our deepest night.
We call you; we wait:
be near; hear our prayer, O God.

"There is a Longing in Our Hearts" Words & music © 1992 Oregon Catholic Press. Used by permission under ONE LICENSE #A-727717. 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: Stir up your power, O God, and come to us. Like the deer longs for the water brooks, we crave your presence. In the name of Jesus our Christ who lives and reigns with the Creator and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## WORD

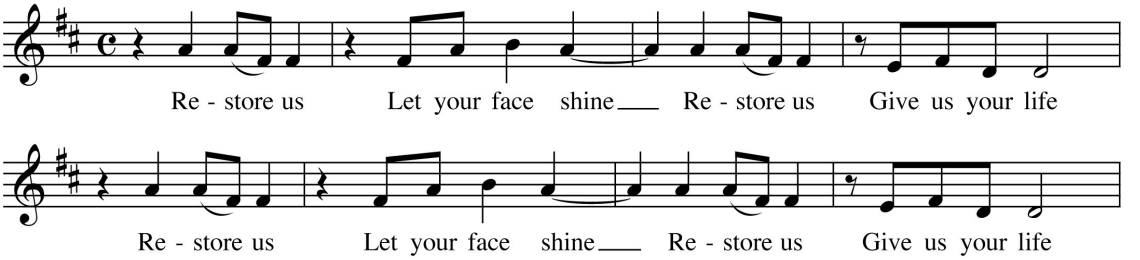
"First Sunday of Advent"

**FIRST READING** Isaiah 64:1-9 (NRSVUE) *adapted*

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

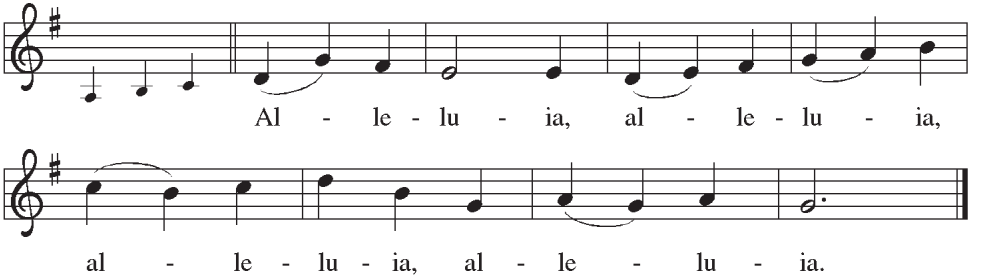
**PSALM 80** "Restore Us" Richard Bruxvoort Colligan




"Restore Us" Words & music © 2014 Worldmaking.net. Used by permission under ONE LICENSE #A-727717. All rights reserved.

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *(Please stand.)*




**GOSPEL** Mark 13:24-30 (NRSVUE) *adapted*

P: The Good News according to Saint Mark.

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

P: The Good News of the Reign of God.

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

*Please be seated.*

**SERMON** Pastor Erik Nelson

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *(Please stand.)* "Christ Be Our Light" ELW #715

1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

*Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.*
*Shine through the darkness.*
*Christ, be our light!*
*Shine in your church gathered today.*

2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice. *Refrain*

3 Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed. *Refrain*

4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone. *Refrain*

5 Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
signs of your kingdom come. *Refrain*

"Christ Be Our Light" Words & music © 1993 Oregon Catholic Press. Used by permission under ONE LICENSE #A-727717. All rights reserved.

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM - PHOEBE HOERLE** *(10:30 am)*

**CONFESSION OF FAITH** From the Iona Abbey Worship Book

P: Let us affirm our faith: Do you believe in God?
**C: I believe in God: who has created and is creating.**
P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
**C: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's embodied love in the world,**
**Who came to reconcile and make new, Who taught us how to:**
**Care for one another, challenge the status quo, and find power in vulnerability.**
P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
**C: I believe in the Holy Spirit, ever present within us and between us,**
**Giving us courage, and bringing us peace.**
P: Do you believe in the one holy universal Christian church?
**C: I believe the church is a witness of Christ's reconciliation in the world,**
**a life-giving community committed to the pursuit of freedom and justice.**
**In and through this church we are called to bear one another's burdens, work together for one hope, and to pray without ceasing so that together we may know the depth and breadth of Christ's love for the world. In life and death we belong to God. Amen.**

**BAPTISMAL WELCOME** *(10:30 am)*

P: Let's speak these words together:
**C: You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized.**

P: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**C: We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

**INTERCESSORY PRAYERS**

L: Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, we lift our prayers for the health and wholeness of all creation. In the silence after each petition, we trust the Holy Spirit to bring prayer to our minds.

L: God of Grace.

**C: Hear our prayer.**

**PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*(Please share a sign of God's peace with one another.)*

# MEAL

## GATHERING OF GIFTS & OFFERINGS

The season of Advent, it is often said, is a season of waiting. It is also the season of the longest night. Perhaps that's why Advent is a season well suited to contemplation. Our offerings can also reflect this season as we contemplate God's call to be generous, especially to those who have little. God bless you in your generous contemplation.

## OFFERTORY

## OFFERTORY RESPONSE *(Please stand.)*

"Come Now, O Prince of Peace" ELW # 247
Vs. 1

Come now, O Prince of peace,
make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus,
reconcile your people.

"Come Now, O Prince of Peace" Words & music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission under ONE LICENSE #A-727717. All rights reserved.

## OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray:

**C: Holy Creator, we are the clay and you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand. Receive these gifts shape them and our lives for your purpose, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

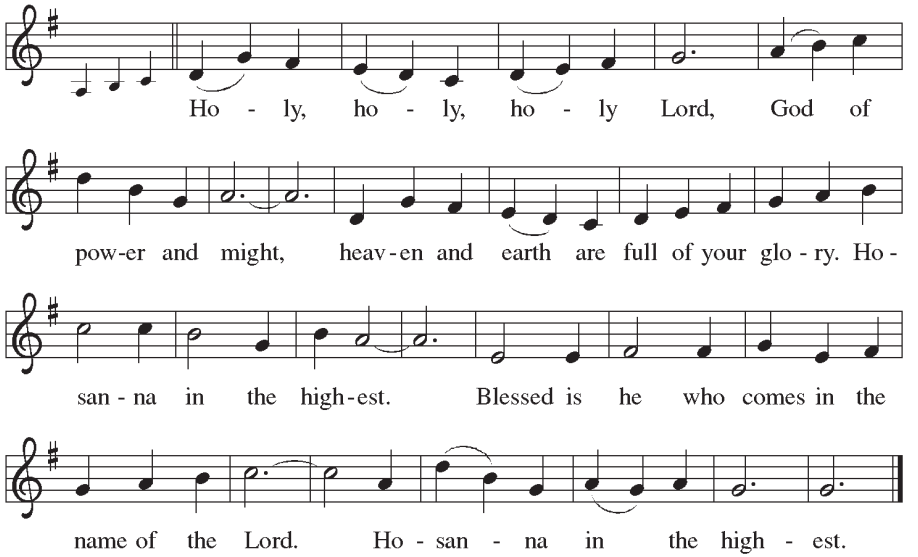
P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should always and everywhere…. we praise your name and join their unending hymn:




**EUCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

*Today, you're invited to address God in this prayer of Jesus using Our Potter or any other image you prefer.*

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray the prayer Jesus taught his first disciples.

**C: Our Potter 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 glory of the Lord is revealed! Come and taste God's presence. All, without exception, are welcome here.

*Please be seated.*

**COMMUNION HYMN** "Each Winter As the Year Grows Older" ELW #252

1 Each winter as the year grows older,
we each grow older, too.
The chill sets in a little colder;
the verities we knew
seem shaken and untrue.

2 When race and class
cry out for treason,
when sirens call for war,
they overshout the voice of reason
and scream till we ignore
all we held dear before.

3 Yet I believe beyond believing
that life can spring from death,
that growth can flower from our grieving,
that we can catch our breath
and turn transfixed by faith.

4 So even as the sun is turning
to journey to the north,
the living flame, in secret burning,
can kindle on the earth
and bring God's love to birth.

5 O Child of ecstasy and sorrows,
O Prince of peace and pain,
brighten today's world by tomorrow's,
renew our lives again;
Lord Jesus, come and reign!

"Each Winter As the Year Grows Older" Words & music © 1971 The Pilgrim Press. Used by permission under ONE LICENSE #A-727717. All rights reserved.

"Wait for the Lord" ELW #262

Wait for the Lord,
whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord,
be strong, take heart!

"Wait for the Lord" Words & music © 1984 Taizé, Les Presses de (North America). Used by permission under ONE LICENSE #A-727717. All rights reserved.

**POST COMMUNION BLESSING** *(Please stand as you are able.)*

P: May the gifts of this table strengthen you and hold you in love and grace.

**C: Amen.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P: Providing God, you feed your flock like a shepherd and gather your people in your arms. We praise you for the care and sustenance you give at this meal and always.

As we leave your table, carry us near your heart, and send us with confidence in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

# SENDING

**BENEDICTION**

P: God our provider, God our feast, God our companion, ☩ bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN** "Rejoice, Rejoice Believers" ELW #244

1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers,
and let your lights appear;
the evening is advancing,
and darker night is near.
The bridegroom is arising
and soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;
at midnight comes the cry.

2 The watchers on the mountain
proclaim the bridegroom near;
go forth as he approaches
with alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting;
the gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory;
the bridegroom is at hand.

3 The saints, who here in patience
their cross and suff'rings bore,
shall live and reign forever
when sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory
the Lamb they shall behold;
in triumph cast before him
their diadems of gold.

4 Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
arise, O Sun so longed for,
o'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted,
we plead, O Lord, to see
the day of earth's redemption
that sets your people free!

**DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Bring good news to the brokenhearted.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**

| **Next Sunday's Readings:** | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Isaiah 40:1-11**<br>Good news of God's coming to a people in exile | **Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13**<br>Righteousness shall prepare a pathway for God. | **2 Peter 3:8-15a**<br>Waiting for and hastening the day of God | **Mark 1:1-8**<br>John appears from the wilderness |

## Welcome, Worship Guests!

We hope your worship experience with us is uplifting and a blessing to you today. If you are a visitor to Mount Olive you can fill out a Connection Card from the pew rack indicating if you are interested in learning more about at Mount Olive: receiving our monthly newsletter, weekly email news, membership or if you have a prayer concern or other comment to share. Stop by the Welcome Desk in the front hallway following the service if you have any questions about our church or if you would like more information about any upcoming events. Mount Olive members, please use a Connection Card if you would like to share prayer concerns, comments, or change contact info. **You're invited to the Gathering Area for coffee and donuts following the service!**

| **Congregational prayers for healing and comfort …** |
|---|
| • Our Homebound Members |
| • Mount Olive members and friends who are grieving, ill, or recovering. For family members holding vigil with those in the sacred process of dying, and for those supporting those in recovery. |
| • Our Congregation, as we continue with the Capital Campaign and welcome a new pastor, Erik Nelson, to our community. |
| • Our companions in ministry in Bogota, Colombia and Kijota, Tanzania, who celebrate the risen Christ as we do. |
| • Our nation, that we might find solidarity in our shared humanity, and strive for justice and dignity for all. |
| • Communities continuing the struggle to end gun violence in our nation. Give all elected leaders the courage to seek solutions for peace. |
| • All people enduring the horrors of war, especially the people of Ukraine and Sudan, the people of Gaza, and the people of Iran. |
| • All those suffering the effects of natural disasters, especially for the lives lost during the recent earthquakes, flooding, wildfires, and tornados. May God be with all who are injured, without shelter, safety, or access to basic necessities and provide assistance for all. |
| **Prayers of Celebration -** Phoebe Hoerle, baptized today, and her parents and sponsors as they raise her in the faith. |

| Worship Participants | Sunday 8:00 am | Sunday 10:30 am |
|---|---|---|
| **Preaching** | Rev. Erik Nelson | |
| **Presiding Minister** | Rev. Lisa Janke | |
| **Organist/Pianist** | Deacon Travis Beck | |
| **Psalmist** | Dr. Richard Bruxvoort Colligan | |
| **Assisting Minister** | Jenn DeClercq | Bob Thomsen |
| **Lector** | Rob Nelson | Bob Thomsen |
| **Greeter** | Lester & Dianne Dunn | Kerry Dennison |
| **Ushers** | Paula Roberts, Carole Joyce | Sarabeth Watson, Loren Else |
| **Communion Assistants** | Rob Nelson | Wendy Dennison |
| **Welcome Desk** | Paul Johnsen | Wendy Dennison |
| **Altar Guild** | Denise Foy | Michelle Thomsen |
| **Livestream Video** | David Joyce | |

## This Week at Mount Olive

**Sunday, November29**
**Healing Sunday**
8:00a - Worship Service
9:00a - Coffee Fellowship
9:15a - Adult Forum
10:30a - Worship Service
11:30a - Coffee Fellowship
4:00p - Olive Branch Advent Kickoff
**Monday, November 30**
9:00a - Staff Retreat
6:00p - Scout Committee Meeting
6:30p - Scout Troop Planning Mtg
7:30p - Scout Troop Meeting
**Tuesday, December 1**
9:30a - Staff Meeting
12:00p - 24 Hours Today AA Mtg.
3:00p - SAIL Active Aging Class
4:00p - Bolder Options Cohort
6:30p - Capital Campaign Leadership Team
7:00p - Al-Anon ACOA Meeting
**Wednesday, December 2**
5:30p - Facility & Grounds Meeting
6:30p - Youth Bell Ringing at HyVee North
6:30p - Midweek Advent Worship
7:00p - Mount Olive Choir
**Thursday, December 3**
9:00a - Mount Olive Quilters
10:00a - Performers Group
1:00p - Painting Group
3:00p - SAIL Active Aging Class
6:30p - Cub Scout Pack Meeting
7:00p - In the Process Al-Anon
7:00p - Glory Bells
8:15p - Mount Olive Brass
**Friday, December 4**
9:00a - Women's Coffee at Hy-Vee West Circle
12:00p - 24 Hours Today AA Mtg.
6:00p - Serve at Dorothy Day
6:30p - Piano Recital
**Saturday, December 5**
8:30a - Men's Discipleship
9:00a - How Al-Anon Works Group
9:00a - Altar Guild Set up
**Sunday, December 6**
8:00a - Worship Service
9:00a - Coffee Fellowship
9:15a - Adult Forum
9:15a - Sunday School
10:30a - Worship Service
11:30a - Coffee Fellowship
12:30p - Parker Family Christmas

*Church Office Hours are generally 9:00a-4:00p Monday - Thursday. Call the office at any time for pastoral emergencies.*

## Capital Campaign Update



Thank you to all who have provided, gifts, pledges and prayers for our Love Makes Room Stewardship and Capital Campaign. Here is a summary of our generous response as of November 23.

**2027 General Fund**

111 commitments totalling $558,168

**Capital Campaign**

103 commitments totalling $1,524,284 - $277,611 has been received




### Project Update

During the course of our 3-year campaign we will provide periodic updates on how the funds are being spent. This week, Custom Alarm completed the replacement of our fire alarm panel and related equipment. We have also ordered a new commercial dishwasher, with financial support from Head Start, who rely on a working dishwasher for the daily operations. Equipment has been ordered to begin replacing elements of our sound system that are outdated or failing. These will likely be installed during the weeks after Christmas when the sanctuary is less busy with concerts and services.

## Sunday Adult Forum




The Sunday Forum planning team is excited to present a great line-up of presenters coming your way. Forum is offered each Sunday at 9:15 am in the Fellowship Hall. Here's the line-up:

**November 29 -** Rob Nelson presents on ELCA World Hunger. He will present hunger statistics for Rochester and Olmsted County, Minnesota, and the ELCA Hunger Appeal.

Don't you know, together, we can help end hunger. Donuts will be served during coffee fellowship time supported by a Thrivent Action Grant.

**December 6** - **Christmas Songs & Carols: A Brief History**. Did you know that "All I Want for Christmas is My Two Front Teeth" was inspired by the lisps of the writer's second-grade students? In this forum, we'll explore the background of some popular Christmas songs and carols, both sacred and secular, ancient and modern, classic and questionable. Join Travis on this whirlwind tour of Christmas history and sing some favorite carols along the way!

## Poinsettia Orders

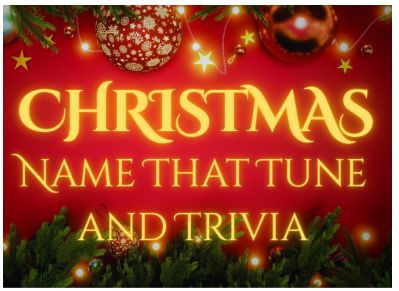
As we enter the Advent and Christmas season, we'd like to offer the opportunity to help with beautifying the sanctuary and our outdoor space. You may order poinsettias for the Christmas season for $12 or contribute towards greenery. Poinsettias will be yours to take home, if you desire, after Christmas Eve services.  See order envelopes in the entry.

## Sunday School

This Sunday, **November 29, there is no Sunday School.** Next Sunday, **December 6** is Classroom Sunday School and Youth Confirmation lesson. Contact Evan Fitzsimmons with questions about Sunday School or Breakfast Club - evan@molive.

## Ripe Olives Christmas Name That Tune and Trivia

After a one month break, Ripe Olives returns in the Fellowship Hall on Friday, December 11 at 9:30 am. Bring a team or form a team in class of one to four people and enjoy showing off your knowledge of Christmas Songs. Paul Koeller returns to lead this fun program. The first section will be traditional songs by well known traditional artists. The second section will be newer songs or traditional songs done by famous rock, pop, and country artists. The third section will compare different versions of the same song and a chance to vote on your favorite version. Breakfast will be provided with a free will offering. Please sign up in the Gathering Area if you plan to attend or RSVP to Nancy Britson - nancy@molive.org.




## Offerings

If you would like to make a financial gift to Mount Olive, you can place it in the offering plate, send it by mail to 2830 18th Ave. NW, Rochester, MN 55901, donate using the QR code, or text MOLIVE to 73256. If you have any questions about our new giving page, please call the Finance Office - 507-288-15980 ext. 204.  Your gifts help to keep Mount Olive's ministry going strong.  Thank You!

## Olive Branch Advent Kickoff

**Sunday, Nov. 29th 4:00-5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall**

To start the Advent season, we'll sit with the stories of the women of Advent, with a dash of *midrash* imagination. Join Elizabeth, Mary, Lisa, and Richard for music, conversation about newness, and, of course, generous communion. All are welcome to this restful beginning of the liturgical year.

Olive Branch

## Pop's Orchestra Concert

The Rochester Pops Orchestra presents: "Ringing In The Season", Sunday, **December 20**, 7:00 pm at Bethel Lutheran Church, 810 3rd Ave. SE, Rochester. Their annual Christmas concert will feature the Rochester Area Handbell Ensemble. Tickets are available now at www.rochesterpops.com or by calling the Box Office at 507-318-0801. Tickets are also sold in the Gathering Area before and after services through Sunday, December 13.

## Weekend Volunteers Needed!

We rely on worship and fellowship volunteers to keep the services running smoothly and to show hospitality to everyone during coffee fellowship time. Everyone's help is appreciated and all ages are welcome. In December, we have additional worship services and our traditional **St. Lucia Sunday with special receptions on December 13**. Many volunteers are needed in this busy month. To see the open slots and sign up, look for the rolling cart in the entry or sign up online. Go to the Mount Olive website: https://molive.org/Volunteer to find the worship and fellowship Sign Up Genius pages. Contact Nancy Britson with any worship volunteer questions or Renee Schaefer to ask about coffee fellowship volunteering. Thank You!

## Mitten Tree Wraps Up Today

The Mitten Tree collections wraps up today. Thank you to everyone who has brought winter wear or made donations. A big thank you to the Prayer Shawl group for providing many handmade scarves and hats. Your gifts will be given to provide warm clothing and snacks at our neighborhood schools Elton Hills and Gage Elementary.

## Festival of Trees

Again this year, Mount Olive, has a beautiful contribution for the Festival of Trees benefitting Hiawatha Homes at the Kahler Grand Hotel in downtown Rochester. Thanks to Carrie Fletcher, organizer, the Sunday School students and "God's work. Our hands." participants for crafting the many beautiful stars to decorate the tree! During Open Viewing of the Trees, there are special activities and appearances from Santa. It will be open Sunday, November 29 - 10 am - 2 pm. Learn more at https://www.hiawathahomes.org/festival-of-trees.



## Women's Christmas Party

Each December, Mary Circle hosts all women of the congregation for a Christmas Gathering. This year's event is **Monday, December 7, 6:30 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. We'll have a Christmas devotion and appetizers and sweet treats will be provided. The program will be "Simplify Your Life" by Laurie Mangen. Whether you are getting ready to move, downsizing now, or just want to declutter your home, Laurie's techniques will help you through the time-consuming and emotional process of simplifying your home. The evening offering will benefit the Mount Olive Discretionary fund, which is used by the pastors to support neighbors in need. Cash, checks made out to Mount Olive, or gift cards to local gas stations or stores will be accepted. We'll close out the night with some Christmas music. Please join us to ring in the season! **Sign up in the Gathering Area today** or RSVP to the church office.

## Women's Monthly Coffee Meet Up

Mount Olive women are invited to meet at 9:00 am on Friday, **December 4** for coffee/tea at the Market Grille at Hy-Vee West Circle at 4221 West Circle Drive. Come each month for fellowship and good conversation. If you have questions, ask Cathy Hanson at 507-398-3917 or kchanson89@gmail.com.

## December Newsletters Available

The December edition of our newsletter, The Messenger, is now available. Pick one up on the Welcome Desk at church. Pick up one today or read it online at www.molive.org.

## Advent is Here!




Advent kicks off a new church year— the 4-week, deep blue season before Christmas. True to its energy of expectation and preparation, our Advent theme this year is *Waiting In Hope*. Together, we'll explore what it means to be awake and ready for all the ways that Christ shows up in the world, including in you!

- Sundays, watch for Advent candles lit in the wreath, with the preaching leaning into hope.
- Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm, be welcome to Holden Evening Prayer, a short musical service (a traditional favorite!)
- Watch for a new devotional booklet created by the Mount Olive community to accompany the season.

## Healing Sunday



As is our practice any time there is a fifth Sunday in the month, this Sunday we will once again offer a healing station at the rail for anyone wishing a prayer for healing. During communion time, a pastor will be present for individual prayers. There will also be a candle lighting option in the back of the sanctuary. You may use this at any time during the service.

| **Mount Olive Staff** | Office Phone: 507-288-1580 | office@molive.org |
|---|---|---|
| Rev. Lisa Janke | *Directing Pastor* | lisa@molive.org |
| Rev. Erik Nelson | *Pastor* | erik@molive.org |
| Dea. Travis Beck | *Director of Worship, Music, and Arts* | travis@molive.org |
| Dr. Richard Bruxvoort Colligan | *Director of Spiritual Formation* | richard@molive.org |
| Evan Fitzsimmons | *Director of Children, Youth, and Family* | evan@molive.org |
| Shiloy Baldwin | *Office Administrator* | shiloy@molive.org |
| Nancy Britson | *Director of Congregational Life* | nancy@molive.org |
| Carrie Fletcher | *Director of Service and Social Outreach* | carrie@molive.org |
| Renee Schaefer | *Sunday Fellowship Volunteer Coordinator* | renee@molive.org |
| Paul Schaefer | *Facility Support* | |
| Trish Bruxvoort Colligan | *Facility Coordinator* | |

Portions from Sundays and Seasons.com © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006607. Portions may be reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-727717. All rights reserved. Portions of this service are from Holy Communion, Setting three © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies License #SAS006607. All Rights Reserved.