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# Mt. Olive Lutheran Church and School

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Worship & Music Ministries

## The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

God's Gift Service T October 3, 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: "Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good"

*LSB # 819:1-3*

1. Sing praise to God, the highest good,  
The author of creation,  
The God of love who understood  
Our need for His salvation.  
With healing balm our souls He fills  
And ev'ry faithless murmur stills:  
To God all praise and glory!

2. What God's almighty pow'r has made,  
In mercy He is keeping.  
By morning glow or evening shade  
His eye is never sleeping.  
Within the kingdom of His might  
All things are just and good and right:  
To God all praise and glory!

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3. We sought the Lord in our distress;  
O God, in mercy hear us.  
Our Savior saw our helplessness  
And came with peace to cheer us.  
For this we thank and praise the Lord,  
Who is by one and all adored:  
To God all praise and glory!

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## 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 With the Psalmist we say, "Out of the depths I cry to You, O LORD;  
C O Lord, hear my voice. Let Your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.  
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." *Psalm 130:1-4 NIV*  
P Let us each silently reflect for a moment on our sinfulness, on any particular sins that may be weighing heavily on our minds and hearts, and on the gracious invitation of God's Word.

*(A time of Silent reflection)*

- P Holy and gracious God,  
C I confess that I have daily sinned against You. Some of my sin I know – the thoughts, words, and deeds of which I am ashamed – but some is known only to You. Forgive me for failing to love You with my whole heart, soul, mind, and strength. Forgive me for failing to love my neighbors as myself. Forgive me for my sinful nature and for all my sins of commission or omission. For all this I deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me. Forgive me, renew me, and lead me, so that I may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, all to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.  
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 a called and ordained servant of the Word, 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:

"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

LSB # 793

1. Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;  
To His feet your tribute bring;  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
Evermore His praises sing:  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise the everlasting King.

2. Praise Him for His grace and favor  
To His people in distress;  
Praise Him still the same as ever,  
Slow to chide and swift to bless:  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Glorious in His faithfulness.

3. Fatherlike He tends and spares us;  
Well our feeble frame He knows;  
In His hand He gently bears us,  
Rescues us from all our foes.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Widely yet His mercy flows.

4. Angels, help us to adore Him;  
You behold Him face to face;  
Sun and moon, bow down before Him,  
All who dwell in time and space.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise with us the God of grace.

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Introit

*Psalm 118:22-24; antiphon: v. 1*

*[By the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, it is written:]*

P Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;  
for His steadfast love endures forever!

C The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone.

P This is the Lord's doing;  
it is marvelous in our eyes.

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

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

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

P Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;  
for His steadfast love endures forever!

## Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray together:

C Gracious God, You gave Your Son into the hands of sinful men who killed Him. Forgive us when we reject Your unfailing love, and grant us the fullness of Your salvation; 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 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 Reading:

Isaiah 5:1-7

ESV

*[The inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the Prophet Isaiah writes:]*

Let me sing for my Beloved, [the Lord,] my love song concerning His vineyard: My Beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; He built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and He looked for it to yield [good] grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

[And the Lord says,] "And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between Me and My vineyard. What more was there to do for My vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield [good] grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to My vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briars and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it."

For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are His pleasant planting; and He looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

P This is the Word of the Lord. C Thanks be to God.

## Epistle Reading:

Philippians 3:4b-14

ESV

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

If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness, under the law blameless. But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss

because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For His sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith – that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and may share His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me His own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

P This is the Word of the Lord. C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading:

Matthew 21:33-46

ESV

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

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

*[Jesus was in the temple, continuing to speak to the chief priests and elders of the people, He said:]* “Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’ And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?”

They said to Him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?’ [Psalm 118:22-23] Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard His parables, they perceived that He was speaking about them. And although they were seeking to arrest Him, they feared the crowds, because they held Him to be a prophet.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day: “Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation” *Stand for vs 4; LSB # 909*

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Christ is made the sure foundation,<br>Christ, our head and cornerstone,<br>Chosen of the Lord and precious,<br>Binding all the Church in one;<br>Holy Zion’s help forever<br>And our confidence alone.  | 2. To this temple, where we call You,<br>Come, O Lord of hosts, and stay;<br>Come with all Your loving-kindness,<br>Hear Your people as they pray;<br>And Your fullest benediction<br>Shed within these walls today. |
| 3. Grant, we pray, to all Your faithful<br>All the gifts they ask to gain;<br>What they gain from You, forever<br>With the blessed to retain;<br>And hereafter in Your glory<br>Evermore with You to reign. | 4. Praise and honor to the Father,<br>Praise and honor to the Son,<br>Praise and honor to the Spirit,<br>Ever three and ever one:<br>One in might and one in glory<br>While unending ages run!                       |

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Sermon

*Rev. James Yonkers*

Nicene Creed

P Together we confess our common 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 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.*

## 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 Kirsten Lambert (age 16), daughter of Karen & Doug Lambert (*former school family*), who was missing, but has been swiftly FOUND and returned safely to her family.
- For Judah Frye, son of Dan & Dawn Frye (*school family*), who has undergone heart surgery, that his recovery continues.

### Prayers & Thanks for Healing:

- For Pat & George Davison and family as Pat finished up her radiation treatments for her brain cancer last week and as plans are being developed for surgery to come.
- For those infected with COVID-19, including President & Mrs. Trump, Kimberly Kleckner, and their family members like Pastor Mark who are sharing quarantine with those infected.
- For Dale Curtice's first cousin, Gene Curtis, who has had a bad stroke and is not doing well; his personal relationship with Christ is also uncertain.
- For a young, single mom of two who is entering treatment for anorexia; she is also seeking a relationship with the Lord.
- For the Evans family, friends of Alyssa McNeeley through her Down Syndrome community. The family has multiple adopted Chinese children with Downs and Williams Syndromes who have many related health complications needing treatment with corrective surgeries to their spines, necks, and hearts. Mia, 10 yrs-old, has just undergone surgery within the last week. The CoViD pandemic has added significant risks to those that exist with their existing syndromes.

- For Ron Maly; Lucas McNeeley; Dale Foltman; Dale Curtice & his friend, Bill Nelson; Joan Koch's brother, Bill; John Light's girlfriend; David West; Joan Erickson; Debbie Holseid; Gretchen Versteeg; Michael Sturgeon; Doug Burke; Kathryn Sprecher; Pastor Jim Stogdill; Sandi Jones; Phil Mattheis; Ryan & Melissa Jorgenson; Sara Stafford; Tim Glahn; Marvin, Marilyn Marr's brother.

#### Prayers for Comfort in Grief:

- For Christine Ryerson and her family – The Lord took Christine's mother, *Maxine*, home to Himself last week Friday.
- For Donna Thompson and her family – The Lord took *Ian*, Donna's husband, home to Himself last week Friday. Ian's funeral was held at Hamilton's Funeral Home NE on Thursday of this week.

Prayer for the Lord's care and provision for all who are suffering the danger and effects of various natural disasters which He has allowed to come upon us: hurricanes, tornados, the derecho, & other storms; drought; wildfires; as well as the pandemic, other diseases, and injuries.

Prayer for Protection of & Provision for members of the MtO Lutheran faith community, both congregation & school, who are continuing to "shelter in place" in view of the pandemic.

Prayers for our Country and its Leaders in view of the pandemic, civil unrest, and the approaching campaign and election.

#### Prayers for Mt. Olive and its Ministries:

- Mt. Olive Lutheran School – Administrators, Teachers, Staff, Students & Families as the school year continues – that God would keep everyone safe and healthy from CoViD-19, as well as other illnesses, and focused on learning.
- Prayer partners to step forward to participate in the "Cover Our Kids with Prayer" ministry.
- 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.

## 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 song (next page),  
the communion elements will be brought 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: "Draw Near and Take the Body if the Lord"

LSB # 637

1. Draw near and take  
the body of the Lord,  
And drink the holy  
blood for you outpoured;  
Offered was He for  
greatest and for least,  
Himself the victim  
and Himself the priest.

2. He who His saints  
in this world rules and shields,  
To all believers  
life eternal yields;  
With heav'nly bread He  
makes the hungry whole,  
Gives living waters  
to the thirsting soul.

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3. Come forward then  
with faithful hearts sincere,  
And take the pledges  
of salvation here.  
O Lord, our hearts with  
grateful thanks endow  
As in this feast of  
love You bless us now.

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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 each of you in the True Faith from now until our Lord returns.  
His Peace is with you. Your sins have been forgiven indeed!  
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;  
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: "Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good"

*LSB # 819:1, 4-5*

1. Sing praise to God, the highest good,  
The author of creation,  
The God of love who understood  
Our need for His salvation.  
With healing balm our souls He fills  
And ev'ry faithless murmur stills:  
To God all praise and glory!

4. He never shall forsake His flock,  
His chosen generation;  
He is their refuge and their rock,  
Their peace and their salvation.  
As with a mother's tender hand,  
He leads His own, His chosen band:  
To God all praise and glory!

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5. All who confess Christ's holy name,  
Give God the praise and glory.  
Let all who know His pow'r proclaim  
Aloud the wondrous story.  
Cast ev'ry idol from its throne,  
For God is God, and He alone:  
To God all praise and glory!

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Announcements (*see below*)

## Postlude

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## Announcements

Our *Next Service* will be held on Sunday, October 11, at 9:00 am. The Saturday services thereafter will be at 5:00 pm on October 17 & 31. The next Sunday service will be at 9:00 am on October 25.

**2020 LIFE CHAIN!** Join hundreds of fellow pro-lifers from Des Moines and surrounding communities and hundreds of thousands nationwide, to make a visible statement for the protection of the life of the pre-born. We will stand in solidarity for all lives that God has created, as we spend the time in prayer and praise. Join us, rain or shine, at St. Theresa Catholic Church, 1230 Merle Hay Road. this Sunday, October 4th from 2:00-3:30 p.m. Stand with us as we give glory to our Creator and thank Him for the lives of the born and the pre-born! Bring the entire family!

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination for Pastor Roland Pillack** – Fifty years of service to Jesus in the Office of the Holy Ministry is a long time! That is a milestone that relatively few men reach. But by the grace of God, our brother in Christ Roland Pillack has made it – in fact did so by last year. So this is really year 51! We would like to celebrate and give thanks for his many years of faithful service here at Mt. Olive and elsewhere in the Lord's kingdom. We are going to do this next weekend, October 10 & 11. We will have a Rite of Thanksgiving and Celebration during the 9:00 am service on Sunday, October 11. The evening before from 5:00-5:30 pm, on Saturday October 10, we will have a socially-distanced drive-by greeting for Pastor Pillack and his family at their home, 4048 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, Des Moines. (*This is 2 blocks east of Beaver Ave. and ≈ 1 block north of Madison Ave., just shy of Shawnee Ave.*) Those not be able to attend the Sunday service are especially invited and encouraged to participate in the drive-by greeting.

**“ANCHORED IN GOD'S WORD”** – Women's Ministry Bible Study: Ladies – please join us on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays evening of the month at 7 pm, as we meet via Zoom for some great conversation and a time in God's Word! We will be continuing on our theme, “Anchored in God's Word” as we discuss how we can walk in joy and victory, even in the midst of chaos and difficulties”.

The Zoom meeting link will be posted on the Mount Olive church website ([molcs.org/church](http://molcs.org/church)). Just click on the "Calendar" tab on the church home page, look for the correct meeting date on the calendar grid, then click on the Bible study link listed on the date of the meeting. Scroll down the page until you see the link "To Join Zoom Meeting", click on that URL link (link begins with <https://>), and that will take you directly into Zoom and you will be connected to the meeting. It's that simple! Anyone with a smartphone, tablet, or a computer with a camera and mic can join in on Zoom. It's easy! Please call or text Donna Foltman (515-868-8794) if you have any questions, or if you have any problems connecting to the meeting.

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