



## *Mt Olive Evangelical Lutheran Church*

A SERVICE OF MEDITATION AND PRAISE  
THANKSGIVING EVE NOVEMBER 21, 2018



## *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

### Welcome and Introduction

Opening Hymn of Praise: CW 610 *"Now Thank We All Our God"*

Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things has done, In whom His world rejoices,  
Who from our mother's arms Has blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love And still is ours today.

Oh, may this bounteous God Through all our life be near us,  
With ever-joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us  
And keep us in his grace And guide us when perplexed  
And free us from all ills In this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God The Father now be given,  
The Son, and him who reigns With them in highest heaven,  
The one eternal God, Whom earth and heav'n adore!  
For thus it was, is now, And shall be evermore.

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: **His mercy endures forever.**

P: Come, let us praise God with joyful hearts.

C: **Let us come to God with thanksgiving.**

## Thanksgiving Confession of Faith

**C:** I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**P:** What does this mean?

**C:** I believe that God created me and all that exists, and that he gave me my body and soul, eyes, ears and all my members, my mind and all my abilities.

And I believe that God still preserves me by richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, spouse and children, land, cattle, and all I own, and all I need to keep my body and life. God also preserves me by defending me against all danger, guarding and protecting me from all evil. All this God does only because he is my good and merciful Father in heaven, and not because I have earned or deserved it. For all this I ought to thank and praise, to serve and obey him. This is most certainly true.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: Lord, God heavenly Father, we gather together this evening in the name of your Son, our Savior, to give you thanks and praise for all your blessings to us-blessings too numerous to count. Please accept our praise for the sake of Jesus.

**We thank you for your blessings,**

**Almighty Lord, our King;**

**We thank you for the harvests,**

**Yes, Lord, for ev'rything:**

**For flow'rs that bloom in springtime,**

**For rip'ning fruit and grain,**

**For all the precious sunshine,**

**And for the gentle rain.**

P: Heavenly Father, giver and sustainer of life, we thank you for giving us peace with You through the sufferings and death of Jesus our Savior. You have also seen fit to take good care of our bodies and souls in this life and have promised to deliver us from this evil age to yourself in glory.

**This day of great thanksgiving**

**We count them one by one:**

**Our free and fruitful country,**

**The great things you have done,**

**Our family, our loved ones,**

**The guardian angels' care,**

**Our very self and heartbeat –**

**Lord, hear our thankful prayer!**

P: Heavenly Father, we thank and praise you for raising your Son from the dead and for seating him at your own right hand where he rules over all things on behalf of us who love him. He is the Alpha and Omega, the First and Last, the Beginning and the End.

**But best of all your blessings,**

**The rainbow of your love,**

**Are all the many mercies**

**Your Word brings from above.**

**Our life now has full meaning –**

**Christ Jesus is our God!**

**Thanksgiving shall be living**

**The way the Savior trod.**

Text, Tune, Setting: public domain. CW 615

**EPISTLE LESSON: Philippians 4:10-20**

I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. 11 I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. 12 I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. 13 I can do all this through him who gives me strength. 14 Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles. 15 Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; 16 for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need. 17 Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account. 18 I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. 19 And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus. 20 To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

**HYMN RESPONSE: CW 609 "We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer"**

**We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator!  
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring;  
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;  
We bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.**

**We worship you, God of our fathers; we bless you.  
Through trial and tempest our guide you have been;  
When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,  
And with your help, O Lord, our battles we win.**

**With voices united our praises we offer;  
To you, great Jehovah, glad anthems we raise.  
Your strong arm will guide us; our God is beside us.  
To you, our great Redeemer, fore'er be praise!**  
*Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.*

**HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 12:22-31**

Then Jesus said to his disciples: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. <sup>23</sup> Life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. <sup>24</sup> Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! <sup>25</sup> Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? <sup>26</sup> Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?"

<sup>27</sup> "Consider how the lilies grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. <sup>28</sup> If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! <sup>29</sup> And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. <sup>30</sup> For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. <sup>31</sup> But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord!

C: God be praised for his Good News!

**Hymn of the Day CW 613 "Come, You Thankful People, Come"**

**Come, you thankful people, come; Raise the song of harvest-home.  
All be safely gathered in Ere the winter storms begin.  
God our maker shall provide For our wants to be supplied.  
Come to God's own temple, come; Raise the song of harvest-home.**

**All the world is God's own field, Fruit unto his praise to yield;  
Wheat and weeds together sown, Unto joy or sorrow grown.  
First the blade and then the ear, Then the full corn shall appear.  
Lord of harvest, grant that we Wholesome grain and pure may be.**

**For the Lord our God shall come And shall take his harvest home,  
From his field shall in that day All offenses purge away,  
Give his angels charge at last In the fire the weeds to cast,  
But the fruitful ears to store In his garner evermore.**

**Even so, Lord, quickly come To your final harvest-home;  
Gather all your people in, Free from sorrow, free from sin,  
There, forever purified, In your garner to abide.  
Come with all your angels, come; Raise the glorious harvest-home.**

*Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.*

**Sermon: Deuteronomy 8:10-18**

When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you. <sup>11</sup> Be careful that you do not forget the LORD your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day. <sup>12</sup> Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, <sup>13</sup> and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, <sup>14</sup> then your heart will become proud and you will forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. <sup>15</sup> He led you through the vast and dreadful wilderness, that thirsty and waterless land, with its venomous snakes and scorpions. He brought you water out of hard rock. <sup>16</sup> He gave you manna to eat in the wilderness, something your ancestors had never known, to humble and test you so that in the end it might go well with you. <sup>17</sup> You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." <sup>18</sup> But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

**Offering of Thanksgiving to the Lord**

(During the offering the Sunday School Choir will sing "For the Fruit of His Creation")  
*"Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops."  
(Proverbs 3:9)*

**Offering Hymn: To Thee, O Lord, Our Hearts We Raise (Tune CW 375)**

**To Thee, O Lord, our hearts we raise in hymns of adoration,  
To Thee bring sacrifice of praise with shouts of exultation.**

**Bright robes of gold the fields adorn, the hills with joy are ringing  
The valleys stand so thick with corn that even they are singing.**

**And now, on this our festal day, Thy bounteous hand confessing,  
Upon Thine altar, Lord, we lay the first-fruits of Thy blessing.**

## **A Litany of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer**

**P:** Give thanks to the Lord, who is good.

**C:** **God's love is everlasting.**

**P:** Come, let us praise God joyfully.

**C:** **Let us come to God with thanksgiving.**

**P:** For the good world; for things great and small, beautiful and awesome; for seen and unseen splendors:

**C:** **We thank you, O God.**

**P:** For human life; for talking and moving and thinking together; for common hopes and hardships shared from birth until our dying:

**C:** **We thank you, O God.**

**P:** For work to do and strength to work; for exchanges of good humor and encouragement:

**C:** **We thank you, O God.**

**P:** For marriage; for the mystery and joy of flesh made one; for mutual forgiveness and burdens shared; for love in Christ:

**C:** **We thank you, O God.**

**P:** For family; for living and eating together; for family amusements and family pleasures:

**C:** **We thank you, O God.**

**P:** For children; for their energy and curiosity; for their brave play and startling frankness; for their sudden sympathies:

**C:** **We thank you, O God.**

**P:** For the young; for their high hopes; for their candid criticism; for their search for freedom:

**C:** **We thank you, O God.**

**P:** For growing up and growing old; for wisdom deepened by experience; for rest in leisure; for time made precious by its passing:

**C:** **We thank you, O God.**

**P:** For your help in times of doubt and sorrow; for healing our diseases; for preserving us in temptation and danger:

**C:** **We thank you, O God.**

**P:** For the Church into which we have been called; for the good news we receive by Word and sacrament; for our life together in the Lord:

**C:** **We praise you, O God.**

**P:** For your Holy Spirit, who guides our steps and brings us gifts of faith and love, who prays in us and prompts our grateful worship:

**C:** **We praise you, O God.**

**P:** Above all, O God, for your Son, Jesus Christ, who lived and died and lives again for our salvation; for our hope in him; and for the joy of serving him:

**C:** **We thank and praise you, eternal God, for all your goodness to us.**

**P:** Give thanks to the Lord, who is good.

**C:** **God's love is everlasting. Amen.**

**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.**

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

**P:** Almighty God our Father, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **Closing Exhortation**

**P:** Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

**C: Praise the Lord, O my soul. I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.**

**P:** The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: Amen.**

## **Closing Hymn CW 260 "Let All Things Now Living"**

**Let all things now living A song of thanksgiving  
To God the Creator triumphantly raise,  
Who fashioned and made us, Protected and stayed us,  
Who still guides us on to the end of our days.  
God's banners are o'er us; His light goes before us,  
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,  
Till shadows have vanished And darkness is banished,  
As forward we travel from light into light.**

**His law he enforces; The stars in their courses  
And sun in its orbit obediently shine.  
The hills and the mountains, The rivers and fountains,  
The deeps of the ocean proclaim him divine.  
We, too, should be voicing Our love and rejoicing.  
With glad adoration a song let us raise  
Till all things now living Unite in thanksgiving:  
"To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"**