

† THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST † 10:30AM, Sunday, September 20, 2020

WELCOME TO MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH!

We are honored to have you in worship with us today and pray God's blessings on your worship. If this is your first visit to Mount Olive, we hope your worship with us is a blessing and you find friendship and peace in this place. During this difficult time, we want to assure you that Mount Olive is taking all necessary



precautions sanitizing our worship space, assuring social distancing, and safely preparing the sacrament. We hope to see you again and are happy to help in any way if you do not currently have a church home or are looking for one. Please ask an usher if you need assistance. We thank you for silencing your cell phones as you enter the sanctuary today.

AS WE GATHER

A part of us expects justice from God. We think that fairness ought to reign—that each of us should get what we deserve. But this is a dead end. God does not give us what we deserve but acts with mercy and grace beyond belief. He is scandalously generous and lavish with us—giving us what we do not deserve and have not earned. We are tempted to ask God for equity and what we deserve, but God is determined to give us so much more in Christ. Only in faith can we learn to let God be God, to honor His generosity with the only response He desires: faith and thanksgiving. Today we pray the Lord to break through to our hearts and minds with His abundant grace and to rejoice that He is more than fair—He is merciful!

HOLY COMMUNION

You are invited to commune with us by joining in confessing our faith in Christ and His real presence in the Sacrament. We affirm the presence in the Sacrament of Christ's true body and blood "through and in which we obtain the forgiveness of sins." During this time of precautions, we will utilize a communion practice called "continuous communion" in which no other human hands will be touching the wafer or the wine. Pastor Jason and the ushers will guide you through the process. If you have questions or are not a member of a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregation, please speak with Pastor Zobel before communing.

WELCOME

OPENING SONG

"Our God is Love"

Houston

(Verse 1)

Ev'ry soul ev'ry beating heart Ev'ry nation and ev'ry tongue Come find hope in the love of the Father All creation will bow as one Lift their eyes see the risen Son Jesus Saviour forever and after

(Chorus)

This is love Jesus came and died and gave His life for us Let our voices rise and sing for all He's done Our fear is overcome Our God is love Our God is love

(Verse 2)

Ev'ry distant and broken heart Ev'ry prayer ev'ry outstretched arm Finding hope in the love of the Father Age to age let His praises rise All the glory for all of time Jesus Saviour forever and after (Chorus)

(Bridge)

Age to age we will be singing In the light of all He's done All the earth Ev'ryone singing in the wonder of His love Age to age we will be singing In the light of all He's done All the earth Ev'ryone singing (Chorus)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES

- P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

- P Hide not Your face from me.
- C Turn not Your servant away in anger,
- P O You who have been my help.
- C Cast me not off; forsake me not, O God of my salvation!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P Let us confess our sins to God our Father.
- C I, a poor sinner, plead guilty before God of all sins. I have lived as if God did not matter and as if I mattered most. My Lord's name I have not honored as I should; my worship and prayers have faltered. I have not let His love have its way with me, and so my love for others has failed. There are those whom I have hurt, and those whom I have failed to help. My thoughts and desires have been soiled with sin.
- P Is this your sincere confession?
- C I am sorry for all my sins, and I ask for grace that I may do better. Amen.
- P As you believe, so let it be. Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P May He who began this good work in you bring it to completion at the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 116:12-13, 15-16; antiphon: v. 17

- P I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the LORD.
- C What shall I render to the LORD for all his benefits to me?
- P I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.
- **C** Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.
- P O LORD, I am your servant, I am your servant the son of your maidservant. You have loosed my bonds.
- C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.
- P I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the LORD.

SONG OF THE DAY

"Here's My Heart" *Tomlin (Next page)*

(Chorus 1) Here's my heart Lord Here's my heart Lord Here's my heart Lord Speak what is true

(Verse 1)

'Cause I am found I am Yours I am loved I'm made pure I have life I can breathe I am healed I am free (Chorus 1) (Verse 1)

(Verse 2)

'Cause You are strong You are sure You are life You endure You are good always true You are light breaking through

(Chorus 2)

Here's my heart Lord Here's my heart Lord Here's my heart Lord Speak what is true Here's my life Lord Here's my life Lord Speak what is true Speak what is true Speak what is true (Verse 1) (Verse 2)

(Bridge)

You are more than enough You are here You are love You are hope You are grace You're all I have You're everything

Here's my heart Lord (x3) Speak what is true Here's my life Lord (x3) Speak what is true (x3)

SALUTATION/ PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us pray. Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 55:6-9

⁶"Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; ⁷let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

- P This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30

 12 I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel. ¹³so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. ¹⁴And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear...¹⁹ for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. ²⁴But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again. ²⁷Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸ and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. ²⁹For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, ³⁰engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 20:1–16

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twentieth chapter.
- C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vinevard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' ⁵So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. ⁶And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' 8And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' ⁹And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius, ¹⁰Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, ¹²saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first last."

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

SONG OF THE DAY "To Live is Christ" *McDonald*

If I rise, let me rise on you Not on all of my successes, my sting or my pursuits If I lose, let me lose my life 'Cause if I belong to Jesus, the flesh is crucified

(Chorus)

For me to live is Christ For me to live is Christ For me to live is Christ, to die is gain

If I grow, let me grow in You Whilt the seeds of wanting more Ripped and pried out by the roots And if I'm still, let me hear You speak Not the tone of my transgressions But the song of the redeemed (Chorus x2) My great desire is to be with You But this is the place you chose for me This is the place you chose for me To lift my cross and give everything This is the time you gave to me This is the time you gave to me

(Chorus)

For me to live is Christ For me to live is Christ For me to live is Christ, to die is gain

I'll never be the same I'll never be the same For me to live is Christ, to die is gain.

SERMON The Power of the Word

APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Lord God, You have promised to hear the prayers of Your people, and so we come to You this day offering You petitions and supplications for all manner and needs of people. You have invited us to seek Your face and to call upon You while You are near. Lord, grant to us such confidence in Your grace and favor that we seek Your wisdom, walk in Your ways, and delight in Your gift of salvation with thanksgiving in our hearts. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

- P We delight in dwelling in Your house, O Lord. Bless Your Church and those who minister to us in Your name. Guide them to preach faithfully the whole counsel of Your Word so that we be steadfast in faith in the face of temptation, threat, and trial. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.

P You have placed in our ears Your Word and in our hearts Your Spirit, O Lord. Grant that we learn to follow Your Word and live holy, upright, and honorable lives that reflect Your goodness and show forth the fruit of the Spirit in all we say and do. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P You are our light and our salvation and in You we rest our fears. Lord, grant Your aid, comfort, and strength to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Be especially with the sick for whom we pray this day, Heal them in accordance with Your will and sustain them through their afflictions until the perfect healing comes in heaven. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Your power is greater than all and Your mercy is without limit. Lord, look with compassion upon our world of violence and terror. Bless those who govern here and everywhere that they protect the weak, promote the cause of virtue, administer justice to the criminal, and act with mercy toward those in need. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P You have shown us generosity greater than we deserve, O Lord. Silence our complaints when we would question Your mercy, and teach us to be satisfied by Your grace in all that we need for this mortal life and find contentment in God's promise of the life to come. Teach us to rejoice over every sinner who repents and for everyone who comes to You in faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

- P All these and whatsoever other things we need, we ask You to grant us in the name of Jesus, our Lord. Into Your hands, O gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

OFFERING

We accept offerings via Pushpay. Text "mountolive" to 77977.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the

forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him. We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

C Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

PAX DOMINI

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

DISTRIBUTION SONG "O Come To The Altar" Brown

(Verse 1)

Are you hurting and broken within Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin Jesus is calling Have you come to the end of yourself Do you thirst for a drink from the well Jesus is calling

(Chorus)

O come to the altar The Father's arms are open wide Forgiveness was bought with The precious blood of Jesus Christ

(Verse 2)

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes Come today there's no reason to wait Jesus is calling Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy From the ashes a new life is born Jesus is calling (Chorus x2)

Matthew 6:9–13

(Bridge x2)

Oh what a Savior Isn't he wonderful Sing alleluia Christ is risen Bow down before him For he is Lord of all Sing alleluia Christ is risen (**Chorus**)

(Verse 3)

Bear your cross as you wait for the crown Tell the world of the treasure you've found

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

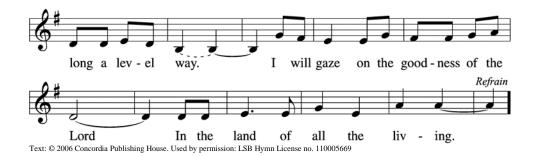
- P Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,
- C for His steadfast love endures forever!
- P Heavenly Father, it is Your gracious will that Your children on earth live together in harmony and peace. Defeat the plans of all those who would stir up envy and strife, and teach us to examine our own hearts that we be free from malice and ill will. Help us by Your grace so that we live lives worthy of the Gospel and live at peace with all people. Fill us with zeal for the work of Your Church and the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, which alone can bring that peace which is beyond all understanding; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS/ BENEDICTION

- P Let us bless the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.
- P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
- C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN "The Lord is My Light" *LSB 723 (Next page)*





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SERVING IN WORSHIP

Preacher	Rev. Mark Baldwin, Family Life Director			
Liturgist	Rev. Jason Zobel, Senior Pastor			
Music	Olive Branch, Ray Calderon, Director of Music			
Elder	Curt Casanova			
Usher Team	Matt Dierks			
Altar Guild (September) Janelle Tonsager				

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Weekly Calendar September 21- 26

Monday (9/21) 9:00am Quilters 6:00pm Executive Team Meeting 7:00pm PPC Meeting

Tuesday (9/22) 5:00pm Olive Branch Rehearsal 6:30pm Females in Faith (Zoom)

Wednesday (9/23) 10am Today's Light Bible Study 6pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7pm Brass Ensemble Rehearsal

Saturday (9/26) 7:30am Early Risers Bible Study

Sunday (9/27) 8am Divine Worship* † 9am Fellowship Hour 9:30am Education Hour 10:30am Divine Worship* †

† Communion offered * Available on Facebook Live also

Prayer Requests

Barb Koehler <u>koehlbs@gmail.com</u> or (608) 850-3570 Laurel Zobel <u>lzobel@molc.us</u> or 238-5656 x218

This Week's Prayers

We Pray for . . . Karl Fels, Kathryn Hanson, Ruth Duxbury, Elizabeth Mayer's husband, Sharon Folkestad, the family of Jean Frank

<u>This Week's News</u>

Weekly Attendance: Sun, September 13 – 54/39

Small Group Study: Pastor Mark will be leading a small group study for parents of all ages beginning on Wednesday, October 7th. We will meet in the Fireside Room during LOGOS. This year we will be following a study from Lutheran Hour Ministries – "Households of Faith."

Preschool: Good news! Mount Olive will be reopening September 9th, with DCF and Madison County Health Department guidelines in place for the health and safety of all preschool children and their families. We thank God that we have some of our enrolled families comfortable in sending their children. However, we do have room for more kids! If you know of any family desiring education for their child ages 3-5, please have them call Laurel at 238-5656 or email her at <u>lzobel@molc.us</u>. Please continue to pray for our Lord's guidance as we trust Him in our plans to move forward.

Bible Reading Challenge: Pastor Mark is challenging the congregation to a chronological reading of the Bible in One Year! It began on June 1, 2020 and ends on May 31, 2021. Here are the daily readings for this week: **September 21**: 1 Chronicles 8-10, Psalm 102 **September 22**: Psalm 103-104, 2 Samuel 5:1-10 **September 23**: 1 Chronicles 11-12, Psalm 133 **September 24**: Psalm 106-107, 2 Samuel 5:11-25 **September 25**: 2 Samuel 6, 1 Chronicles 13-14 **September 26**: 1 Chronicles 15-16, Psalm 1-2 **September 27**: Psalm 15, 22-23. A list of the September readings for our chronological reading of the Bible are available for you to pick up on the Information Booth.

Altar Flowers: Celebrating a special occasion? You can sponsor altar flowers to commemorate the special event! If you are unable to attend church, please contact the church office to arrange to have the flowers delivered to your home after the service.

New Bible Study begins today!: Join us during education hour as we study the life of Martin Luther. Part 1 of "A Man Named Martin" starts today in the Fireplace Room! (continued on back inside cover)

Sunday Bulletins/Recordings: If you or someone you know is "shut in" and would like a bulletin and/or CD recording of the Sunday services, please let us know! Bulletins/CDs are sent out every Monday.

Holy Communion: If you would like to take communion at church during the week, there are three different days you can sign up to do so. **Sundays 11:30am-1:00pm, Tuesdays 9:00am-2:00pm, Wednesdays 2:00-6:00pm.** Just contact the office at <u>office@molc.us</u> or (608) 238-5656, and Luke will set you up with a 15-minute time slot.

COVID-19 Assistance: If you are considered "at risk" and would like assistance getting groceries or with other errands, please contact the office. Our food pantry is also available to you during office hours.

Fall Choir/Music Rehearsal Schedule and Concert Series: Calling all musicians! if you feel inclined to share your musical gift, please reach out to Ray. Bells will rehearse Wednesdays 6-7 PM and Brass Ensemble will rehearse Wednesdays 7-8 PM. Please see the brochure for more information and concert dates for the inaugural concert series!

Compassion International: YOU can save a child from the grips of poverty for \$38/mo. Any questions, please see Kristie Kasbohm at the Compassion International table during fellowship hour, and prayerfully consider sponsoring a child.

Christian Education Materials: Board of Christian Outreach is currently gathering donations for lovepackages.org. If you have any material, Bibles, books, cds, etc. that you are no longer using, please feel free to drop them off at Church before September 27! There is more info on acceptable items at the Welcome center.

Calvary Lunches: With Covid 19, we can no longer prepare and serve lunches at Calvary. In view of Mount Olive's special relationship with Calvary, we want to continue this ministry by supporting them financially, as well as prayerfully, so that they can continue sharing a meal and fellowship after their Sunday services. Mount Olive will be taking up an offering each month to help with costs associated with the lunches.

Fun, Fire, and Fellowship: The Fellowship Board is asking you to put Saturday October 17 on your calendar for our annual Fun, Fire and Fellowship event outside in the parking lot. We'll have a fire pit w/grill available where families can cookout or roast s'mores. There'll be hot chocolate to sip and games to play. We look forward to seeing you there to 'reignite' our fellowship!

Stewardship Corner

"(Jesus said), 'Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on.' " (Matthew 6:25)

Our anxieties and fears all come down to one thing: worrying that we will not have what we think we need. But God is our loving heavenly Father: He will always care for us, His will is always best, and He actually knows what we actually need. That confidence should set us free from worry and make us free for service according to the callings God has given us.

Just a Note

Card Shop: New choices have arrived and are featured on the shelves and cart next to our regular card display. The new cards are for birthday, anniversary, get well and sympathy. Feel free to continue to "self-serve" and visit the Card Shop, located in the Library. All profits support LWML missions.

Altar Flowers: If you are interested in providing flowers , please contact Denise Sliter at altarflowers@molc.us or at (608) 354-7244. Payment of \$35 can be made via check or pay online molc.us/connect. Please make sure to email or call, or your order may be missed!

Our Staff

Rev. Jason Zobel, *Senior Pastor* Rev. Mark Baldwin, *Dir Family Life* Ray Calderon, *Director of Music* Laurel Zobel, *Preschool Director* Luke Frauenhoff, *Office Manager*