



"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me."

-Jesus

## *Mt. Olive Evangelical Lutheran Church*

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod  
7979 Holdrege Street Lincoln, Nebraska 68505

Office Phone: 402-484-8711 Pastor's Cell: 402-440-8145  
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WELS (Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)  
7979 Holdrege Street Lincoln NE 68505  
Church Phone: 402-484-8711 Pastor's Cell: 402-440-8145

### 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

February 25, 2018

Lent 2

Worship: Wednesday 7P.M. Sunday 8&10:30 A.M.

Bible Study Hour: Sunday 9:30A.M.

**Welcome** to the new faces who are here with us this morning to worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus! We are pleased and privileged to serve you with the Word of God today. Our prayer is that God would work through His Word spoken and sung, to help us grow in our faith in the One Who helps us to hear and to respond to His gracious good news. May the Lord bless you richly!!!

### DIVINE SERVICE II

**HYMN:** CW 465 "Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken"

*STAND*

### INVOCATION

*(The name of the triune God and the sign of the cross remind worshipers of their baptisms.)*

**M:** In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** **Amen.**

### CONFESSION

**M:** Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

*The congregation may kneel.*

**C:** **Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.**

**For faithless worrying and selfish pride,**

**For sins of habit and sins of choice,**

**For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,**

**You should cast me away from your presence forever.**

**O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

## ABSOLUTION

*(The use of the keys is that special power and right which Christ gave to his church on earth: to forgive the sins of penitent sinners" [The Small Catechism, First: What is the use of the keys?]. See John 20:21-23.)*

**M:** Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant:

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

## LORD, HAVE MERCY

*Mark 10:47*

### **Kyrie**

*(Kyrie is the Greek word for Lord. The expression "Lord, have mercy" is one of the oldest worship responses in the Christian church.)*

**M:** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**C:** Lord, have mercy.

**M:** For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

**C:** Christ, have mercy.

**M:** For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**C:** Lord, have mercy.

**M:** Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

**C:** Amen.

## SALUTATION

**M:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M:** Let us pray.

Lord our strength, the battle of good and evil rages within and around us, and our ancient foe tempts us with his deceits and empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your Word, and when we fall, raise us up again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

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## BE SEATED

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** Genesis 28:10-17 (p.27 in the black pew Bible)

**PSALM OF THE DAY:** Psalm 73 (p. 94 in the front of the hymnal)

**SECOND LESSON:** Romans 5: 1-11 (p.1116 )

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** CW 434 "Lord, You I Love with All My Heart"

*(The Hymn of the Day is assigned to this day because of its rich content and connection to the day's Gospel.)*

**SERMON:** Mark 8:31-38 (p.999 )

Theme and Parts

"Don't Curse the Cross"

I. It's Part of God's Plan to Lift the Curse

II. It Plays in with His Plan to Lift Us

## STAND

### NICENE CREED

*(Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. Christians composed the Nicene Creed in the fourth century to defend the Bible's teachings that both Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are true God, equal to the Father in one eternal, undivided Trinity.)*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,  
and became fully human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

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**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
The Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy Christian\* and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*(\*The original text here reads "catholic," a word meaning "universal." The Church consists of all believers in heaven and on earth, of every time in history.)*

BE SEATED

### OFFERING

*(Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him.)*

STAND

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

### THE SACRAMENT

About The Lord's Supper: We of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) practice close communion. We do this because we take seriously all that God's Word says about receiving the Lord's Supper properly. Those who receive it should examine themselves before receiving it. Those who receive it together should be of the same confession. etc. (cf. I Cor 11:28; I Cor 10:17) Visitors and guests-if you haven't received Lord's Supper at our altar, we politely ask that you would speak to the pastor before receiving it with us. We don't want to be presumptuous and assume your fellowship ties with us. We don't want you to receive it to your spiritual harm. We would be more than happy to explain what God's Word says about the Lord's Supper and why we do what we do.

### PREFACE

(The words of the Preface mark the beginning of the Sacrament section of the service and lift the worshipers' hearts in praise. The opening sentences are among the oldest in the Christian liturgy.)

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is good and right so to do.**

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M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has called us to be his own so that we may live under him in his kingdom and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

*Sanctus* (Sung to the tune CW474 "Webb")

*(Sanctus means "holy." Used possibly as early as the second century, this canticle was in wide use among Christians in worship by the fourteenth century.)*

**1 O holy, holy, holy  
Lord God of pow'r and might,  
Your glory, earth and heaven  
In countless ways recite.  
Hosanna! Come and save us,  
Lord God of hosts on high,  
And in your grace and mercy  
Receive our fervent cry.**

**2 Hosanna in the highest!  
How truly blest is he  
Who in God's name is coming  
To set his people free!  
He comes to bring salvation  
And with his blood outpoured,  
Deliver us from bondage—  
Hosanna, mighty Lord!**

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*(Jesus took bread and gave thanks [Matthew 26:26].)*

M: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C: **Amen.**

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## LORD'S PRAYER

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**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.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*Matthew 26:26-28 1 Corinthians 11:24,25*

(As he speaks the Words of Institution, the minister both proclaims the words of Jesus to the congregation and sets apart the bread and wine for the Lord's use. The sign of the cross reminds us of Christ's death.)

**M:**     Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (+) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (+) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C:**     **Amen.**

## DISTRIBUTION

*(The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith.)*

*Distribution Hymn: CW 315 "Here, Oh My Lord, I See You Face to Face"*

*STAND*

## SONG OF SIMEON

*Luke 2:29-32*

*Nunc Dimittis (Sung to the tune of 368 "Angel's Story")*

*(The Nunc Dimittis ["Now dismiss"] is also known as the "Song of Simeon." Through God's Word and Sacrament, we have seen Jesus Christ, and like Simeon we find divine peace and comfort through faith in the Savior.)*

- 1**       **O Lord, now let your servant  
Depart in peace, assured:  
For I have seen your promised  
incarnate, saving Word—  
A Light that will enlighten  
All gloom where Gentiles dwell;  
The brilliant, crowning glory  
Of those in Israel!**
- 2**       **All glory to the Father,  
All glory to the Son,  
All glory to the Spirit,  
Forever three in one;  
For as in the beginning,  
Is now, shall ever be,  
God's triune name resounding  
Through all eternity.**

**M:**     We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:**     **Amen**

## BLESSING

*Numbers 6:24-26*

*(The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So they will put my name on [them], and I will bless them" [Numbers 6:27].)*

**M:**     The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

**C:**     **Amen.**

St. Mark's Lutheran School would like to invite you to:  
**A PINEWOOD CAR DERBY**



**Please join us March 24, 2018  
 Starting at 2:30 pm and going until we finish the  
 brackets**

**At Nebraska Ev. Lutheran High School**

There will be a grade school bracket and an adult bracket. We will start checking in cars at 2 pm and start racing at 2:30 pm.

We will have a number of car kits available, purchased by a Thrivent grant. We will be awarding trophies for 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> place in both brackets for both car design and speed. If you would like to enter the race, please contact Christy Krueger – (402)417-5037 or [igottakrueger@hotmail.com](mailto:igottakrueger@hotmail.com) no later than March 1, 2018.

When you sign up, you will be given a rule sheet and a car.

*Everyone is invited to come watch the races and cheer on the racers! There will be a concession stand, run by St. Mark, open with wonderful snacks to enjoy.*

**Our Week in the Lord at Mt. Olive (God Willing!):**

- Today: 8:00&10:30a.m. Communion Worship St. Mark Jr. Choir @ late service  
 9:30-10:15a.m. Bible study and Sunday School  
 Noon New Life in Christ Bible Information Class
- Monday: 7:00p.m. Monday Night Worship at St. Mark's
- Wednesday: 3 p.m. Windcrest Bible Study  
 4:30 p.m. Catechism  
 7:00p.m. Lenten worship with Pastor Haefner
- Thursday: No Evening Worship until after Easter
- Sunday: 8:00&10:30a.m. Worship  
 9:30-10:15a.m. "Growth in the Word" for all ages

**IF YOU HAVE THRIVENT** products, right now is a perfect time to designate your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Mt. Olive, St. Mark Elementary School, 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.

**THE NELHS KNIGHT OUT AND ST MARK and PINEWOOD CAR DERBY** are coming up soon! Please RSVP for both by this coming Thursday, March 1.

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY/THIS WEEK:

	Early Service	Late Service
Altar Care:	Marilyn Joe, Margaret Hitz	Delores Wasserman & Tiffany Beiermann
Ushering:	J&I Meyer, R&C Hernandez	M Schleusener, R Krenke, R&G Wasserman
Cleaning God's House This Next week*:	Downstairs- Ferrell Upstairs- Donahoe Narthex – Dennis	
	*If you can't clean please call Kevin Ferrell @ 430-7823 and he will find you a sub.	

In God's House on 2/18 & 2/21 53+73+50=176

Given for God's Glory: Budget Offerings: \$4,127.41 Non-Budget Offerings: \$455.00  
 (Needed per week to meet and maintain our budget: \$4,507.88)



## News and Notes

**TO OUR GUESTS AND VISITORS:** Thanks for joining us today! We invite you to join us for after the service in the back of church. Please sign our guest register so we have a record of your visit with us today and please join us again!

**THANK YOU...** Jackie Kronebusch, for serving your Savior as our organist this morning. God used you in a wonderful way, today, to encourage our hearts and minds in Christ. May your heart be filled with peace and joy for the opportunity to assist us in praising and worshiping our good and gracious God.

**EASTER FOR KIDS** is right around the corner, March 24th 9am-12:15pm. We are looking for LOTS of volunteers to help lead stations, shepherd kids to activities, and help in other areas. We could also use candy for Easter for Kids and for our annual Easter egg hunt Easter Sunday. There is a signup sheet on the table in the Narthex. Contact Liz Satterthwaite, Stacy Schleusener, or Pastor Kronebusch with any questions.

**TODAY'S BIBLE STUDY:** We meet today, between services, for "Growth in the Word" for all ages. We encourage parents to bring their kids/teens for Bible study and to stick around to "lead by their examples" by growing in the Word themselves.

**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-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

**LENTEN MIDWEEK WORSHIP:** This Wednesday, February 28<sup>st</sup>, Pastor Haefner will serve us with the Word of God as we gather to focus on Jesus Our Great High Priest Who is also our Self-Sacrificing High Priest (cf. Hebrews 10:5-12). Worship begins at 7P.M.

**LENTEN BIBLE READINGS:** On the back table is a schedule for Lenten Bible readings-to encourage you in your reading of God's Word...and growth in faith. It is a "semi-aggressive schedule" (read through the 4 Gospels in the 40 days of Lent) that will take approximately 20 minutes a day to finish. You may also make use of Bible Gateway to read or listen to these sections online. Bible Gateway is found at [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com)

## LESSONS FOR LENT 2

Genesis 28:10-17

<sup>10</sup> Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Harran. <sup>11</sup> When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep.

<sup>12</sup> He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. <sup>13</sup> There above it stood the LORD, and he said: "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. <sup>14</sup> Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. <sup>15</sup> I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." <sup>16</sup> When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it." <sup>17</sup> He was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven."

Romans 5:1-11

<sup>5</sup> Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup> perseverance, character; and character, hope. <sup>5</sup> And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. <sup>6</sup> You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! <sup>10</sup> For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!

<sup>11</sup> Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Mark 8:31-38

<sup>31</sup> He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup> He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup> But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

<sup>34</sup> Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup> For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it.

<sup>36</sup> What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? <sup>37</sup> Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? <sup>38</sup> If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."