
† THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER †

10:30AM, Sunday, April 24, 2022

SEE. TOUCH. BELIEVE. CONFESS

WELCOME TO MOUNT OLIVE!

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

Thomas had missed out. He wasn't there with the other disciples when the risen Jesus appeared that first Easter night to show them His hands and side. Thomas was absent when Jesus breathed on them with His Spirit and sent them out to proclaim His forgiveness. It's no wonder then that when Thomas heard about this encounter, he wanted to see Jesus for himself. "Unless I see, . . . I will never believe," he said (John 20:25). One week after Christ's resurrection, Thomas had his opportunity. He saw. He touched. He believed. He confessed: "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28). Today is your opportunity—don't miss out! Our risen Jesus is here with His Spirit and in His body and blood. We see. We touch. We believe. We confess. As we gather in His presence for worship today, may He fill us with great joy as we continue to celebrate His resurrection victory and confess Him as our Lord and God!

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 Mark 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 Baldwin before communing.

WELCOME

OPENING SONG

Because He Lives (Amen)

CALL TO WORSHIP

P In the name of the Father and of the **☩** Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;

C **death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia.**

P Blessed are those who have not seen

C **and yet have believed. Alleluia.**

CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS

Psalm 91:1–2

P He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

C **I will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.”**

P Taking refuge in the mercy of the Lord, let us come before Him in prayer.

A moment of silence to reflect on God’s Word and to examine our hearts before Him.

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father,

C **We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. By the things we have done and by what we have failed to do, we have not honored You as we ought, nor have we served others in love. We deserve to be cast from Your presence forever. Yet in Your great mercy, You sent Your Son to die and rise again for us. Help us to know the power of His resurrection and to share in the joy that His forgiveness brings. Enable us to receive Your mercy and be renewed by Your Spirit that we may honor You as the Lord and God in whom we place our trust. Amen.**

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, hears our prayers and answers them for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ. By faith, we stand at His cross and empty tomb. We find our refuge and sing for joy in the shadow of His wings. 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 Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 5:12–32

¹²Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. ¹³None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. ¹⁴And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, ¹⁵so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. ¹⁶The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

¹⁷But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy ¹⁸they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. ¹⁹But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, ²⁰“Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life.” ²¹And when they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and began to teach.

Now when the high priest came, and those who were with him, they called together the council and all the senate of Israel and sent to the prison to have them brought. ²²But when the officers came, they did not find them in the prison, so they returned and reported, ²³“We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them we found no one inside.” ²⁴Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them, wondering what this would come to. ²⁵And someone came and told them, “Look! The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people.” ²⁶Then the captain with the officers went and brought them, but not by force, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.

²⁷And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, ²⁸saying, “We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us.” ²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to

give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

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

EPISTLE

Revelation 1:4–18

⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

⁸“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

⁹I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet ¹¹saying, “Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.”

¹²Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. ¹⁴The hairs of his head were white like wool, as white as snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, ¹⁵his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. ¹⁶In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

¹⁷When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, “Fear not, I am the first and the last, ¹⁸and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

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

HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:19–31

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

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.”

²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

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

SONG OF THE DAY

This I Believe (The Creed)

SERMON

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

(Pastor will close each prayer with “Lord, in Your mercy,” the congregation will reply with “**hear our prayer.**”)

OFFERING

*We accept offerings via Pushpay. Text “mountolive” to 77977.
Offerings can also be placed in the offering plates by the doors.*

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

based on Acts 5:30–32

P God of our fathers, You have filled our hearts with endless joy in the resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C You raised Your Son from the dead after evil men killed Him by hanging Him on the tree of the cross.

P You exalted Him to Your right hand as leader and Savior to give repentance and forgiveness of sins to all who trust in Him.

C In the power of the Holy Spirit, we join with those who were eyewitnesses of these things to give You all glory, honor, and worship, now and forever. Amen.

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

DISTRIBUTION SONG

Living Hope

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P Let us pray. Here, O Lord, in the true body and blood of Your Son, we have seen You face-to-face and touched the same Savior who showed His hands and side to Thomas and the other disciples. Grant that we who have believed in our crucified Savior may confess with great boldness to the power of His resurrection; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

EASTER ACCLAMATION

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

THE BLESSING

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

Glorious Day (Living He Loved Me)

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Preacher	Rev. Tom Konz, <i>Lutheran Church of the Living Christ</i>
Music	Olive Branch, Ray Calderon, <i>Music Director</i>
Elder	Steve Nelson
Lector	Marge Bils
Usher Team	Chuck Jaskowiak
Sound Booth	James Fenske
Altar Guild	Gene & Gretchen Cropp & Jeanne Kral

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS - DO NOT REMOVE

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Weekly Calendar April 25-29

Monday (4/25)

9am Quilters

Tuesday (4/26)

6:30pm Females in Faith

Wednesday (4/27)

10am Today's Light Bible Study

3pm MOLC Staff Meeting

5pm LOGOS

Saturday (4/30)

7am Early Risers Bible Study

Sunday (5/1)

(Third Sunday of Easter / Confirmation Sunday)

8am Divine Worship* †

9am Coffee Hour

9:30am Education Hour

10:30am Divine Worship* †

† Communion offered

* Available on Facebook Live also

Prayer Requests

Barb Koehler

prayer@molconline.org

We Pray for . . . Karl Fels, Rich & Nancy Bartlett, Mary Kolberg, Jim Bosco, Anna Bohrer (granddaughter of Pastor Mark & Marci Baldwin), Arthur Lewis Baldwin (Pastor Mark and Marci's newest grandson), Mary Goers, Kay Cantwell, Mount Olive Lutheran School and Preschool, Mount Olive as we work through the Call process

This Week's News

Weekly Attendance: April 14- 67, April 15- 32/101, April 17- 57/132

Altar Flower Sponsors: Flowers this morning are given by Elaine Neitzel in memory of Duane's birthday on April 27.

Women's Spring Fling: To women of all ages, you are invited to attend this years Women's Spring Fling on May 7 at 9 – 10:30 . There will be a breakfast, devotion, music and a small craft. Please sign up at the Welcome Desk.

Pentecost Geraniums: Order forms for Pentecost Geraniums are available in the Narthex! Order forms are due by Sunday May 1!

Call Committee Update: Good news! The Call Committee has received the slate of candidates from the South Wisconsin District office for consideration to extend a call. Copies of the Call List are located on the welcome desk and available for your review. We are excited to be at this point in our process and look forward to working to bring recommendations to the congregation in a call meeting. Date and time of that meeting will be determined in the near future, but we are hopeful to hold it prior to Memorial Day weekend. Please continue to pray for the Call Committee as we work through the review and interview process and pray for those candidates that have been submitted for consideration.

Serving Next Week:

Elder: Stuart Sliter

Lectors: Jay Molter

Usher Teams: Curt Casanova / Matt Dierks

First Reading: Acts 9:1-22

Epistle: Revelation 5:8-14

Gospel Reading: John 21:1-14

International Pot Bless Lunch: Calvary Chapel will be hosting an International lunch Sunday May 8 at 12pm for anyone who would like to come. Bring a dish to share from your culture/country and we will all enjoy each others food heritage while we get to know some people.

Easter Egg Hunt: THANK YOU to everyone who helped fill all the Easter eggs (1000+) for the egg hunt this year! You helped us reach out to neighborhood children and share the good news of Christ's resurrection. Thanks again and we look forward to filling all those eggs again next year!

(Continued on back inside cover)

Upcoming Altar Flower Sponsors:

May 1: Confirmation Sunday

May 8: Mother's Day

May 15: Open

May 22: Open

May 29: Open

Upcoming Coffee Hour Hosts:

May 1: Confirmation Sunday

May 8: Open

May 15: Open

May 22: Open

May 29: Open

Pledge Forms: Sanctuary Improvement Pledge Forms can be returned to the office, attention: Board of Stewardship. If you are dropping your form off in person, please put it in the Stewardship mailbox marked "Bill Skiera", on the right wall when you enter the Office Workroom.

Mount Olive H2H (Homeless to Hopeful) Collection: Year-round donations of **travel-sized** hygiene supplies can be donated in the bin located on the floor inside the MOLC Food Pantry closet.

VBS Registration: Spring is here and that means that VBS is right around the corner! Please join us Monday June 13th - Thursday June 16th from 9am-12pm for a Monumental adventure through the southwest to explore God's awesomeness and form a rock-solid faith for the road of life. Registration is now open! vbspro.events/p/molc2022 We are also in need of volunteers! If you are available to help lead a group, prep crafts, decorations, or snacks in advance, or offer your time or talents in any other way, please click the registration link above, or reach out to Sarah Maleck, sarah.maleck@gmail.com. Thank you!

MOLS Giving Tree Items: Following the congregational vote last month to suspend school operations, many of you who provided dollars or actual items identified on the MOLS Giving Tree, may be wondering what the plans are for the items provided to the school. The items will either be used by the Mt. Olive Preschool if possible or retained for the time when or if we re-start the day school. Either way, they will be used in Mt. Olive Christian education endeavors, so thank you very much. If you have questions about your specific donation, please see a member of the Stewardship Board.

Church Pews: If anyone is interested in taking one of the old pews from the Sanctuary, please contact Lyle Christian, xian4202@yahoo.com

Stewardship Corner

"On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' " (John 20:19)

Fear is the opposite of faith. That is, the kind of cringing fear we have in the face of something that is hostile to us and more powerful than we are. Jesus spends a lot of His time telling the disciples to not be afraid. Our fears constantly hem us in and prevent us from following the Lord's will. But there is no need to fear. Jesus has conquered. No fear can keep us locked up. We have been set free by Jesus for lives that declare His marvelous deeds.

Just a Note

Card Shop: Confirmation, Graduation, Mother's Day and Father's Day cards now available in the Card Shop, located in the Library. Also new everyday greeting cards have been restocked. Thank you for continuing your support with self-service. Cards are 75 cents each and all profits go to LWML.

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!

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.

Holy Communion: If you would like to take communion at church during the week, there are three different days you can sign up **Tuesdays 9:00am-2:00pm, Wednesdays 2:00-6:00pm**. Contact the office at office@molc.us or (608) 238-5656, and the office will set you up with a 15-minute time slot.

Our Staff

Rev. Mark Baldwin, *Interim Pastor*

Ray Calderon, *Music Director*

Katie Mace, *Preschool Director*

Jess Koch, *MOLS Principal*