



# Mt. Olive Evangelical Lutheran Church

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

7979 Holdrege Street Lincoln, NE. 68505 Office phone: 484-8711 Pastor's Cell 440-8145

ministers: Every member

President: Greg Boggs

Pastor: Tim Kemnitz

Our Christian Mission Statement: (According to Martin Luther) "The only reason we Christians are living on earth is to help other people. Otherwise it would be best if God let us die as soon as we were baptized and had begun to believe. But He allows us to live here so that we will bring other people to faith, just as He has done for us."

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December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018

Advent One

Worship 8&10:30A.M.

Growth in the Word 9:30A.M.

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**Welcome!** On many people's list of favorite Advent hymns is "Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel." Did you know that this hymn is based on an ancient set of prayers? As early as the 500s AD, Christians developed a series of seven prayers to Jesus, which they prayed, one each evening, from December 17<sup>th</sup> through the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Each prayer began with a name attached to Jesus in the Bible: "O Wisdom... O King... O Emmanuel." These prayers were known as *antiphons*, which means they were parts of the service in which the congregation participated (*antiphon* literally means "sounding back"). Over the next few centuries, Christians collected these "Great O Antiphons" into the hymn "Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel" that we know today.

**These seven ancient prayers, the "O Antiphons," will be used for our responsive sung prayer for worship this morning.** Our aim is to better understand with both head and heart just who it is whose birth we celebrate during this season known as advent-which means "coming". Jesus is our King, our Wisdom, our Dayspring... God with us, Emmanuel.

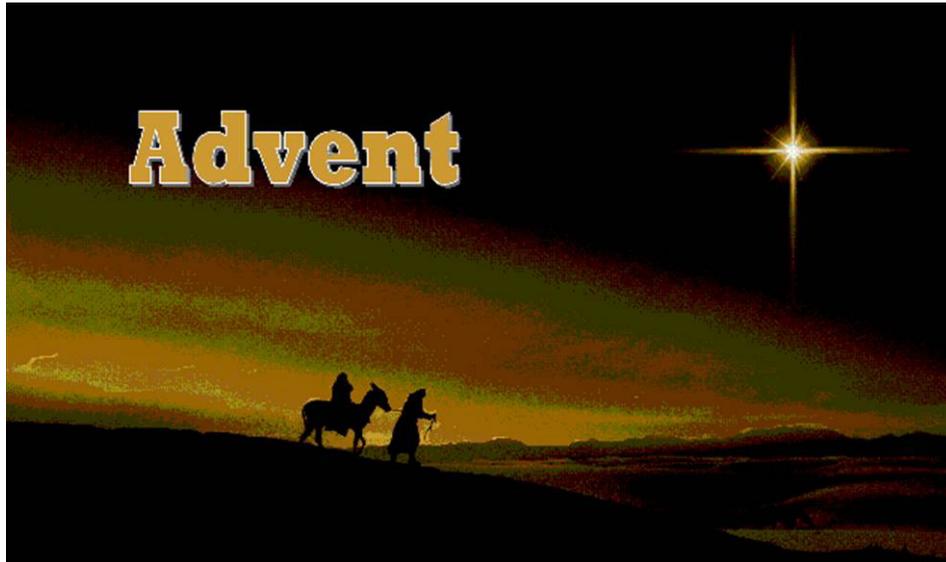
Pastor's Greeting and Focus for Worship

Opening Hymn: 3 "Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates"

### Invocation

M: In the name of the Father Who lavished His love on us by giving us His one and only Son so that we could be called children of God; In the name of the Son Who did not consider equality with God something we could grasp and thus gave up the glories of heaven so that some day we could be lifted up on high; In the name of the Holy Spirit Who has enlightened the eyes of our hearts so that we now know the hope to which He has called us through the Gospel.

**C: Amen**



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7979 Holdrege Street Lincoln, Nebraska 68505

Office Phone: 402-484-8711      Pastor's Cell: 402-440-8145  
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[www.facebook.com/MtOliveLincolnNebraska/](https://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 their faith in Jesus and be equipped to GO with the good news of Jesus Christ to our community and world, so that together we may GLORIFY God into eternity."

## ADVENT MIDWEEK CANDLELIGHT MEDITATIONS 2018

### **Our Confession and God's Forgiveness in Christ**

M: Dear friends in Christ, in Luke chapter 10 our God tells us about two sisters who were blessed by having the Lord Jesus and His disciples come for a visit to their house. One of them, named Mary, sat quietly at Her Savior's feet and listened intently to every word that came from His mouth, but the other sister, named Martha, fretted about the house and became worried and upset because her sister would not help her with the preparations she felt were needed to honor Jesus. At this time of the year, when we look forward to celebrating the presence of Jesus Christ as a little baby, we too can sometimes become worried and upset and anxious because of all the preparations that we feel are necessary to celebrate Christmas appropriately. Let us go to our Father now and ask Him to give us a proper attitude and to forgive us for the times we have fretted about and lost our focus.

**C: Heavenly Father, we stand in Your holy presence as believers who have all too often let our sinful nature get the best of us. We know that one single "little sin" condemns us, and we have committed many, many sins before You. We have permitted the "deadline of Christmas" to bring anxiety and stress to our lives. We have become too focused on the trappings of the season, so that we have at times lost sight of what Christmas is all about-celebrating the birth of our Savior from sin. We have grown impatient with the world and have become irritable with the loved ones You have brought into our lives. Please forgive us for Jesus' sake.**

M: Your Father is pleased to announce to you, "Though your sins are like scarlet they shall be white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool." (Isaiah 1:18) Jesus came, a little child, to shed His blood for our every sin on the cross after living a flawless and holy life on our behalf. Take heart! The Savior comes bearing gifts: peace and joy in the forgiveness of sins that is now ours through His coming and through the cross He would bear on our behalf!

**C: Thank You, Lord Jesus, for coming and being condemned for me! Help me always to cast all my anxieties on You because You care for me.**

Prayer of the Day

M: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen** (spoken)

The Lessons

Old Testament: Jeremiah 33:14-16 (p. 787 in the black pew Bibles)

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 25 (p. 74 in the front of the hymnal)

Epistle Lesson: I Thessalonians 3:9-13 (p. 1170)

Gospel Lesson: Luke 21:25-36 (p. 1043)

Our Confession of Faith

**I believe that the Father created me and every living thing and that when the perfect time had come He sent His one and only Son into the world that was created through Him, in order to rescue His fallen creatures from eternal condemnation.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord and Savior, Who for the joy of my salvation gave up the glories of heaven to come into this world that was under the curse of sin in order to become a curse for all of us. After enduring the hell that my sins deserved and dying on a cruel cross He rose again from the dead so that I might stand justified before God through faith in Him.**

**I believe in God the Holy Spirit Who, even when I was dead in my transgressions and sins, made me alive in Christ by bringing me to believe in Jesus as my Savior from sin. I believe that the Holy Spirit still uses the "means of grace" and works through the Gospel in Word and Sacrament to strengthen and preserve me in the true faith. This is most certainly true.**

The Children's Sermon

The Hymn of the Day: 702 "Prepare the Royal Highway"

The Sermon: Luke 21:34-36

Theme: Don't Get Caught In the Trap!

The Offering is Gathered: (a gift for the Christ-child come to save)

PRAYERS-THE O ANTIPHONS

M: Let us pray.

O Emmanuel, our King and our Lord, the anointed of the nations and their Savior, come and save us, O Lord our God.

**C: Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!**

M: O Wisdom, proceeding from the mouth of the Most High, pervading and permeating all creation, mightily order all things; come and teach us the way of prudence.

**C: Oh, come, our Wisdom from on high, who ordered all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!**

M: O Adonai and ruler of the house of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the burning bush and gave him the law on Sinai, come with an outstretched arm and redeem us.

**C: Oh, come, oh, come, our Lord of might, Who to your tribes on Sinai's height  
In ancient times gave holy law, In cloud and majesty and awe.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!**

M: O Root of Jesse, standing as a banner before the peoples, before whom all kings are mute, to whom the nations will do homage; come quickly to deliver us.

**C: Oh, come, O Root of Jesse, free Your own from Satan's tyranny;  
From depths of hell your people save, and bring them victory o'er the grave.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!**

M: O Key of David and scepter of the house of Israel, you open and no one can close; you close and no one can open; come and rescue the prisoners who are in darkness and the shadow of death.

**C: Oh, come, O Key of David, come, and open wide our heav'nly home.  
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!**

M: O Dayspring, splendor of light everlasting, come and enlighten those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death.

**C: Oh, come, O Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by your drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!**

M: O King of the nations, the ruler they long for, the cornerstone for uniting all people, come and save us all, whom you formed out of clay.

**C: Oh, come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind;  
Oh, bid our sad divisions cease, and be yourself the King of Peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!**

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The Benediction

The Closing Hymn of Praise: 1 "The Advent of Our King"

Viewing of Our WELS Connection Video-December

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Our Week in the Lord at Mt Olive

TODAY- 8&10:30 A.M. Advent One Worship  
9:20 Family Bible Study Hour/Children's Christmas Program Practice  
11:45A.M. Chime Tones Choir Practice  
6:30 P.M. Women's Bible Study and Fellowship  
MONDAY- 6:30 P.M. Board of Elders meeting  
7P.M. Monday Night Worship at St. Mark  
TUESDAY-9-10A.M. Women's Prayer Group at Mt. Olive  
WEDNESDAY-4:30P.M. Catechism  
6P.M. Soup Supper  
6:30P.M. Midweek Advent Worship  
THURSDAY-No evening worship until January 10  
SUNDAY-8&10:30A.M. Advent 2 Communion Worship  
9:30-10:15A.M. Adult Bible Study/Children's Program Practice

News-N-Notes

CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS: Special thanks to all who helped with our annual Christmas for Kids program yesterday via volunteering. We especially thank Stacy Schleusener our C4K Coordinator for getting this all together. May God bless you richly and fill you with JOY for the opportunity to point little ones to the source of JOY and PEACE in our world-Jesus Christ!!!

MIDWEEK ADVENT MEDITATION: We gather in God's house on the first three consecutive Wednesdays in December (5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>) to prepare our hearts to properly celebrate the birth of our Savior from Sin. Evening "Candlelight Meditation" (about 40 minutes), meets with the theme: "Let the Apostle Peter Help Prep Your Heart For Christmas", starts at 6:30P.M. Soup Suppers will precede worship-starting at 6P.M. Please sign up in the back if you're able to provide a soup for the meal. During Advent we will not have Thursday Evening Worship. It will resume in 2019!

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICES: The next three Sundays (starting today!) our SS children will be practicing their parts for the Children's Christmas Program scheduled for December 16<sup>th</sup> at 9A.M. We will also meet for practice on the Saturday prior to the service (December 15<sup>th</sup> from 9-11:30). Thank you, parents-for working on parts with your children!!!

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY/THIS WEEK:

	Early Service	Late Service
Altar Care:	Ellen Donahoe, Dee Kemnitz	Delores Wasserman, Tiffany Beiermann
Ushering:	J&I Meyer, S Raasch, T Monroe	M Lauber, R Krenke, J Mattox, C Beiermann
Cleaning God's House This Next week:	Narthex-N Rassmussen	Upstairs-Richie Downstairs- Monroe

In God's House on 11/21&25: Given for God's Glory: 11/21 \$1,329 (going as promised to NELHS Debt)  
11/25 \$1,011.00 (Needed per week: \$7,072) Budget Pace: -\$12,823

# Let the Apostle Peter Help Prep Your Heart For Christmas!

- December 5<sup>th</sup> I Peter 1:1-2  
Let Jesus' Abiding Presence Bring You Abundant Peace
- December 12<sup>th</sup> I Peter 1:3-5  
Let Jesus' "Coming of Salvation" Fill You With Hope
- December 19<sup>th</sup> I Peter 1:6-9  
Let the "End Result of Your Faith" in Jesus Be Your Joy



Soup Supper at 6P.M.

Meditation at 6:30P.M.

## GOD'S WORD FOR ADVENT ONE

Jeremiah 33:14-16 <sup>14</sup>“The days are coming,’ declares the LORD, ‘when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah.<sup>15</sup>“In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David’s line; he will do what is just and right in the land.<sup>16</sup>In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it will be called: The LORD Our Righteous Savior.’

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 <sup>9</sup>How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? <sup>10</sup>Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.<sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. <sup>12</sup>May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. <sup>13</sup>May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

Luke 21:25-36 <sup>25</sup>“There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. <sup>26</sup>People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”<sup>29</sup>He told them this parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. <sup>30</sup>When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. <sup>31</sup>Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>“Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. <sup>34</sup>“Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. <sup>35</sup>For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.”

