



# *Mt Olive Evangelical Lutheran Church*

WELS (Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

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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)**

7979 Holdrege Street Lincoln, NE 68505-3038 Office phone: 484-8711

Pastor: Tim Kemnitz E-mail: [pastor@mtolivewels.org](mailto:pastor@mtolivewels.org)

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November 18, 2018

Saints Triumphant-Third Sunday of End Time

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Today’s Focus: What happens to those who die in the Lord? That’s the question that God’s Word focuses our minds and hearts on this morning-as we observe “Saints Triumphant” Sunday. In the Old Testament we see that they will shine like the stars when Jesus returns. Through the Writer to the Hebrews we learn that they have been made perfect forever. In the Gospel we find that they are seen by God as “do-gooders” and have been glorified as such. May God lead us to rejoice in their glory and to eagerly (and faithfully) look forward to the day of our own!

**Greeting and Welcome:** Pastor Kemnitz

**Opening Hymn:** 550 “Behold a Host, Arrayed in White”

**Invocation:**

Pastor: In the name of the Father, Who gave us life and gave His Son to give us life eternal; In the name of the Son, Jesus Christ, Who became our brother in order to make us right with our heavenly Father-through His guiltless death for us on a cross; In the name of the Holy Spirit, Who has brought us into the light of truth through the Gospel, by bringing us to faith in Jesus as our Savior.

**C: A-men**

**OUR CONFESSION AND OUR FATHER’S FORGIVENESS**

P: Dear friends in Christ, our Savior, Jesus, tells us a story in Luke chapter 15 about a son who one day decides to “up and leave” his father and who goes as far away as his inheritance will take him and spends all his inheritance money on “foolish living.” Finally, after a famine hits the country in which he lives and after he is forced to hire himself out to take care of pigs where he longs to eat what the pigs have to eat-just to survive, that young man comes to his senses and decides to go back to his father. He rehearses his speech, “Father, I’ve sinned against heaven and against you and am no longer worthy to be called your son-please, make me like one of your hired men.” His father, however, did not want another servant-he simply wanted his “lost” son to be “found” and so, when the young man was still a long way off, he spotted him from a distance and raced out to him and threw his arms around him and received him back, as his son.

We can relate to that young man-for we too have walked away from our Father's will for us and have lived foolishly. We have had thoughts that are wicked and evil and are not appropriate for children of God; we have said words that dishonor our Father in heaven and give Him a bad name; we have done things with our hands and bodies that are not loving and thoughtful and have not lived like dear children should. Let us go to our Father now, and confess our sins to Him and ask Him for the sake of Jesus Christ-the innocent Son Who was punished in our place, to forgive us.

**C: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against You. I am no longer worthy to be called your child. Please forgive me all my sins for the sake of Jesus Christ, my Savior.**

P: Our Father in heaven did an amazing thing-he turned away from his one and only Son, Whom He loved, in order to receive back into "His good graces" we children who have been disobedient and rebellious. Our Father now welcomes us with open arms and forgives us all our sins. As the Apostle John pens, "How great the love the Father has lavished on us that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!!!" (I John 3:1) May God give us strength now to live as His redeemed, restored and forgiven children!!!

#### **Prayer of the Day**

Almighty God and Savior, You have set the final day and hour when we shall be delivered from this world of sin and death. Keep us ever watchful for the coming of Your Son that we may sit with Him and all Your holy ones at the great marriage feast in heaven; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: A-men (spoken)**

**Scripture Lessons:** Old Testament: Daniel 12:1-3 (p. 888 in the black pew Bible)

PSALM OF THE DAY: (page 108 in the front of the hymnal)

Epistle Lesson: Hebrews 10:25-29 (p.1190)

#### **Our Confession of Faith:**

**We believe that God the Father so loved our world that He sent and sacrificed His one and only Son that all might live forever through faith in Him.**

**We believe that Jesus Christ, God's Son from eternity, became one of us in order to save us from our sins by living a perfect life on our behalf and by giving His life in our place-as a sacrifice of atonement, to pay for all our sins. We believe that Jesus rose again from the dead on the third day after His death and showed Himself alive to His followers before ascending into heaven where He prepares a place for us to be with Him and from where He will return, at a time unknown to any, to take us from this life to Himself in glory.**

**We believe that by nature we are spiritually dead and therefore cannot believe in Jesus on our own. But the Holy Spirit has brought us to life through Gospel and has given us gifts which we are now able to use to live for our living Savior.**

**All this our Triune God has done so that we might belong to him, live in his kingdom, and serve him in righteousness forever. On the last day He will raise us from the dead and give us eternal life. Amen.**

**The Hymn of the Day:** 207 "The Day Is Surely Drawing Near"

Sermon: John 5:25-29 (p.1055)

Theme: Blessed Are the "Do-Gooders"

Hymn: 394 "Blessed Are the Saints of God"

**The Offering is Received:** Our opportunity to give God a token of our love and thanks for His priceless gift of life.

#### **Prayer for Strength**

P: Lord Jesus Christ, the Solid Rock upon which we build our spiritual house, while we are in this life we are only able to see dim shadows of your almighty power, your perfect holiness, and your limitless love. Forgetting you we often rely on the kind of knowledge that promises everything, but in the end delivers only emptiness. Instruct us through your Word. Daily replace our wisdom with your wisdom, and our knowledge with yours. Hold Christ our Savior always before us. Give us minds that know you.

Lord we pray:

**C: Keep us steadfast in your Word.**

P: Sin has infected our hearts. Often we regret sinful thoughts and actions, while failing to recognize that our very hearts have gone astray. The deepest desires of our sinful nature are still opposed to you. If left to ourselves we would surely be lost. Use your Word to feed us with the comfort and joy that only you can provide. Set our hearts and our desires again on things above. Tame our restless emotions. Train our inept affections. Give us hearts that love you. Lord we pray:

**C: Keep us steadfast in your Word.**

P: Worldly lures have deceived us, Satan's armies have weakened us we are under attack from all sides. We grow weary of fighting and are often lulled into listening to the voices of evil around us. They wear us down with their constant barrage of messages that sound so appealing to our sinful old Adam. They promise us pleasure but will only bring pain. We need your Word to help us stay focused and alert.

**C: Keep us steadfast in your Word.**

P: Lord Jesus, we thank you for your Word by which we are able to take our stand against the devil's schemes. It is a lamp to our feet and a light for our path. It strengthens and equips us for every good work. It empowers and motivates us to serve you. It makes us love you who first loved us, you in who's name we join in praying...

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Benediction**

Hymn: 170 "Draw Us to Thee"

## WORD OF GOD

Daniel 12:1-3 “At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people—everyone whose name is found written in the book—will be delivered. <sup>2</sup> Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. <sup>3</sup> Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.

Hebrews 10:11-18 <sup>11</sup> Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. <sup>12</sup> But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, <sup>13</sup> and since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool. <sup>14</sup> For by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy. <sup>15</sup> The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. First he says: <sup>16</sup> “This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds.” <sup>17</sup> Then he adds: “Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more.” <sup>18</sup> And where these have been forgiven, sacrifice for sin is no longer necessary.

John 5:25-29 <sup>25</sup> Very truly I tell you, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live. <sup>26</sup> For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself. <sup>27</sup> And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man. <sup>28</sup> “Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice <sup>29</sup> and come out—those who have done what is good will rise to live, and those who have done what is evil will rise to be condemned.

## LOOKING AHEAD:

11/21 7P.M. Thanksgiving Eve Worship followed by pie fellowship. Sunday School sings  
11/22 Thanksgiving worship at the family altar, no worship at Mt. Olive  
12/1 9:00A.M.-12:15P.M. Christmas for Kids  
12/2 4P.M. Ladies Advent Prayer Service, followed by a meal, Grace Lutheran, Seward  
12/5/12/19 Midweek Advent Worship  
12/16 9A.M. Children’s Christmas Service (NOTE: 1 service followed by a Christmas Brunch)  
12/24 5P.M. Youth Group Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship  
12/25 9A.M. Christmas Day Song and Scripture Worship  
12/30 8A.M. & 10:30A.M. New Year’s Communion Worship with Pastor Beckmann

## OUR WEEK IN THE LORD AT MT. OLIVE (If the Lord Does Not Return First!)

TODAY: 8&10:30A.M. Saints Triumphant Worship  
9:30-10:15A.M. Growth in the Word for All Ages  
6:30P.M. Women’s Bible Study and Fellowship at Uphoff’s,  
MONDAY: 9A.M. Veterans’ Day program at St. Mark. Free breakfast for Veterans will be served after  
The 45-minute service.  
7:00P.M. Evening Worship @ St. Mark (for those who missed out today)  
TUESDAY: 9A.M. Women’s Prayer Group  
6P.M. Elders’ Meeting  
WEDNESDAY: 3PM Windcrest Bible Study  
No Catechism  
7:00P.M. Thanksgiving Eve Worship at Mt. Olive, pie fellowship, Sunday School sings  
THURSDAY: No Evening Worship at Mt. Olive  
SUNDAY: 8&10:30 Christ The King Communion Worship  
9:30-10:15A.M. Growth in the Word for All Ages

## NEWS ‘N NOTES

To our visitors and guests: 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: We thank our organist, Jackie Kronebusch, this morning, who acted on her God-given faith and used her God-given gifts to honor and worship the Giver of those gifts...and the greatest of all gifts: eternal life! BARNES & NOBLE fundraiser for St. Mark school will be held Dec 7th 6pm-8pm at the Southpoint location.

This is a great opportunity to pick up some gifts and help our school at the same time.

SCRIP is another great gift opportunity, with the benefits going to NELHS or St. Mark School. Carol Hans is the Lincoln SCRIP coordinator. She has cards available year-round. 402-430-1053 More information, including what SCRIP is available, is in the narthex.

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP: As we have done in past years we will gather for Thanksgiving worship on the eve of Thanksgiving—on Wednesday night November 21<sup>st</sup> starting at 7P.M. A very special service is being planned. We will join together in thanking our gracious God for all our blessings of body and soul. Pie fellowship follows the service. Members will be asked to bring a pie to share while we enjoy each others company. On Thanksgiving Day families are encouraged to worship God at the family altar at home.

CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS UPDATE: Christmas for kids is planned for December 1<sup>st</sup> 9A.M.-12:15P.M.

3-12 year olds are welcome to come and learn as we focus on the real reason for the season. Volunteers are needed. Sign-up sheet are available in the narthex.

ADVENT MIDWEEK WORSHIP: Three very special midweek Advent Worship services are being planned for the Wednesday nights leading up to Christmas (5,12,19) **starting at 6:30P.M.** Come join us as we prepare our hearts by focusing on the coming of our baby King come to save.

## SERVING IN GOD’S HOUSE TODAY/THIS WEEK:

Early Service

Late Service

Altar Care: Candace Meyer, Lynne Costin

Heidi Brase, Shawna Fox

Ushering: J&W Costin, D Jung, J Landis

R Yeager, G Ellis, C Beiermann

Cleaning God’s House this week: Downstairs-Kauk, Upstairs-Kemnitz, Narthex-Meyer

Given for God’s Glory: Budget Offerings: \$3,701.01 (\$5,803.70 needed to meet budget)

Year to Date Budget Offerings Pace: -\$9,070.75

In God’s House 11/7 & 11/11 7+67+141 Total: 215