



† **THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER** †
10:30AM, Sunday, April 18, 2021

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

“Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?” (Luke 24:38). These are questions our risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ asked of His disciples in another resurrection appearance after that first Easter morning. They are questions that could also be asked of us numerous times in our daily lives as we face trouble and doubts. Yet as Jesus kept on appearing, He kept on showing them Himself, and more than that, He continued to teach and remind them that all that was written was fulfilled in and through Him. Though we cannot physically touch His hands and side, each time we gather, Jesus continues to speak to us, affirming His work, the Word fulfilled, and the worth of humanity for whom He came. Amid troubles and doubts, through Christ, we can “see what kind of love the Father has given to us” (1 John 3:1).

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

“Lift High the Cross”

LSB 837

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 Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**
P In Your presence there is fullness of joy;
C **at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**
P I will extol You, O LORD, for You have drawn me up
C **and have not let my foes rejoice over me.**
P O LORD my God, I cried to You for help, and You have healed me.
C **O LORD, You have brought up my soul from Sheol; You restored me to life from among those who got down to the pit.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P “See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.” Gracious Lord, by Your name You have called us Your own children, and we are to pray, praise, and give thanks to You.
C **Yet we often choose not to see the love You have given to us, letting other things of this world impede our vision of Your mercy and grace in Christ. We do not always live as You have called us to be as Your children.**
P We confess our sins to God in repentance, turning from those things that lead us away, turning back to You in the love You’ve shown (*silence for reflection*) Almighty and ever-compassionate Lord,
C **we are by nature sinful and unclean. We confess our many failures as we have not followed You joyfully and trustingly. We have not loved others as You have first loved us, and our thoughts, words, and deeds have not been pleasing to You. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us to delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name.**
P Sing praises to the Lord, O you His saints,
C **and give thanks to His holy name.**
P For His anger is but for a moment, and His favor is for a lifetime.
C **Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning. 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 In Your presence there is fullness of joy;
C **at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**
P “See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.” 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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit. As His children, may He keep you in His grace by the Holy Spirit and grant you a renewed life on

earth and finally a triumphant life with Him in heaven forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 30:1-5 ; antiphon Psalm 16:11b

P In your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

C I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up and have not let my foes rejoice over me.

P O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.

C O LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol; you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.

P Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name.

C For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

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 In your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

SONG OF PRAISE

“Jesus Paid it All”

Grape

SALUTATION/ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world.

Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 3:11-21

¹¹While [the lame man who was now healed] clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon’s, astounded. ¹²And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: “Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all. ¹⁷“And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus

fulfilled. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, ²¹whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

1 John 3:1-7

¹See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure. ⁴Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he appeared to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:36-49

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

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

³⁶As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, “Peace to you!” ³⁷But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. ³⁸And he said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate before them. ⁴⁴Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON *What Love!*

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 Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. We pray for the whole Church, that the message of salvation joyfully be told throughout all the world and the Easter victory of Jesus Christ be celebrated around the globe. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We pray for the nations of the world, that the governments of all nations be a source of blessing to those who are governed and that oppression in all forms be hindered. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We pray for ourselves in this season of our Lord’s great victory, that we truly be Easter people all year long, radiating the light of Christ in our homes, workplaces, and communities. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We pray for all who serve us through their callings, especially for those who deal with special challenges or dangers on a regular basis, including police, fire, and emergency personnel. Also, we remember at this time the military forces of our nation, those stationed both at home and abroad, whose efforts serve to defend our nation in challenging times. Lord in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We pray for those with special concerns and needs this day: those who are hospitalized, including . . . , those who grieve, the unemployed and underemployed, the chronically ill and shut-in, and all others whose needs are not known to us at this time. Bless them with Your presence, gracious Father, that they have a sense of victory in their lives and find strength and hope for each day. Lord in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through 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

“Here’s My Heart”

Tomlin

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- P Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; 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

“White Flag”

Tomlin

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SERVING IN WORSHIP

Preacher	Rev. Jason Zobel, <i>Senior Pastor</i>
Music	Olive Branch, Ray Calderon, <i>Director of Music</i>
Elder	Steve Nelson
Lector	Laurel Zobel
Usher Team	Curt Casanova
Sound Booth	James Fenske
Altar Guild (April)	Jeanne Kral

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Text "mountolive" to
77977 to give

Sunday, April 18

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

Weekly Calendar

April 19-24

Monday (4/19)

9am Quilters

6pm Exec/PPC Meeting

Tuesday (4/20)

9am-2pm Communion

5pm Olive Branch Rehearsal

5:45pm Fellowship Board

Meeting

Wednesday (4/21)

10am Today's Light Bible Study

2-6pm Communion

5:30pm LOGOS

Saturday (4/24)

7:30am Early Risers Bible Study

Sunday (4/25)

8am Divine Worship†

9am Fellowship Hour

9:30am Education Hour

10:30am Divine Worship†

11:30am Communion

† Communion offered

* Available on Facebook Live also

Prayer Requests

Barb Koehler koehlbs@gmail.com

or (608) 335-6589

Laurel Zobel lzobel@molc.us

This Week's Prayers

We Pray for . . . Karl Fels, Rich, and Nancy Bartlett, Lois Caraway, Mary Kolberg, Dave Kral, Greg Schwechel, The family of Ron Belshaw, The family of Fred Buelow's sister, The family of Alejandro Vasquez's father, Mount Olive Lutheran School

This Week's News

Weekly Attendance: Sun. April 11- 60/62

Altar Flower Sponsors: Flowers this morning are from Mary Goers.

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: **April 19:** 1 Thessalonians 2-4, **April 20:** 1 Thessalonians 5, 2 Thessalonians 1-3, **April 21:** Acts 18:19-19:41, 1 Corinthians 1 **April 22:** 1 Corinthians 2-4, **April 23:** 1 Corinthians 5-8, **April 24:** 1 Corinthians 9-11, **April 25:** 1 Corinthians 12-14. A list of the April readings for our chronological reading of the Bible are available for you to pick up on the Information Booth.

Mount Olive Lutheran School Fall Registration: Mount Olive Lutheran School is now enrolling for the 2021/2022 school year! For more information or to schedule a tour, please contact the office at office@molc.us!

Mount Olive Lutheran School T-Shirts: Mount Olive Lutheran School t-shirts are available for sale! Stop by the table in the Narthex to pick one up!

Mount Olive Lutheran School Scholarship: If you are looking for a way to support Mount Olive Lutheran School the "Defending the Faith Scholarship" is looking for mission partners to help provide a high-quality Christ-centered education! Questions? Feel free to contact the school committee at schoolcommittee@molconline.org!

Thank You from Dave Kral: To: MOLC Pre-School students and staff, MOLC Staff, MOLC Members

As a former editor, words of thanks should come easily. They don't.

I am simply overwhelmed by the outpouring of prayers, well wishes, and encouragement for recovery. Thank each and every one of you. Your encouragement is of tremendous help each and every day.

God works in wondrous ways through his followers to watch over his followers.

Thank you and God Bless you all.

Dave Kral

Easter Flowers: Thank you to those who purchased flowers for the Easter services. If you wish to take your plant home, please do so. Those that are left will be planted on the church grounds.

(Continued on back inside cover)

Women's Spring Fling: Save the Date! Saturday, **May 1, 2021**
9:30 AM to 11:00 AM Women of all ages are invited along with your lady friends and family members. A sign-up sheet will be posted at the welcome center soon.

Share-a-Thon: Think of this event as functioning much like a garage sale, but with NO money being exchanged! Donated items (from our congregation...or friends of members) will be available to anyone, for FREE in the Madison-area community! This event is scheduled for July and will be held at One City Schools. Stay tuned for more details!

SWD Student Financial Aid: Students attending a Concordia University or Seminary, preparing for full-time church work in the LCMS (pastor, teacher, DCE, DCO, DCM, deaconess, DFLM, DPM) and are a member of a congregation in the South Wisconsin District - LCMS are eligible to apply for financial assistance from SWD. For more information, visit swd.lcms.org – under Resources. The deadline is May 15.

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.

Community Impact Teams: Board of Christian Outreach is thrilled to announce the concept of MOLC Community Impact teams! This is a new and exciting way for Mount Olive members to "live out the love of Jesus" in the Madison area community in a service-oriented way. To find out more about these new amazing service opportunities, read about it in the TW@MOLC email, which can also be found on our Mount Olive website!

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.

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.

Upcoming Altar Flower Sponsors:

April 25: Elaine Neitzel

May 2: Open

May 9: Paul Skidmore & Pat Middleton

May 16: Open

May 23: Open

May 30: Open

If you are interested in sponsoring flowers for an upcoming Sunday, please contact Denise Sliter at altarflowers@molc.us.

Stewardship Corner

“Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.” (1 John 3:2)

The essence of our sanctification is becoming like our Lord. As St. John notes, this will only be completed in the Resurrection. In the meantime, we strive toward that goal because we want to walk in the footsteps of our Lord. By His grace we share His destiny in eternal life, and therefore we desire to share His life of service now.

Just a Note

Card Shop: Confirmation and Graduation, and Mother’s Day cards now on display in addition to all occasion greeting cards at 75 cents each. Thank you for continuing self-service and the great response shown for supporting the missions at Lutheran Women’s Missionary League with your purchases. We are located in the Library, next to the Nursery.

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!

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

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*