

# MT OLIVE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS=Caring and Conservative)  
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 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"

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March 3, 2019

Worship Sunday 8&10:30 AM

Transfiguration Sunday

Family Bible Study Hour-Sunday 9:30AM

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 Welcome!!! To all our guests and visitors, we extend a warm and sincere welcome. We are happy to have you join us for worship this morning as we see Jesus for Who He is-our Savior and our Lord. You have joined us on what's known as "Transfiguration Sunday" when we get to see Jesus' "metamorphoses" into a glorified state (i.e. shining brightly in his glory as true God) before the eyes of three of his closest disciples to help them cope with what's coming-his entrance into Jerusalem to suffer and die on the cross for their (and our!) sins.

## HOW GOOD, LORD, TO BE HERE...

**OPENING HYMN CW 95** "How Good, Lord, To Be Here"

### INVOCATION

**P:** In the name of God the Father, Who said, "Let there be light" and there was light-by whose Word all things were created, and by whose power all things are sustained.

**C: O come, let us worship Him!**

**P:** In the name of God the Son, the "Light of the World", the "Word who became flesh and made His dwelling among us"- to redeem all mankind from sin and eternal death and darkness.

**C: O come, let us praise Him!**

**P:** In the name of God the Holy Spirit, who by the Word enlightens our hearts so that we can see clearly now the way of salvation; Who calls sinners to faith and gives power to be lights in our world by living sanctified lives-for his glory.

**C: O come, let us glorify Him!**

**ALL: O Triune God, we worship You, the Holy Three in One!**

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

P: Dear friends in Christ, we stand in the presence of the almighty God, from whom nothing is hidden and before whom all hearts are open. God's Word encourages us: "The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light." (Ephesians 5:11)

Sadly, we must admit that we have not always lived like "enlightened" Children of God. We have disobeyed our good and gracious God and we deserve to be cast into outer darkness for all eternity (11 Peter 2:17)

But our God has been merciful to us and has sent His one and only Son to serve as our Savior. Let us go to Him now and confess our sins before Him and hear the reassuring Words of forgiveness in Christ.

**C: Almighty and most merciful God, you see everything! You know my thoughts and my motives. You even see the things done in secret and in darkness. Please forgive me for the many times I have failed You and have broken Your law of perfect love. Not only have I done what is wrong, I have also not done all that I should which is right and good. Without Jesus I am lost. Forgive me for His sake and grant me peace and joy in my forgiveness.**

P: The same God Who has blessed you and me to catch a glimpse through the Gospel of Jesus standing in glory on the Mount of Transfiguration would have His one and only Son come down from that Mountain and proceed into Jerusalem where He would suffer and die for our every sin. He did that so that forgiven through faith in Him we now anticipate seeing Jesus standing in His full glory in heaven where we will stand with Him forever living in permanent dwellings. Take heart, your sins are forgiven by the One Who gave up His glory so that some day we might share it with Him in heaven!

**C: How good, Lord, to be here-to hear your message of forgiveness and life in Christ!**

## **PRAYER FOR TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY**

P: Almighty God, through the preaching of the truth, You caused the light of the Gospel to shine forth in our hearts-so that we see Jesus as true God and our only Savior from sin. Grant that we may faithfully defend the Gospel against all enemies, and joyfully proclaim it to the salvation of people everywhere, to the glory of Your holy name.

**C: We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord. Amen.**

## **FIRST LESSON**

## **II Corinthians 3:12-4:2**

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold. <sup>13</sup> We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to prevent the Israelites from seeing the end of what was passing away. <sup>14</sup> But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away. <sup>15</sup> Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. <sup>16</sup> But whenever

anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. <sup>17</sup> Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup> And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. <sup>4</sup> Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart. <sup>2</sup> Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God.

**PSALM OF THE DAY**

**Psalm 148**

**Page 121 in the front of the hymnal**

**GOSPEL LESSON**

**Luke 9:28-36**

<sup>28</sup> About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. <sup>29</sup> As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. <sup>30</sup> Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. <sup>31</sup> They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem. <sup>32</sup> Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. <sup>33</sup> As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, "Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." (He did not know what he was saying.) <sup>34</sup> While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and covered them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. <sup>35</sup> A voice came from the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him." <sup>36</sup> When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves and did not tell anyone at that time what they had seen.

**We Joyfully Confess Our Faith**

*(The Second Article of the Apostles' Creed and Luther's explanation, spoken responsively.)*

**PASTOR:** I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

*What does this mean?*

**CONGREGATION:** I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy precious blood, and with His innocent sufferings and death. All this He did that I should be His own, and live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He has risen from death, and lives and rules eternally.

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** 771 “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” (cf. insert)

**THE SERMON**

**Exodus 34:29-35**

<sup>29</sup> When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the covenant law in his hands, he was not aware that his face was radiant because he had spoken with the LORD. <sup>30</sup> When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, his face was radiant, and they were afraid to come near him. <sup>31</sup> But Moses called to them; so Aaron and all the leaders of the community came back to him, and he spoke to them. <sup>32</sup> Afterward all the Israelites came near him, and he gave them all the commands the LORD had given him on Mount Sinai. <sup>33</sup> When Moses finished speaking to them, he put a veil over his face. <sup>34</sup> But whenever he entered the LORD’s presence to speak with him, he removed the veil until he came out. And when he came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, <sup>35</sup> they saw that his face was radiant. Then Moses would put the veil back over his face until he went in to speak with the LORD.

**Theme:** Looking For a Healthy Glow? Gather in the Presence of the LORD!

**We Joyfully Bring Our Offerings of Thankfulness** (Visitors and guests—we do not expect you to place anything into the offering. It is our privilege as members of Mt. Olive to support our ministry. We are simply glad you could join us. Please come again!!!)

**Litany for Transfiguration Sunday**

- P: Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank you for calling us your children through faith in Jesus.
- C: Help us now, Father, to live like Your dearly loved children. Help us to show our love for You by loving each other.**
- P: Lord Jesus, thank you for your suffering and death for all our sins which restores us in our relationship with God and enables us to approach him with freedom and confidence.
- C: Help us now, to never forget all you have done so we can always stand before God as his redeemed children.**
- P: O Holy Spirit, thank You for filling us with peace as we pay heed to Your Word of grace.
- C: Thank you, for softening our hearts. Help us to never grow indifferent toward Your Holy Word.**
- P: We thank You, God, that You have kept Your Word pure.
- C: We are grateful that You have preserved the truth that salvation is through faith in Christ alone.**
- P: We are especially thankful on this Transfiguration Sunday for letting us in on the view of your Son’s transformation to glory before his disciples.
- C: We praise the name of Jesus, through Whom we will some day enjoy the full glory of heaven!**

- P: Lead us, O God, through Your Word to a stronger faith in our Savior, that we may never be afraid to “let our lights shine” in this sinful generation, to stand up for Your Truth, or to share it with others.
- C: Give us transfiguration zeal, that we might be truly concerned about the constant attacks on Your Son’s character and person and on Your Holy Word.**
- P: And lest we forget that many people were involved in getting the good news of the Gospel out to the ends of the earth, help us to realize that Kingdom work is work for EACH ONE of us as Christians even as you have gifted us with individual and unique abilities that can be used to advance the cause of the Gospel.
- C: We ask You to give us the ability and the desire to share the good news of forgiveness through Christ with the people of our neighborhood as well as those of other places.**
- P: Dear Lord, fill us with concern for the salvation of the lost. Move us to see them as souls whom Christ loves and for whom He died. Give us that same love!
- C: Open our lips so that we might share with all people the news that they have been redeemed by the blood of Christ.**
- P: You used those three disciples on the Mount of Transfiguration and others so that many would come to know Your Good News of forgiveness. Use *us* also to tell of Christ and His blessings.
- C: Hear us, O Lord, for Jesus’ sake.**
- P: We gather these and all of our requests to You in the prayer that our Savior has taught us:

The Lord’s Prayer

**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.**

**HYMN: CWS 746** “You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd.” (cf. insert)

**A TRANSFIGURATION BLESSING**

- P: Among all gifts, the gift of the Word of God is most valuable, the Word which proclaims that God is merciful, and promises forgiveness of sins and life everlasting.
- C: Wherever the Word of God is, there the Holy Spirit is speaking.**
- P: Let the Word of God be ever in your heart, on your lips, and in your ears.
- C: It always awakens new understanding, pleasure and devotion – and purifies the heart and thoughts.**
- P: When people cling to the Word in this way, our Lord God and the entire heavenly host smile.
- C: This is most certainly true!**

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!**

### **FAREWELL TO ALLELUIA**

P: Brothers and sisters in Christ, when we next gather for worship, it will be Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. On that day we will begin our solemn journey to the Savior's cross. While the joy of faith remains undiminished throughout the year, our rejoicing during Lent is muted and quieted.

For centuries, therefore, the Christian churches have omitted their most jubilant songs during this season, including the word *alleluia*, which means, "praise the Lord."

Now for a time we say farewell to *alleluia*. We do this to prepare ourselves for the quieter days of Lent. The *alleluias* will return on Easter dawn as we gather to shout our praise to the risen Lord.

**CLOSING HYMN CWS 712** "Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain" (cf. insert)

*SILENT PRAYER*

### **THE LORD'S WEEK AT MT OLIVE:**

TODAY- 8&10:30 Worship  
9:20-10:15 Youth Ministry Study (Grades 9-12)  
9:30 A.M. Sunday School/Bible Study Hour  
11:45A.M. Chimers Practice  
6:30 P.M. Women's Bible Study at Schleusener's

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

TUESDAY - 9-10 AM Women's Prayer group  
6PM Outreach Committee  
6:30 PM Elders  
7:30PM Board of Education

WEDNESDAY- 3 P.M. Windcrest Bible Study  
4:30-6PM Catechism  
6PM Soup Supper  
6:30PM PM-Ash Wednesday Communion Worship

THURSDAY- No Thursday Night Worship (will resume after Easter)

FRIDAY - Noon – 3PM church open door office hours

SATURDAY - 5PM Knight Out, Omaha, NELHS fund raiser, contact NELHS office  
***For tickets (402) 728-5236***

SUNDAY- 8&10:30 Lent 1 Communion Worship  
9:20A.M. Youth Ministry Study  
9:30A.M. Sunday School/Bible Study Hour  
11:45A.M. Chimers Practice  
7:00PM Men's Bible study @ Mt. Olive

## NEWS N NOTES:

**THANK YOU** We thank Jackie Kronebusch – for serving as our organist this morning...and for serving as a great example of someone who's never too busy to serve Jesus (even though you're very busy!) May the Lord bless you and fill you with joy even as you have been a blessing to us!

**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.

**Women's Bible Study and Fellowship** will be meeting this evening at the Schleusener residence. They will be discussing Sections 2 and 3 of Love Rules: A Study of the Ten Commandments.

**THE ALTAR CARE SCHEDULE** for the coming 12 months will soon be drawn up. If you are not on the list currently but are willing to serve, please sign up in the narthex. If you are no longer able to serve, please cross out your name or contact Karen Helberg. Thanks to all who help in this capacity!

**LENT BEGINS THIS WEEK:** This Wednesday, Ash Wednesday, March 6th, the Lenten season begins with Ash Wednesday Worship at 6:30P.M. The Lord's Supper will be served to communicant members. Our Wednesday evenings following for the next 6 weeks we will see a pulpit exchange with our area WELS pastors. The theme for this year is "Three Words of Truth". This Wednesday Pastor Kemnitz will bring our attention to three words of truth spoken by our Savior, "Love One Another." Watch and Pray!

**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-using the translation you prefer. Bible Gateway is found at [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com)

**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 2018 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: Ellen Donahoe, Dee Kemnitz

Heidi Brase, Emma Gettemy

Early ushering: Jarred & Isaiah Meyer, Scott Raasch, Kevin Ferrell

Late Ushering: Mikel Lauber, Rueben Krenke, Jerry Mattox, Craig Beiermann

Cleaning God's House This week\*:Downstairs- Stribley Upstairs- Tesch Narthex- Smith

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

Given for God's Glory: February 4 - \$2,656.34 (Budget offerings)

\$235.00 (Non Budget Offerings)

Needed per Week to Keep Our Commitments Before Christ: \$4,557.69

In God's House February 20<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> 6+0+78=84