



Mt Olive Evangelical Lutheran Church

WELS (Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)
7979 HOLDREGE STREET LINCOLN NE 68505-3038

Office Phone: 402-484-8711 Website: www.mtolivewels.org Email: pastor@mtolivewels.org
www.facebook.com/MtOliveLincolnNebraska/

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

"Mt. Olive exists to proclaim God's Word in its truth and purity, so that each believer may **GROW** in faith and then **GO** with the good news of Jesus Christ to our community and world so that together we may **GLORIFY** God into eternity"

ministers: every member

President: Greg Boggs

Pastor: Tim Kemnitz

Mt. Olive Evangelical Lutheran Church

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS-Caring and Conservative)

February 4, 2018

Worship: Sunday: 8 & 10:30 A.M.

Epiphany 4 “Russia in Review” Worship

“Family Style” Bible Study: Sunday 9:20A.M.

WELCOME! We welcome you to this special “Mission Focus” worship service. We are privileged to pause from our busy schedules and to gather in the name of Christ – even while people still rush madly about all around us, to remind ourselves that there are still many “out here” both in our communities and in our world who are rushing off to their eternal destruction: clueless, without knowing of the love of God in Christ Jesus. We, on the other hand, have been blessed to know Jesus and His saving love for us-love which is meant to be shared by us with the dying world with whom we come into contact regularly. May God bless our worship today as we focus on effectively using our time to win the lost, and our witness throughout our earthly lives.

Opening Hymn: “To Make All Men See” (Sung to the tune of “How Firm a Foundation” # 416)

1. To make all men see the vast riches of Christ;
his death on the tree once for all sacrificed;
He freed ev’ry soul from the clutches of sin;
God gives us his grace-hearts of hundreds to win.
2. To us, tho’ the least of the saints comes the call,
To share the good news bringing freedom for all.
On wide rural plains and in dark urban heights
God’s Word leads blind men to the true Light of lights.
3. Our call is to tell all the truths we have heard,
Revealed by the finger of God in His Word,
To feed hungry hearts with the message of grace,
Good news of God’s love for the whole human race.
4. The message is vital; we cannot delay.
The Spirit gives strength, and we know what to say
To comfort the sinner from sorrow and grief,
To crumble the pillars of dead unbelief.
5. Lord, yours is the glory and yours is the praise,
To you “Alleluias” we joyfully raise.
In you we find refuge, to you bring this plea:
“Lord, use us as heralds to make all men see!”

Invocation:

P: In the name of the Father, who loved us from eternity and now cares for us as His children, and the Son who when the fullness of time had come came into our sinful world to redeem us and all men, and of the Holy Spirit, who in time called us to faith and who gives us a future by keeping us in the saving faith.

C: Amen

The Call to Worship:

P: Jesus reminded his disciples of the urgency of getting the gospel out while it was still day, before the night came when no man could work.

C: The disciples were called to serve as his witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the world.

P: After he was raised from the dead, Jesus told his disciples that he would be with them always, to the very end of the age.

C: Lord Jesus we know that you are present with us as we gather together in your name. Bless our worship of you, strengthen our faith in you as our Savior and motivate us through your Word spoken and sung to proclaim your salvation to those who do not yet know your saving grace.

OUR CONFESSION and GOD'S FORGIVENESS:

P: Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, let us confess our many sins to our loving Father in heaven asking Him to forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

O Holy and most merciful Father, we come to You confessing that we are by our very nature sinful and unholy. We don't deserve to be called your children much less your ambassadors of peace and freedom from sin. Even after you have shown us your grace and have called us to serve you we continue to reject your will, at times even choosing the evil you forbid rather than the good you command.

C: I am guilty and deserve nothing but your eternal punishment. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love.

P: Lord, you have commanded us to go into all the world and to preach the good news of forgiveness and life to all creation. Yet we must confess that at times, too often to count, our feet have been slow and our lips hesitant in taking your life-saving news to our neighbors much less our world. But we beg you that in your great compassion you would forgive us for our faults and weaknesses and for our inexcusable neglect of sharing the good news entrusted to us to share with others.

C: Forgive my reluctance to witness, my laziness in getting your Word out, my poor sense of priorities that makes me put myself and my needs and wants first. Forgive me for the times I lacked courage to meet the objections which were raised to Your invitation. Forgive the times when I didn't say the proper thing, or in anger, defended my pride instead of your glory. According to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Create in me a pure heart, O God and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

P: God, our heavenly Father has been merciful to us, and for the sake of Jesus Christ has forgiven you all your sins. Your life and your time have been redeemed. Now go and let your light shine in the world, that through your lifestyle, people might be led to glorify Jesus. Go, and use your lips to share the good news of forgiveness for all in Christ.

Prayer for the Day: (spoken in unison)

I thank and praise you for your redeeming grace to me in Christ. Give me a caring heart, O Lord, to love and seek the lost. Overcome my fear and grant me courage to share my hope of salvation with those who have no hope. Help me to remember that any success which was achieved through my mouth was accomplished by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Make me faithful in my daily life and my scheduling of time so that all I say and do may glorify You, my Maker and Redeemer. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 12:1-6

Songs of Praise

¹ In that day you will say: "I will praise you, O LORD . Although you were angry with me, your anger has turned away and you have comforted me. ² Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD , the LORD , is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation." ³ With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴ In that day you will say: "Give thanks to the LORD , call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted. ⁵ Sing to the LORD , for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world. ⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel among you."

Our Response: IN EDEN'S ANCIENT GARDEN

(Sung to the tune of "The Church's One Foundation" #538)

In Eden's ancient garden,
God's love was first made known
When humankind's rebellion
Deserved His wrath alone.
Instead, our loving Father
Sent us His only Son.
He spoke the Word of promise
That makes His Kingdom come.

And Jacob's stubborn children
He fed with manna sweet,
And from the rock drew water
that quenched the desert heat.
He sent His kings and prophets
His wisdom to proclaim
To show His wayward people
The wonders of His Name.

In ages ever after,
And never far away,
His love pursues His children
When they would go astray.
He spreads the Gospel story.
He gives the gifts we need
To witness His salvation.
Repent, take heart, believe!

SECOND LESSON: Matthew 7:13-14

The Narrow and Wide Gates

¹³"Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. ¹⁴But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

Our Response:

And though the world be dark'ning
His truth will light our way.
His kingdom still triumphant
His Will our strength, our stay.
We know his loving kindness,
His heart so full to give
And in his joy contagious
We sing, we work, we live.

Thus, forward in remembrance
We strive to work His Will,
To give ourselves as He did,
Unstintingly until
His whole, His loving family
Shall gather 'round the throne
Where thousand, thousand, thousands
Shall sing His praise alone.

The Confession of Faith: 2nd Petition Luther's Large Catechism

P: What is the Kingdom of God? Answer: Nothing else than what we learned in the Creed, that God sent His Son Jesus Christ, our Lord, into the world to redeem and deliver us from the power of the devil, and to bring us to Himself, and to govern us as a King of righteousness, life and salvation against sin, death, and an evil conscience, for which end He has also bestowed His Holy Spirit, who is to bring these things home to us by His holy Word, and to illumine and strengthen us in the faith by His power...For the coming of God's Kingdom to us occurs two ways: first, here in time through the Word and faith; and secondly, in eternity forever...Now we pray for both these things, that it may come to those who are not yet in it, and, by daily increase, to us who have received the same, and hereafter in eternal life. All this is nothing else than saying:

C: Dear Father, we pray, give us first Your Word, that the Gospel be preached properly throughout the world; and secondly, that it be received in faith, and work and live in us, so that through the Word and the power of the Holy Spirit, Your kingdom may prevail among us, and the kingdom of the devil be put down, that he may have no right or power over us, until at last it shall be utterly destroyed, and sin, death and hell shall be exterminated, that we may live forever in perfect righteousness and blessedness!

Hymn of the Day: 565 "There Still Is Room"

MISSION TEXT: II Corinthians 5:20-6:2 (p. 1145 of the pew Bibles)

We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As God's fellow workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. For he says, "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation.

THEME: Russia in Review-Mission Presentation

OFFERING RECEIVED: While there is still time, we share of our blessings which in turn are used to share with others the good news of forgiveness and life in Christ!!!

Hymn: CW 579 "Lift High the Cross"

The Lord's Prayer for Missions:

Cong: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name

Pastor: Grant that the Gospel of Jesus Christ may be proclaimed among us and throughout the world in all its truth and purity, and that we and all believers may live holy and consecrated lives to the glory of your Holy name.

Cong: Thy Kingdom Come.

Pastor: Grant that the proclamation of the Gospel may bear much fruit, that large numbers of men, women, and children from every nation, tribe and language may be brought into your kingdom of grace in this life and your kingdom of glory in the life to come.

Cong: Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Pastor: Grant that we may never forget that it is your will that all people be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. Grant that we always remember that we are to be witnesses of Christ to the ends of the earth. And help us to remember that it is also your will that we live a holy life, that people may be led to their Savior, not only by our words, but by everything we do.

Cong: Give us this day our daily bread.

P: Grant that we may remember that every good gift is from above, that the earth is yours and everything in it, that we may always trust you to supply our daily needs, that we may share our blessings with others and return to you a large measure of the gifts you entrust to us so that your kingdom may be spread from pole to pole around the world.

Cong: And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

P: Forgive us for all the times we have given offense and thus kept others from coming to you. Forgive us for not witnessing for Christ in our own community and throughout the world. Grant that we may also forgive others who trespass against us. Give us a willing spirit to love our enemies, bless those who curse us, do good to those who hate us, and pray for those who persecute us.

Cong: And lead us not into temptation.

P: Grant that Satan, the world, and our own sinful flesh may not lead us away from you or lead us to neglect the supreme task of the church. Help us to make use of the means you have supplied to resist the temptations that surround us daily. Grant that we may not be tempted to fiddle away our time while the world rushes toward eternal flames; that we may never be tempted to squander our money on the luxuries and pleasures of this world. Grant that we may not be tempted to use our God-given talents to our own glory and selfish interests, but use them instead to declare the praises of him who has called us out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Cong: But deliver us from evil

P: Protect us from all harm and danger which threaten both body and soul, but grant that we may boldly confess our faith in Jesus no matter what the circumstances, no matter what may be the result. Grant that we, like our Savior, may be willing to lay down our lives, if need be, so that others may live with you. Ultimately deliver us from this world of sin and sadness into eternal glory which you have prepared for all who love you.

All: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

P: Now to Him Who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever!

C: A-men

Closing Hymn of Praise: 566 "We All Are One In Mission"

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Our Week in the Lord at Mt Olive

TODAY- 8:00&10:30 Worship

9:30A.M. Sunday School and Bible Study

MONDAY - 7P.M. Board of Education meeting

7P.M. Monday Night Church at St. Mark

WEDNESDAY – 3 P.M. Windcrest Bible Study

4:30 Catechism

THURSDAY - No Thursday Evening Worship until after Easter

SUNDAY - 8:00 &10:30 A.M. Communion Worship at Mt. Olive

9:30A.M. Sunday School and Bible Study

Between service: youth group bake sale for Valentine's Day

6:30 P.M. Women's Bible Study

TO OUR "New Faces" in the Crowd today: Thanks for joining us for worship. We were blessed to have you with us this morning as we gathered in God's house to be encouraged by His message of love and forgiveness to otherwise lost sinners! Please sign our guest register and please come again!

THANK YOU: We thank Linda Tesch, our organist this morning, for helping us get the week started on the

right note as we gathered in God's house to seek guidance and to sing HIS praises!

BIBLE STUDY TODAY: Please join us as Pastor Kronebusch continues with the fifth lesson on Jonah.

Come learn more about God's love for all people, including each of us.

PASTOR KEMNITZ received a call the day he left for Russia to serve as Pastor of Zion Lutheran in Toledo, Ohio. You can contact him by email

(pastor@mtolivewels.org) to offer any encouraging words or questions.

Please keep Pastor and his family in your prayers as he considers this call.

THE ANNUAL MARRIAGE SEMINAR will be held March 9&10 at the Holiday Inn

Express Lincoln Southwest. The theme of this year's seminar is "Sticky

Marriages." If you wish to spend the night there, the Holiday Inn Express has given us a block rate of \$89 for 1 king size bed. This includes breakfast the next morning

at the Aura restaurant. If you are interested in this, go to [www.holiday-](http://www.holiday-inn.com/lincoln-sw)

[inn.com/lincoln-sw](http://www.holiday-inn.com/lincoln-sw). Use the code ZLC. If you wish to call the hotel directly,

identify yourself as being a part of the Zion Lutheran Church group that is meeting there. If you have any questions, please let me know. Please invite anyone that you

would like. We will register until March 5. For more information contact Pastor

Kahrs at 402-989-4775 or

s.kahrs@hotmail.com

IF YOU'VE BEEN HOPING for some delectable treats for your sweetie for Valentine's Day, the youth group will have just what you've been waiting for! Join them

between services on Sunday, February 11 to

choose from chocolate brownies, frosted cookies, and any number of other delicious items.

IF YOU HAVE THRIVENT products, right now is a perfect time to designate your Thrivent

Choice Dollars to Mt. Olive, St. Mark Elementary School, or Nebraska Lutheran, or any other 501(c)(3) nonprofit or congregation that meets program eligibility rules . All Choice Dollars from 2017 can be designated until March 31, and then they are gone.

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY/THIS WEEK:

Early Service

Late Service

Altar Care: Marilyn Joe, Margaret Hitz Tiffany Beiermann, Delores Wasserman

Ushering: J & I Meyer, R & C Hernandez M Schleusener, R Krenke, R & G
Wasserman

Cleaning God's House This Next week*:

Downstairs- Smith T&C Upstairs- Sadler Narthex- Uphoff B&K

*If you're unable to clean please contact Kevin Ferrell at 402-430-7823 and he will find you a sub.