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# Mt. Olive Lutheran Church and School

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## The Third Sunday after Epiphany

Divine Service, setting four T January 23, 2021 T 5:00 pm

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Prelude

Welcome

Opening Hymn:

“Today Your Mercy Calls Us”

LSB # 915



1 To - day Your mer - cy calls us To wash a - way our sin.  
2 To - day Your gate is o - pen, And all who en - ter in



How - ev - er great our tres - pass, What - ev - er we have been,  
Shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come And par - don for their sin.



How - ev - er long from mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way,  
The past shall be for - got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv'n,



Your pre - cious blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.  
A fu - ture grace be prom - ised, A glo - rious crown in heav'n.



3. Today our Father calls us;  
His Holy Spirit waits;  
His blessed angels gather  
Around the heav'nly gates.  
No question will be asked us  
How often we have come;  
Although we oft have wandered,  
It is our Father's home.

4. O all-embracing Mercy,  
O ever-open Door,  
What should we do without You  
When heart and eye run o'er?  
When all things seem against us,  
To drive us to despair,  
We know one gate is open,  
One ear will hear our prayer.

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## Confession and Absolution

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C Amen.

Exhortation

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
C who made heaven and earth.  
P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?  
C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.  
P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and call upon Him in prayer and praise in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession of Sins

P We silently place before the Lord any particular sins that may be weighing heavily upon our minds and hearts this day.  
P Together we confess:  
C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

## Absolution

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

## Service of the Word

### Introit

*Psalm 113:1-2, 4, 7-8; antiphon: v. 3*

P From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C the name of the Lord is to be praised!

P Praise the Lord!

Praise, O servants of the Lord,

Praise the name of the Lord!

C Blessèd be the name of the Lord

from this time forth and forevermore!

P The Lord is high above all nations,

and His glory above the heavens!

C He raises the poor from the dust

and lifts the needy from the ash heap,

to make them sit with princes,

with the princes of His people.

P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

C It was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C the name of the Lord is to be praised!

### Kyrie *≈ Lord, Have Mercy*



☐ Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

### Gloria in Excelsis *≈ Glory to God in the Highest*



☐ 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray together:

C Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## God's Word

### Old Testament Reading:

Jonah 3:1-10

ESV

*[By the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the Prophet Jonah writes:]*

Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying, "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you." So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord.

Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days' journey in breadth. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's journey. And he called out, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.

The word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, "By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from His fierce anger, so that we may not perish."

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that He had said He would do to them, and He did not do it.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

### Epistle Reading:

1 Corinthians 7:29-31, 35

ESV

*[By the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the Apostle Paul writes:]*

This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away. ...

I say this for your own benefit, not to lay any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and to secure your undivided devotion to the Lord.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

### Alleluia and Verse



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### Gospel Reading:

Mark 1:14-20

ESV

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

*[By the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the Evangelist St. Mark writes:]*

After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men." And immediately they left their nets and followed Him. And going on a little farther, He saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. And immediately He called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed Him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

## Apostles' Creed

**P** Together we confess our common Christian Faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed:

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.

He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

## Hymn of the Day: "O Christ, Our True and Only Light"

LSB # 839



1 O Christ, our true and on - ly light, En - light - en  
2 Fill with the ra - diance of Your grace The souls now  
3 O gent - ly call those gone a - stray That they may  
4 Shine on the dark - ened and the cold; Re - call the  
5 That they with us may ev - er - more Such grace with



those who sit in night; Let those a - far now  
lost in er - ror's maze; En - light - en those whose  
find the sav - ing way! Let ev - 'ry con - science  
wan - d'ers to Your fold. U - nite all those who  
won - d'ring thanks a - dore And end - less praise to



hear Your voice And in Your fold with us re - joice.  
in - most minds Some dark de - lu - sion haunts and blinds.  
sore op - pressed In You find peace and heav'n - ly rest.  
walk a - part; Con - firm the weak and doubt - ing heart,  
You be giv'n By all Your Church in earth and heav'n.

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## Sermon

"Living in a World that is Passing Away" 1 Corinthians 7:29-31, 35

## Our Offerings in Response to God's Word

*To maximize health & safety for all, offering plates will not be passed during the service.*

*You are encouraged to place your tithes and offerings in the plate on a stand at the door to the worship area.*

*You also may give them online or by mailing them to the church.*

*We thank God for your ongoing generosity in supporting*

*His work at Mt. Olive during this challenging time.*

## Introduction to the Prayers

## Responsive Prayer of the Church:

*adapted from LSB 215ff, Divine Service, setting 5*

**P** By the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, God has told us through the Apostle Paul, "When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as [His] sons [and daughters]."

Therefore, sisters and brothers in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Jesus our incarnate Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us:

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Merciful Lord,

**C** as Your daughters and sons, hear our prayer.

**P** May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all sinners and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Merciful Lord,

**C** as Your daughters and sons, hear our prayer.

**P** Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend all who are in any kind of need, praying for them, and ourselves, at all times: Thy will be done. Merciful Lord,

**C** as Your daughters and sons, hear our prayer.

**P** Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs so that we may be Your instruments to help others. Merciful Lord,

**C** as Your daughters and sons, hear our prayer.

P Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Merciful Lord,

C as Your daughters and sons, hear our prayer.

P Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Merciful Lord,

C as Your daughters and sons, hear our prayer.

P And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Merciful Lord,

C as Your daughters and sons, hear our prayer.

*Other prayers, silent or spoken, may now be prayed. Each prayer will end:*

P ... Merciful Lord,

C as Your daughters and sons, hear our prayer.

P We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us for the sake of our incarnate Lord, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

## Final Prayer

P Let us pray:

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, grant  
that our lips which have here sung Your praise may now glorify You in the world;  
that our ears which have heard the voice of our Shepherd through Your Word  
may now be closed to the clamorous voice of Satan and the world;  
that our eyes which have seen Your great love may also behold Your blessed hope; and  
that our tongues which have confessed Your name may ever speak the truth.

This we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior,  
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

## Benedicamus

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.

C Amen.

## Closing Hymn:

### “Abide, O Dearest Jesus”

LSB #919



1 A - bide, O dear - est Je - sus, A - mong us with Your grace  
2 A - bide, O dear Re - deem - er, A - mong us with Your Word,  
3 A - bide with heav'n - ly bright - ness A - mong us, pre - cious Light;  
4 A - bide with rich - est bless - ings A - mong us, boun - teous Lord;



That Sa - tan may not harm us Nor we to sin give place.  
And thus now and here - af - ter True peace and joy af - ford.  
Your truth di - rect and keep us From er - ror's gloom - y night.  
Let us in grace and wis - dom Grow dai - ly through Your Word.

4. Abide with Your protection  
Among us, Lord, our strength,  
Lest world and Satan fell us  
And overcome at length.

5. Abide, O faithful Savior,  
Among us with Your love;  
Grant steadfastness and help us  
To reach our home above.

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## Announcements

## Postlude

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