

Mount Olive Lutheran Church



Palm Sunday
Sunday, April 13, 2025
8:00 am & 10:30 am

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."

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 hearing assistance device. Feel free to contact Nancy Britson, Director of Congregational Life if you have further questions.

CHILD CARE

During the 10:30 am service, childcare for infants through 4 years old is available in the Mount Olive nursery, located at the end of the front entry hall. Pagers are available for communication.

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. We encourage opening the prayer with an image of God that is comforting and life-giving for you, including Our Mother, Our Father, Holy One, or Creator, to name a few.

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

8:00 am services are 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

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

Mount Olive Brass

Children are invited to gather near the Sanctuary doors.

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Most High.

C: Hosanna in the highest. (*repeat three times*)

P: God be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

We praise you, O God,

through the same Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.

C: Amen.

P: Let us go forth in peace,

C: In the name of Christ. Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN (*Please stand.*) "Pave the Way With Branches"



Je - sus is com - ing. Pave the way with branch - es.

Hope for the down - trod.

Land for the land - less

Debts are for - giv - en



Je - sus is com - ing. Ho - san - na. san - na.

Hope for the down - trod.

Land for the land - less

Debts are for - giv - en



Ho - san - na, Je - sus is com - ing. Ho -



san - na to the Prince of peace. Prince of peace.



APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Most High.

C: **Hosanna in the highest.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: **Compassionate God, your love finds full expression in the gift of Christ, who revealed your goodness and grace in tangible ways. Lead us away from the violence of empire and into a world made new, through Jesus Christ, our Life and our Song. Amen.**

Please be seated.

SPECIAL MUSIC (10:30 am)

"Prepare the Way"

Children's Choirs

Prepare the way, Prepare the wa-ay. Prepare the way of the Lord.

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, Jesus.

In your love, my salvation lies, in your love, my salvation lies in your love. *(repeat)*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

WORD

Palm Sunday

FIRST READING

Philippians 2:5-11 (NRSV) pew Bible pg. 954

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 31

"Your Good Strong Hands"

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan



I put my life in ___ your hands ___ Your good, strong hands ___ You've got us



all in ___ your hands ___ Your good, strong hands ___ Your good, strong hands ___

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GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Please stand.)



Glo - ry and praise to you, O Lord Je - sus Christ.

**GOSPEL**

Luke 19:28-40 (NRSV), pew Bible pg. 854

P: The Good News according to Saint Luke.

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 Glenn Monson

HYMN OF THE DAY *(Please stand.)*

"Lead Me, Guide Me"

ELW #768

Refrain:

Lead me, guide me along the way;
 For if You lead me, I cannot stray;
 Lord, let me walk each day with Thee.
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

2 Help me tread in the paths
 of righteousness;
 Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.
 I am putting all my trust in Thee,
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me. *Refrain*

1 I am weak, and I need
 Thy strength and power
 To help me over my weakest hour;
 Let me through the darkness
 Thy face to see,
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me. *Refrain*

3 I am lost, if you take your hand from me;
 I am blind, without Thy Light to see;
 Lord, just always let me Thy servant be,
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me. *Refrain*

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CREED

Inspired by Julian of Norwich

P: Let us affirm our faith...We trust God who creates,

C: **the Ground and Source of Everything, the Great Mystery with ten thousand names.**

P: We trust God who loves,

C: **the generous Christ of creation, Love embodied. In Jesus of Nazareth we know a life of interconnection with our neighbors. With the generations of the faithful, we count ourselves disciples of this Way, always learning, always expanding in God's way of love.**

P: We trust God who sustains,

C: **the Holy Spirit who is at home in our lives, who guides us into the richness of life, including the heights and depths of the human story. Amen.****INTERCESSORY PRAYERS**

L: Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

L: God, in your mercy

C: **receive 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 Lenten Season has often been observed in a spirit of sacrifice, often by "giving up something for Lent." Another way to think of this is by "giving to something" for Lent. Perhaps, for example, the money gained from giving up special treats could be given to the hungry. However, you observe this season, please know that your gifts make a difference. Thank you.

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY RESPONSE *(Please stand.)* "As the Grains of Wheat"

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

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OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray:

C: **Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we receive your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Today, you're invited to address God in this prayer of Jesus using Our Hidden God, 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 *Hidden God*, 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: All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread. All are welcome here.

Please be seated.

All are welcome to the Lord's Supper. As you 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.



AGNUS DEI

"Lamb of God"

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

COMMUNION HYMN

"You Lord Are Both Lamb and Shepherd"

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd.
You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
You, peacemaker and sword-bringer
of the way you took and gave.
You, the everlasting instant;
you, whom we both scorn and crave.</p> | <p>3 You, who walk each day beside us,
sit in power at God's side.
You, who preach a way that's narrow,
have a love that reaches wide.
You, the everlasting instant;
you, who are our pilgrim guide.</p> |
| <p>2 Clothed in light upon the mountain,
stripped of might upon the cross,
shining in eternal glory,
beggared by a soldier's toss,
you, the everlasting instant;
you, who are both gift and cost.</p> | <p>4 Worthy is our earthly Jesus!
Worthy is our cosmic Christ!
Worthy your defeat and vict'ry;
worthy still your peace and strife.
You, the everlasting instant;
you, who are our death and life.</p> |



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: Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

SENDING

BENEDICTION

P: God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit,
✠ bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

“Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery”

ELW #334

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Tree of Life and awesome myst'ry,
in your death we are reborn;
though you die in all of hist'ry,
still you rise with ev'ry morn,
still you rise with ev'ry morn.</p> | <p>3 Christ, you lead and we shall follow,
stumbling though our steps may be;
one with you in joy and sorrow,
we the river, you the sea,
we the river, you the sea.</p> |
| <p>2 We remember truth once spoken,
love passed on through act and word;
ev'ry person lost and broken
wears the body of our Lord,
wears the body of our Lord.</p> | |

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DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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 Fellowship Hall for coffee and cookies following the service!

Congregational prayers for healing and comfort ...

- All Homebound Members
- Mount Olive members and friends who are grieving, ill, or recovering, and the family members holding vigil with or supporting the recovering and/or dying.
- Our companions in ministry in Kijota, Tanzania and Bogota, Colombia, who observe this Lenten season with us, reflecting on the suffering and sacrifice of Christ as we do.
- Our nation, that our elected leaders may hear your voice, urging them to courage, justice, integrity and truth-telling.
- Our communities enduring the destruction to families and lives that come through gun violence. Give us all resolve to end this evil.
- All people enduring ongoing war and upheaval, especially the people of Ukraine, Gaza, and other places in the world enduring unspeakable destruction and suffering.
- All those impacted by extreme weather events caused by the global climate crisis. Help us all to do our part in saving the creation you love.

Next Sunday's Readings:

Acts 10:34-43

God raised Jesus on the third day

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

1 Corinthians 15:19-26

Christ raised from the dead, the first fruits

Luke 24:1-12

The women proclaim the resurrection

Worship Participants	Sunday 8:00 am	Sunday 10:30 am
Preaching	Rev. Dr. Glenn Monson	
Presiding Minister	Rev. Lisa Janke	
Organist/Pianist	Deacon Travis Beck	
Psalmist	Richard Bruxvoort Colligan	
Assisting Minister	Donna Miller	Noah Mannix
Lector	Rob Nelson	Ian Mannix
Greeters	Lester & Dianne Dunn	Alex & Jenn Hooke family
Ushers	Keith & Cathy Hanson	Mark & Anne Schwartz
Communion Assistants	Rob Nelson	Michelle Thomsen
Welcome Desk	Nancy Britson	
Nursery		Carrie Fletcher
Altar Guild	Stephanie Pasch	
Livestream Video	Mark Pasch	

This Week at Mount Olive

Sunday, April 13 - Palm Sunday

8:00a - Worship Service
 9:00a - Coffee Fellowship
 9:15a - Sunday School Stations
 And Egg Hunt
 9:15a - Lenten Bible Study
 10:30a - Worship Service
 11:30a - Coffee Fellowship
 2:00p - Childhood Cancer Comm.

Monday, April 14

10:30a - Roch. Retired Educators
 6:00p - Woman With the Alabaster
 Jar Service
 6:30p - Monday Book Group
 6:30p - Scout Troop Advancement

Tuesday, April 15

9:30a - Staff Meeting
 3:00p - SAIL Active Aging Class
 7:00p - Al-Anon ACOA Meeting

Wednesday, April 16

1:00p - Bookmobile
 7:00p - Mount Olive Choir
 7:30p - Glory Bells
 7:30p - Mount Olive Brass

Thursday, April 17

9:00a - Mount Olive Quilters
 1:00p - Painting Group
 6:00p - Maundy Thursday Dinner
 Church & Worship
 7:00p - In the Process Al-Anon

Friday, April 18

7:00p - Good Friday Worship

Saturday, April 19

8:30a - Men's Discipleship
 9:00a - Altar Guild Setup
 9:00a - How Al-Anon Works Group
 1:00p - Easter Vigil Rehearsal
 7:00p - Easter Vigil Worship

Sunday, April 20 - Easter Sunday

8:00a - Worship Service
 9:00a - Easter Fellowship
 10:30a - Worship Service

Monday, April 21

Church Office Closed

6:00p - Scout Committee Meeting
 6:30p - Lydia Circle
 6:30p - Scout Troop Planning
 7:30p - Scout PLC Meeting

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

Seasonal Devotions Available

Daily devotion books for April-June are available to pick up on the Welcome Desk at church. If you would like to receive one by mail, please contact Nancy in the church office.

Large Group Sunday School!

Large Group Sunday School this week! Come for a variety of fun **Palm Sunday Stations and a visit from Oliver the Donkey!!**

There will also be an **egg hunt** at approximately 9:30 am. Kiddos will have some fun searching for eggs filled with candy, stickers and more! Bring a bag or basket to collect your eggs.

Sunday School students will also help with the palm processions at both services and sing at the 10:30 service. There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday.

Join the [Sunday School Facebook page](#), to see photos and information about Sunday School. Contact Evan at evan@molive.org with questions.



VBS Day Camp – June 16-19

Registration is now OPEN for VBS Day Camp at Mount Olive with Good Earth Village! Good Earth Village Day Camp lasts from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, Monday through Thursday and is for kids in *Kindergarten - 5th Grade* for the current academic year. Current 6th - 12th Grade can participate as Youth Helpers. Registration & Health Forms can be found in the Gathering Area. The rate is \$78 per student. (Financial Support can be given if needed!) Please register by May 18. Contact Evan with questions - evan@molive.org.



Homemade Market May 4th

On Women's Ministry Sunday, May 4th, there will be a *Homemade Market* following both services! In past years we've had jewelry, art, plants, baked goods, quilted items, wood working items, greeting cards and much more. New items someone else made can also be donated. All proceeds from the sales will support Mount Olive's women's ministry and the many areas of benevolence they in turn support. See the sign up sheets on the cabinet in the Gathering Area to donate items or volunteer to help. Homemade items may be left in the office beginning April 13. Items should be priced by you to the nearest whole dollar amount. If you have questions, contact Jill Lundberg at lundberg_jill@yahoo.com.



Sign Up for Easter Fellowship!

Volunteers are needed in the coming weeks to help with fellowship time following both services. **This includes a special reception on Easter Sunday.** Would you and your family consider helping to make coffee, serve, provide treats, and/or clean up? Please sign up in the Gathering Area at church or at <https://tinyurl.com/fsd3f>. Contact Renee Schaefer, Sunday Fellowship Volunteer Coordinator with questions - renee@molive.org.



Worship Volunteers Needed

We're in need of some worship volunteers to fill out the schedule for Holy Week/Easter. To help out in various aspects of worship, such as greeting, ushering, assistant minister and more, visit the Welcome Desk following worship to see the schedule. You may also sign up at the following link for a day and time that works for you at: <https://tinyurl.com/48pw6a3j>
To learn more contact Nancy Britson - nancy@molive.org.

Altar Flowers

The sign-up schedule to provide flowers in the chancel for birthdays, anniversaries, baptisms, births, or in memory of loved ones in 2025 is available in the Gathering Area. Write your name on the chart, fill out a payment envelope and drop it in the offering plate or office drop box.

Dorothy Day Hospitality House Meals

Volunteers from Mount Olive are needed to prepare a meal for guest at Dorothy Day Hospitality House, a temporary shelter for the homeless located at 703 First Street SW in Rochester. Volunteers provide a commercially prepared meal or one that is made on-site. Dinner is served each evening at 6:00 pm. You are encouraged to share the meal with the guests. Following the meal, it is your responsibility to wash the dishes, run the sanitizer, and clean up the kitchen. The guests at Dorothy Day are always so appreciative of all the meals and the sense of community that you provide! The sign-up sheet for volunteering to serve at the Dorothy Day Hospitality House is in the Gathering Area; please consider signing up to help with this vital ministry. Training will be provided if needed. If you have further questions please contact Jene Bodensteiner at jbode6@me.com or phone: **(507)287-0257**.



Sunday Forum

The Lenten Bible study on Galatians continues this week during the Sunday Forum time. Come to the Fellowship Hall April 13 at 9:15 am to study lesson #4, the final lesson in this study. There will be no forum on Easter. On April 27, our speakers will be from the SE MN Interfaith Immigrant Legal Defense (SMILD).



Summer Family Camp

Pastor Lisa and her family will be helping to host and lead a Intergen Family Camp at Good Earth Village (GEV) and they would love for you to join them. The camping weekend will be **July 25-27**. It will be a weekend of fun scheduled for you including intergenerational activities, crafts, games, songs, Bible studies and plenty of hiking and outdoor activities. Learn more and register at: <https://goodearthvillage.org/intergenfamilycamp>

Peer Grief Support Group

Mondays, April 28 - June 9 (6 sessions) - 10:30 am - noon in the Olive Pit
Grief and loss are important parts of a rich life, and it's good to have company for the journey. A six-week series will begin soon, and you're invited. As a small group of eight, we'll accompany each other through these six weeks, sharing our encounters with grief, listening carefully to one another, praying the psalms, and learning ways to cope with this most intense of human experiences. This grief support group is for anyone who has experienced the death of a person dear to them. This is not counseling or therapy, but peer support facilitated by our Director of Spiritual Formation, Dr. Richard Bruxvoort Colligan. If you're interested, please contact Richard at richard@molive.org.



Monday Book Group

The **Monday Book Group** meets again on **April 14** at 6:30 pm in the church Library. This month's selection is *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson. Inspired by the true blue-skinned people of Kentucky and the brave and dedicated Kentucky Pack Horse library service of the 1930s, *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* is a story of raw courage, fierce strength, and one woman's courage. If you have questions or would like to get on the email list, contact Jodi Schoer at mjschoer@charter.net.

Sunday Lenten Theme: Our Identity

Throughout Lent at Mount Olive, our theme has been **identity**: What is God like, and who are we as people of God? The art installation of words on the chancel walls has explored attributes of God's identity each week. You are invited to respond with a word about your own identity written on the piece of fabric you received at the door. This week, the word is Hidden. Thank you for worshiping with us today!

Maundy Thursday Dinner Church

The Maundy Thursday service on Thursday, **April 17** begins with a potluck meal in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 pm. Bring a dish to share. Beverages, bread, and table service will be provided. **We are still looking for a few helpers** for setting up, serving drinks, and cleaning up afterwards, please sign up in the Gathering Area or contact Nancy Britson in the church office - nancy@molive.org.



New Member Orientation

Between services on Sunday, **April 27**, anyone who has expressed interest in membership at Mount Olive will have a chance to meet staff and Church Council members



at a brief meeting in the library at 9:15 am. If you have been attending and aren't yet sure about membership, this meeting is also for you! You can ask questions, learn more about Mount Olive, and consider joining the congregation on New Member Sunday, May 11. A reception will follow the service. Please contact Nancy Britson with questions - 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, or donate using the QR code above. Your gifts help to keep Mount Olive's ministry going strong. Thank You!



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Holy Week at Mount Olive

Holy Week at Mount Olive offers a rich variety of worship experiences that explore the days leading up to Christ's death and resurrection. Please join us!

Monday: The Woman With the Alabaster Jar - April 14

A blessing and healing service with Olive Branch in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 pm. When she anointed Jesus with expensive oil, the men in the room were offended at the waste. But Jesus honored her, and said she would be remembered any time the Gospel is shared.

Maundy Thursday Dinner Church - April 17

We'll start with a potluck meal in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 pm; **everyone is invited to bring a dish to share**. We'll share the meal and Holy Communion together and then move to the sanctuary for the solemn stripping of the altar.

Good Friday Passion Drama - April 18

The Good Friday service (7:00 pm) will present the Passion of our Lord using an adaptation of Walter Wangerin's powerful story *The Ragman*. A dramatic presentation accompanied by scripture and song will carry the message of God's love for the world in Jesus Christ.

Holy Saturday's Easter Vigil - April 19

At 7:00 pm on Saturday, April 19, members of Mount Olive join in telling the most essential stories of our faith through music, drama, and art. This year's service will include a baptism, as well as Holy Communion, using sparkling wine and grape juice. A fun reception follows.

Easter Sunday Festival Worship - April 20

Join us on Sunday, April 20 at 8:00 am or 10:30 am as Alleluias unfurl, bells will ring, brass will sound, and the choir will sing, as all the people shout, "Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed!" Please join us for this celebration of the Resurrection of Christ. A special Easter Fellowship time will take place between services.

MOUNT OLIVE STAFF

	Office Phone: 507-288-1580	office@molive.org
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