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# Mt. Olive Lutheran Church and School

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## The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

God's Gift Service T July 25, 2020 T 5:00 pm

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Prelude

Welcome

God Gathers Us in His Name

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

C Amen.

Opening Hymn:

“From God Can Nothing Move Me”

LSB # 713:1-4

*Sung to the tune of LSB # 354 “Arise, O Christian People”*

1. From God can nothing move me • He will not step aside  
But gently will reprove me • And be my constant guide.  
He stretches out His hand • In evening and in morning,  
My life with grace adorning • Wherever I may stand.

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2. When those whom I regarded • As trustworthy and sure  
Have long from me departed • God's grace shall still endure.  
He rescues me from sin • And breaks the chains that bind me.  
I leave death's fear behind me • His peace I have within.

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3. The Lord my life arranges • Who can His work destroy?  
In His good time He changes • All sorrow into joy.  
So let me then be still • My body, soul, and spirit  
His tender care inherit • According to His will.

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4. Each day at His good pleasure • God's gracious will is done.  
He sent His greatest treasure • In Jesus Christ, His Son.  
He ev'ry gift imparts • The bread of earth and heaven  
Are by His kindness given • Praise Him with thankful hearts!

## God's Gift of Forgiveness

*As God gathers us in worship today the only thing we are able to give Him is our sins,  
and out of undeserved love for us God gives us forgiveness.*

*King David wrote in the Psalms: "I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the LORD'*

*— and You, [O God,] forgave the guilt of my sin."*

*Psalm 32:5b NIV*

P Do you confess to Almighty God that you are a poor, miserable sinner who has sinned against Him in thought, word, and deed and therefore justly deserve His present and eternal punishment? If so, answer, "Yes."

C Yes.

P Do you believe that our Lord Jesus Christ has lived a holy life, satisfying all the demands of God's holy Law for you, and died, shedding His blood for you upon the cross for the forgiveness of all your sins? If so, answer, "Yes."

C Yes.

P Do you ask God, for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter suffering and death of His beloved Son Jesus, to be gracious and merciful to you? If so, answer, "Yes."

C Yes.

P I have great Good News! Through His holy life and innocent death on the cross, Jesus has satisfied the holy demands of God's Law and has earned forgiveness and eternal life for us. He desires that this gift be delivered to all people. For He told His disciples on Easter evening, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent Me, I am sending you. ... If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

*John 20:21,23 NIV*

P Therefore, in the stead and by this command of my Lord, Jesus Christ, and as the called and ordained servant of the Word in this place, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the T Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P You are forgiven! You are set free! You are dearly loved children of God! Together you and I can now raise our voices in thanksgiving and praise to God for His tremendous grace. We can bring Him our fears and hopes, our needs and prayers, with all boldness and confidence as dear children do to their dear Father.

C Amen.

### Our Praise in Response to God's Forgiveness:

"Before the Throne of God Above"

*LSB # 574:1-4, 6*

*Sung to the tune of LSB # 358 "From Heav'n Above to Earth I Come."*

<p>1. Before the throne of God above I have a strong, a perfect plea: A great High Priest, whose name is Love, Who ever lives and pleads for me.</p>	<p>2. My name is graven on His hands, My name is written on His heart; I know that while in heav'n He stands No tongue can bid me thence depart.</p>
<p>3. When Satan tempts me to despair, And tells me of the guilt within, Upward I look, and see Him there Who made an end of all my sin.</p>	<p>4. Because the sinless Savior died, My sinful soul is counted free; For God, the just, is satisfied To look on Him and pardon me.</p>

6. At one with Him, I cannot die,  
My soul is purchased by His blood;  
My life is hid with Christ on high,  
With Christ, my Savior and my God.

# God's Gift of His Word

*By ourselves we are spiritually dead.*

*By our own efforts we are unable to create or sustain a relationship with God.*

*However, out of undeserved love for us, God has made us spiritually alive.*

*He creates and sustains a relationship with us by way of His Word, the Word of Jesus:*

*"For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable,  
through the living and enduring word of God."*

— 1 Peter 1:23 NIV

Old Testament:

Deuteronomy 7:6-9

ESV

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

"You are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for His treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set His love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but it is because the Lord loves you and is keeping the oath that He swore to your fathers, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love Him and keep His commandments, to a thousand generations."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading:

Romans 8:28-39

NIV

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

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose. For those God foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those He predestined, He also called; those He called, He also justified; those He justified, He also glorified.

What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all – how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died – more than that, who was raised to life – is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: "For Your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered" [Ps 44:22].

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

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

[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all these things?”

They said to Him, “Yes.”

And He said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day: “Lord, ‘Tis Not That I Did Choose Thee” *Stand for vs 3; LSB # 573*

1 Lord, 'tis not that I did choose Thee; That, I know, could  
2 It was grace in Christ that called me, Taught my dark - ened  
*Stand* 3 Praise the God of all cre - a - tion; Praise the Fa - ther's  
nev - er be; For this heart would still re - fuse Thee Had Thy  
heart and mind; Else the world had yet en - thrall'd me, To Thy  
bound - less love. Praise the Lamb, our ex - pi - a - tion, Priest and  
grace not cho - sen me. Thou hast from the sin that stained me  
heav'n - ly glo - ries blind. Now I wor - ship none a - bove Thee;  
King en - throned a - bove. Praise the Spir - it of sal - va - tion,  
Washed and cleansed and set me free And un - to this  
For Thy grace a - lone I thirst, Know - ing well that,  
Him by whom our spir - its live. Un - di - vid - ed  
end or - dained me, That I ev - er live to Thee.  
if I love Thee, Thou, O Lord, didst love me first.  
ad - o - ra - tion To the great Je - ho - vah give.

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## Nicene Creed

P We confess our Christian faith with the words of the Nicene Creed:

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### Our Prayers in Response to God's Word

*Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God,  
let us hold fast our confession.*

*For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses,  
but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.*

*Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace,  
that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

— Hebrews 4:14-16

#### Prayers of Thanksgiving:

- For God's blessings on those who participated in and those who helped with our virtual Vacation Bible School this last week.
- For the good health results of Pastor Mark's angiogram this past Thursday.
- That Jose, a man who had Covid 19 that we have been praying for since mid-March, was released from the hospital last week and moved to rehab. He was on life support for three months.

#### Prayers for Healing:

- For Joe Fountain, a former MtO teacher who has been diagnosed with esophageal cancer. He has completed radiation and will soon start chemotherapy.
- For Marilyn Beugin awaiting medical test results.
- Ian Thompson; Dale Foltman; Joan Koch's brother, Bill - cancer; John Light's girlfriend - in a nursing home due to health issues; Dale Curtice; David West; Joan Erickson; Debbie Holseid; Gretchen Versteeg; Michael Sturgeon; Doug Burke; Pat Davison; Kathryn Sprecher; & Pastor Jim Stogdill.

- For Charlyn Smith, healing in her left eye; Gerry Meiners who is hospitalized with a bacterial infection and fluid around his lungs.
- Those infected with COVID-19.

Prayer for relief from the COVID-19 pandemic and all its resultant consequences.

Prayer for Christians around the world who are being persecuted and even martyred for the sake of Jesus' name and the Christian Faith.

Prayer for safe travels

Prayers for our Country:

- In view of the pandemic.
- In view of civil unrest.
- In view of the approaching campaign and election.

Prayers for Mt. Olive and its Ministries:

- God's help & blessings for members of our School community, including: Wendy & Matthew Poush and their children Linus & Zelda; Tia & Andrew Pugh and their children, Charlie, Oliver & Elliott; Lisa & Chad Rankin and their children, Libby & Levi; Jessica & Austyn Scott and their child Paxtyn; and Robyn & Andrew Bickel and their son, Logan.
- God's guidance & blessings on our church leadership as they faithfully serve the congregation & school, and that others would be prayerfully led to join them in the Lord's service.
- That God would show each of us ways to pray for and to reach out to others in Jesus' name where we live, work, and play.

*The prayers, silent or spoken, will be prayed now. Each prayer will end with:*

P ...Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Into Your loving hands, dear Lord, we place everyone and everything for which we've prayed. We trust You to answer our prayers according to Your mercy in the way that is best for us. We pray this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

## Our Offerings in Response to God's Word

*For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,*

*that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich. ...*

*Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!*

*– 2 Corinthians 8:9; 9:15 NIV*

*To maximize health & safety for everyone, 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 either as you enter or leave the Divine Service.*

*We thank God for your ongoing generosity in supporting His work at Mt. Olive during this challenging time.*

## God's Gift of His Supper

*Out of undeserved love for us, God has made us spiritually alive & a part of His family.*

*The relationships within our earthly families are strengthened through shared meals.*

*Even more so is our relationship with God and one another strengthened by a meal:*

*“Is not the cup of blessing which we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ?*

*Is not the bread which we break a sharing in the body of Christ?*

*Since there is one bread, we who are many are one body; for we all partake of the one bread.”*

*– 1 Corinthians 10:16-17 NNAS*

## An Explanation of the Supper

## Lord's Prayer

P Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold to pray:

C Our Father 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.

## Jesus' Words Instituting His Supper

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## The Peace of the Lord

P Together, in, with, and under the bread and wine, this is the very body and blood of our crucified but risen Savior, Jesus Christ, given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; therefore, the peace of the Lord is with you always.

C Amen.

## God Gives Us the Gift of Jesus' Body and Blood

*Jesus has said "This is My Body, this is My Blood, given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins."*

*During the singing of the following hymn,*

*Pastor Mark and his assistants will bring the communion elements to you where you are seated.*

*The communion wafer will be given to you in a cup. The wine will be given to you in another cup.*

*After eating and drinking, place both of the empty cups in the container presented to you.*

## Distribution Hymn:

### "If God Himself Be for Me"

Public Domain: *LSB # 724:1-5, 10*

1. If God Himself be for me,  
I may a host defy;  
For when I pray, before me  
My foes, confounded, fly.  
If Christ, my head and master,  
Befriend me from above,  
What foe or what disaster  
Can drive me from His love?

2. I build on this foundation,  
That Jesus and His blood  
Alone are my salvation,  
My true, eternal good.  
Without Him all that pleases  
Is valueless on earth;  
The gifts I have from Jesus  
Alone have priceless worth.

3. Christ Jesus is my splendor,  
My sun, my light, alone;  
Were He not my defender  
Before God's judgment throne,  
I never should find favor  
And mercy in His sight,  
But be destroyed forever  
As darkness by the light.

4. He canceled my offenses,  
Delivered me from death;  
He is the Lord who cleanses  
My soul from sin through faith.  
In Him I can be cheerful,  
Courageous on my way;  
In Him I am not fearful  
Of God's great Judgment Day.

5. For no one can condemn me  
Or set my hope aside;  
Now hell no more can claim me:  
Its fury I deride.  
No sentence now reproves me,  
No guilt destroys my peace;  
For Christ, my Savior, loves me  
And shields me with His grace.

10. My heart with joy is springing;  
I am no longer sad.  
My soul is filled with singing;  
Your sunshine makes me glad.  
The sun that cheers my spirit  
Is Jesus Christ, my King;  
The heav'n I shall inherit  
Makes me rejoice and sing.

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### The Dismissal

P Now may this True Body and True Blood of Jesus, our crucified but risen Savior, strengthen and preserve you in the True Faith from now until our Lord returns. His Peace is with you. Your sins have been forgiven indeed!

C Amen.

### A Post-Communion 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;  
that our tongues which have confessed Your name may ever speak the truth; and  
that our bodies which have tasted of Your Son's Body and Blood  
may be restored to newness of life through faith in Him.

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.

### Blessing

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His Face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.

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

*Numbers 6:24-26*

C Amen.

Closing Hymn:

“From God Can Nothing Move Me” *Stand for vs 7; LSB # 713:5-7*  
*Sung to the tune of LSB # 354 “Arise, O Christian People”*

5. Praise God with acclamation  
And in His gifts rejoice.  
Each day finds its vocation  
Responding to His voice.  
Soon years on earth are past;  
But time we spend expressing  
The love of God brings blessing  
That will forever last!

6. Yet even though I suffer  
The world’s unpleasantness,  
And though the days grow rougher  
And bring me great distress,  
That day of bliss divine,  
Which knows no end or measure,  
And Christ, who is my pleasure,  
Forever shall be mine.

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*Stand* 7. For thus the Father willed it,  
Who fashioned us from clay;  
And His own Son fulfilled it  
And brought eternal day.  
The Spirit now has come,  
To us true faith has given;  
He leads us home to heaven.  
O praise the Three in One!

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## Announcements and Postlude

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**As you leave His Service today,**  
*God wants you to be assured that ALL your sins have been forgiven  
and that He has declared you to be His holy, beloved child,  
an heir of an eternal, never-ending relationship with Him.*

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“Therefore, I urge you brothers [and sisters,] in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is – His good, pleasing and perfect will.”

– *Romans 12:1-2 NIV*

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