



† **REFORMATION SUNDAY** †
10:30AM, Sunday, October 25, 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

To the consternation of His opponents, Jesus announced that those who abide in His Word know the truth, which sets them free. And the truth, Paul points out in the Epistle, is that God has declared us justified, not guilty under His Law, because of His gracious gift of faith in Christ. That gift frees us from fearing God’s righteous wrath; we are confident that the Lord of hosts is with us. Sure of His presence and protection, we need not fear the forces of nature, the conflicts of people and nations, and the wiles of the devil. Rather, in all that we think, say, and do, we are free to respond to the angelic invitation we hear today: “fear God and give Him glory . . . and worship Him who made heaven and earth” (Revelation 14:7).

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

“Mighty Fortress”

Baloche

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 God is our refuge and strength;

C **therefore we will not fear.**

P All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

C **and are justified by His grace as a gift.**

P If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples,

C **and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Lord of hosts,

C **hear our confession of sins and grant us Your mercy and forgiveness. We have not trusted in Your promised protection and strength but have looked elsewhere for help and refuge. You alone have provided the remedy for that which truly causes our separation, troubles, and death. For the sake of Christ, Your Son, our Redeemer, grant us forgiveness and deliverance from all that would keep us from Your present help. We ask it in the name of Jesus.**

P There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. Because that river of grace and power has flowed over us in our Baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ, in spite of our fear, the Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. By grace God has created each of us and everything that exists, and in the person of His Son entered our history and paid for our every sin and sin itself. In Christ's resurrection, God's promises have been made sure. 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. The Lord of hosts is with us! The God of Jacob is our fortress!**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 9:1-2, 9-10, 18

P For the needy shall not always be forgotten, and the hope of the poor shall not perish forever.

C **I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds.**

P I will be glad and exult in you; I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

C **The LORD is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.**

- P And those who know your name put their trust in you, for you, O LORD, have not forsaken those who seek you.
- 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.**

SONG OF THE DAY

“Good to Me” *Gateway Worship*

SALUTATION/ PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- C **And also with you.**
- P Let us pray. Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen**

FIRST READING

Revelation 14:6-7

⁶Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. ⁷And he said with a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.”

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

EPISTLE

Romans 3:19-28

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. ²¹But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. ²⁷Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

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

HOLY GOSPEL

John 8:31-36

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." ³³They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"³⁴Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SONG OF THE DAY

"When The Stars Burn Down" *Riddle & Lee*

SERMON *Do Not Fear, For God Is Our Refuge*

NICENE CREED

C **I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And on the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the Church here and around the world and for all people in their varied circumstances. O God, our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble, strengthen the Church here and wherever it gathers around Your Word and celebrates the blessed Sacraments. Grant confident faith to clergy and laity, pastors in congregations and missionaries in distant lands, elders in the faith and newly baptized alike. Help us to put all our trust in Your protection and power. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Strong Creator, wherever people call out to You as the earth gives way, mountains move into the heart of the sea, and mountains tremble, hear their cries and keep them safe. Awaken courage and wisdom in those who search and rescue, those who provide physical and spiritual counsel, and those who offer long-term support of body and life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P O Holy Spirit, when nations rage and kingdoms totter, use the earthly powers that be to move the nations and their leaders to seek ways toward peace with their neighbors and stability within their borders. You, who make wars cease to the end of the earth, provide courage and compassion to all who work for peace and protection as they are deployed abroad and all who maintain concord and order within our communities. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Gracious God, stream joy and gladness to those who wait for the dawning of a new day, those dealing with long-term ills, unemployment, discrimination, unjust imprisonment, strife in their families, and the loss of loved ones, especially . . . Assure them that You are with them, even now a very present help in trouble. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Lord of hosts, worthy to be exalted among the nations, into Your almighty hands we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray. Hear our prayer 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, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather

us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

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 “How Great is Our God” *Tomlin*

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

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 SONG “Trading My Sorrows” *Evans*

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ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORS

Flowers this morning are given by Brian and Connie LaRowe in celebration and thanksgiving for their daughter, Amy, who was married yesterday.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Preacher	Rev. Jason Zobel <i>Senior Pastor</i>
Music	Olive Branch, Ray Calderon, <i>Director of Music</i>
Elder	Stuart Sliter
Usher Team	Chuck Jaskowiak
Altar Guild (October)	Marge Bills

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Sunday, October 25

Office Hours: 9am-3pm (M-F)
office@molc.us (608) 238-5656
Emergencies: (608) 228-4134 (Pastor)

Weekly Calendar

October 26- 31

Monday (10/26)

9am Quilters

Tuesday (10/27)

5pm Olive Branch Rehearsal
6:30pm Females in Faith (Zoom)

Wednesday (10/28)

10am Today's Light Bible Study
5:30pm LOGOS
6pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
7pm Brass Ensemble Rehearsal

Saturday (10/31)

7:30am Early Risers Bible Study

Sunday (11/1)

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 koehlbs@gmail.com
or (608) 850-3570
Laurel Zobel lzobel@molc.us
or 238-5656 x218

This Week's Prayers

We Pray for . . . Karl Fels, Kathryn Hanson, Bob Troia, Tim Koehler, Dave Stansfield

This Week's News

Weekly Attendance: Sun, October 18 - 44/46

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: **October 26:** Psalm 113-115 **October 27:** Psalm 116-118 **October 28:** 1 Kings 1-2, Psalm 37, 71 **October 29:** Psalm 94, 119:1-88, 1 Kings 3 **October 30:** 1 Kings 4, 2 Chronicles 1, Psalm 72 **October 31:** Psalm 119:89-176, Song of Solomon 1-3 **November 1:** Song of Solomon 4-6. A list of the October readings for our chronological reading of the Bible are available for you to pick up on the Information Booth.

Preschool Compassion Project: Can you please help us with our Compassion Project? During October, we will be collecting red and blue items for care packages for our local fire and police departments. Preschoolers will be sending letters along with these care packages as a token of appreciation to our emergency responders. A laundry basket will be available in the narthex for you to drop off your donations. We are looking for items such as red and blue Gatorade, red and blue packaged snacks (cheez-its, ritz, chips ahoy, oreos, etc), red and blue candy, and any other items that would fit this category. Any questions, please call or see Laurel. Thanks for helping us say thanks to these special people!

Outreach Survey: The Board of Christian Outreach would like your input on what you think outreach into our greater Madison community might consist of. Hard copies of the survey are available at the welcome center! Please make sure completed surveys are returned by November 1!

September 30 Blood Drive Results: Mount Olive's successful fall Red Cross Blood Drive exceeded its goals by 26%! Special thanks to the many Mount Olive members who made appointments or dropped in. This drive alone collected 38 units and will help to save as many as 114 lives! The Red Cross expressed sincere appreciation to Mount Olive for our generosity and ongoing support. The next blood drive at Mount Olive will be March 24, 2021.

(continued on back inside cover)

Order your Christmas Poinsettias: Yes, it seems early, but it's time to order Christmas poinsettias for our altar. Because of the Covid situation Klein's Floral is growing less plants this year. They will not be accepting any changes or cancellations after the order date. Please have order forms returned with payment by November 8th. There are order forms available at church or you may email altarflowers@molc.us to request an order form. Thank you in advance for your order.

Mount Olive Concert Series: The Organ Dedication Concert is set for this afternoon at 3:00 PM. The concert features music spanning history and highlighting the features of the majestic instrument. Come join as we dedicate the new organ!

A Man Named Martin: Join us during education hour as we study the life of Martin Luther. Part 1 of "A Man Named Martin" continues this morning in the fireplace room during education hour. Missed a session or want to look ahead? Part 1 materials are available on Mount Olive's website!
www.molc.us/bible-study

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 office@molc.us 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.

Pastor Jason Out of the Office: Pastor Jason will be on vacation October 26th through November 1st and will be back in the office on November 2nd.

Pastor Mark Out of the Office: Pastor Mark will be out of the office on Tuesday October 27th and will be back in the office on the 28th.

Stewardship Corner

"So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." (John 8:36)

Today we celebrate Reformation Day! Luther is rightly remembered as a champion of the Gospel, but he also called himself "the apostle of good works." For only in being set free by the Gospel can we do good works. Jesus has set us free, and His blood covers over our sins. We stand before God as His beloved children, and we are invited to live our lives to His glory for the good of His kingdom.

Just a Note

Card Shop: Bless those near and far with Thanksgiving and Christmas cards. Nice selection now on display, plus all occasion greeting cards for wedding, anniversary, birthday, sympathy, and much more. Continue to self-serve when you visit the Card Shop located in the Library. Individual cards are 75 cents each. Thank you for supporting the missions at LWML with your purchases.

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*