

Mt. Olive Lutheran Church

Ash Wednesday - February 14th

Welcome to Mt. Olive

From all of us at Mt. Olive, welcome to worship. We are so glad that you have joined us today.

A Few Notes Before Worship

- Restrooms are located in the entryway
- We love having children in worship! We realize that can sometimes be challenging. If your child becomes restless, the fellowship hall or the library (across from the restrooms) are great places to regroup.
- Baby changing stations are located in every restroom
- You are our guest. If there is something else we can help you with, please let an usher know. They will be happy to assist.
- Finally, you'll find everything you need for worship printed in this worship folder or as noted in the blue hymnal located in your pew.

Assistive Listening System Available

Our assistive listening system is available with the use of the free app, Listen EVERYWHERE (available for both Android and Apple devices). If you are interested in using Mt. Olive's assistive listening system, please pick up an informational card on the table in the entryway or ask an usher for assistance.

Accusations

The unbelieving world has always insisted on putting God on trial. As our society becomes more secular, we Christians are increasingly aware of the many ways in which God—and his people—are judged. Temptations are many in this environment: treating unbelievers as enemies, retreating from the world, even questioning God ourselves. How do we live as people of God in this hostile world? We find our model—and our motivation—in Jesus. This series takes us back to the moments when God was literally on trial before men in the person of Christ. In these inspired episodes, we find forgiveness for us and all people, love for our enemies, strength for our faith, and courage to testify to the truth.

A Prayer Before Worship

Dear Lord, I thank you for giving me this opportunity today to gather together with fellow believers to join in worship and praise. May my worship and meditation this day be pleasing in Your sight and be deserving of Your honor. Amen.

YOU ARE DUST AND TO DUST YOU SHALL RETURN



Ash Wednesday Confessional Rite

Reading Psalm 51

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. ²Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

³For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.

- ⁴Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
- so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.
- ⁵Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
- ⁶Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place.
- ⁷Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
- ⁸Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
- ⁹Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.
- ¹⁰Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
- ¹¹Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.
- ¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

- ¹³Then I will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will turn back to you.
- ¹⁴Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, you who are God my Savior, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.
- ¹⁵Open my lips, Lord, and my mouth will declare your praise.
- ¹⁶You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.
- ¹⁷My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.
- ¹⁸May it please you to prosper Zion, to build up the walls of Jerusalem.
- ¹⁹Then you will delight in the sacrifices of the righteous, in burnt offerings offered whole; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Introduction to Confession

Brothers and sisters in Christ, God created us to know joy in fellowship with him, to love all people, and to live in harmony with all creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, and so we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended for us. By our sin we grieve our Father, who does not desire us to come under his judgment, but to turn to him and live. Therefore, God in his mercy has sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take our place under the law, to suffer for us, and to die the death we deserve. God made Jesus, who had no sin, to be sin for us so that in him, we might become the righteousness of God.

During the forty days of Lent, we fix our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God. The time of Lent reminds us that to know Christ and the power of his resurrection, we must also know the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death. As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor.

Let us confess our sins, ask our Father for forgiveness, and commit ourselves to this struggle.

Confession

Most holy and merciful Father,

we confess to you and to one another that we have sinned by our own fault, by our own grievous fault in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us.

We have not been true to the mind of Christ.

We have grieved the Holy Spirit.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

We have placed our wants before your will.

We have gratified the desires of our sinful nature.

We have merited your punishment now and forever.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness.

The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives

we confess to you, O Lord.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, our manipulation of other people, our anger when our selfish aims are denied, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves we confess to you, O Lord.

Our love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work, our negligence in worship and prayer, and our failure to show the faith that is in us we confess to you, O Lord.

Forgive us, Lord, for the wrongs we have done. For our blindness to human need and suffering and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

forgive us, Lord.

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward others, and for our prejudice and contempt for those who differ from us,

forgive us, Lord.

For what we think or say or do that is at variance with your will, forgive us, Lord.

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.

Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.

Imposition of Ashes

Those who desire to receive the sign of ashes come forward. The minister applies ashes in the form of a small cross, saying:

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

Accomplish in us, Lord, the work of your salvation that we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and suffering of your Son, bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. He sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins and for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

During these days of Lent, let us implore God to give us renewal and his Holy Spirit. May we continue to abide in the true faith and at the last be received by him through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Word

Salutation

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, you never despise what you have made and always forgive those who turn to you. Create in us such new and contrite hearts that we may truly repent of our sins and obtain your full and gracious pardon; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated



First Reading Joel 2:12–19

12"Even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning."

¹³Rend your heart and not your garments.

Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity.

¹⁴Who knows? He may turn and relent and leave behind a blessing grain offerings and drink offerings for the LORD your God.

¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion, declare a holy fast, call a sacred assembly.

¹⁶Gather the people, consecrate the assembly;

bring together the elders, gather the children, those nursing at the breast.

Let the bridegroom leave his room and the bride her chamber.

¹⁷Let the priests, who minister before the LORD, weep between the portico and the altar.

Let them say, "Spare your people, LORD.

Do not make your inheritance an object of scorn, a byword among the nations.

Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"

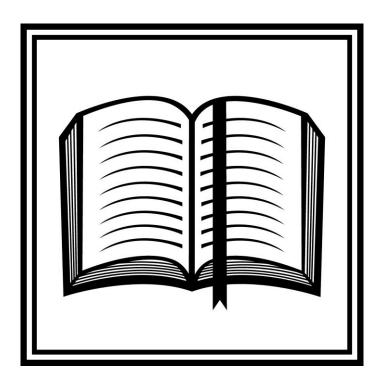
¹⁸Then the LORD was jealous for his land and took pity on his people.

¹⁹The LORD replied to them:

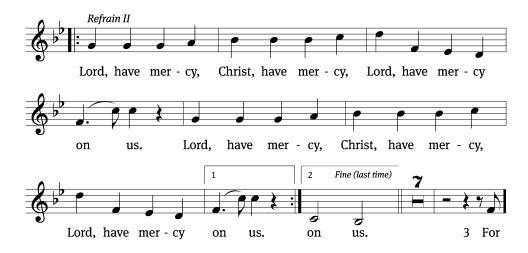
"I am sending you grain, new wine and olive oil, enough to satisfy you fully; never again will I make you an object of scorn to the nations.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.







Text: Matt Boswell, b. 1979; James Tealy, b. 1971; Aaron Keyes, b. 1978; Matt Papa, b. 1983
Tune: Matt Boswell, b. 1979; James Tealy, b. 1971; Aaron Keyes, b. 1978; Matt Papa, b. 1983
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Second Reading

Revelation 3:1-3

¹"To the angel of the church in Sardis write:

These are the words of him who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. ²Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have found your deeds unfinished in the sight of my God. ³Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; hold it fast, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Luke 12:13–21

¹³Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me."

¹⁴Jesus replied, "Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?" ¹⁵Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions."

¹⁶And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. ¹⁷He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.'

¹⁸"Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. ¹⁹And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry." '

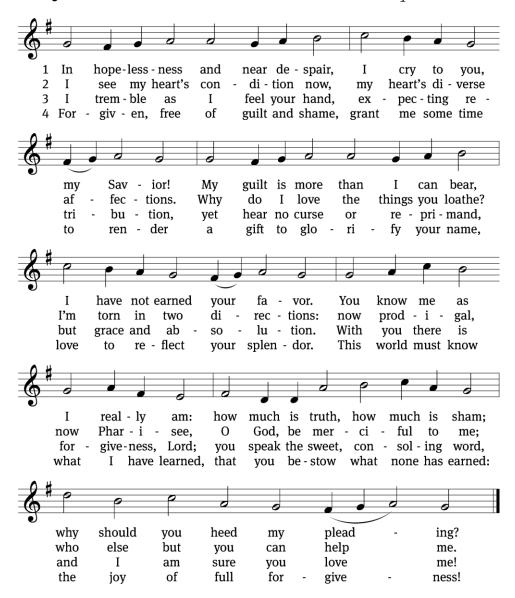
²⁰"But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?'

²¹"This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated



Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008

Tune: Theutsch kirchen ampt, Strassburg, 1525

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God's Word in our Lives

Accusations

Job 40:1, 2; 42:1–6

¹The LORD said to Job:

²"Will the one who contends with the Almighty correct him? Let him who accuses God answer him!"

¹Then Job replied to the LORD:

²"I know that you can do all things; no purpose of yours can be thwarted.

³You asked, 'Who is this that obscures my plans without knowledge?' Surely I spoke of things I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know.

4"You said, 'Listen now, and I will speak;
I will question you,
and you shall answer me.'

⁵My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you.

⁶Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes."

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Brief intercessory prayers may be added in a fitting place.

Now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation. Let us pray for the people of God in Christ Jesus that, through repentance and faith in the gospel, they may remain secure in your love.

Lord God, gracious Father, we thank you for setting your Son's sacrifice between us and sin's reward. By your Spirit work in us through the gospel, give us repentant hearts, make our faith firm in Christ, and enliven us to serve you faithfully.

Have mercy upon us, Lord, according to your unfailing love.

Lord God, almighty Father, renew your Church throughout the world that it may constantly look to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. Bless us with faithful ministers who always proclaim Christ's cross and resurrection for the salvation of the world.

Have mercy upon us, Lord, according to your unfailing love.

Lord God, loving Father, in your mercy you abundantly supply our needs of body and soul. Create in us the mind of Christ, that in humility and generosity—considering not only our own interests, but also the interests of others—we may be merciful to those in need. Direct our efforts to help poor, lonely, troubled, and ill people.

Have mercy upon us, Lord, according to your unfailing love.

Lord God, heavenly Father, comfort all who are mourning the death of people they loved. Lift their eyes to the cross where your Son defeated death and to the empty tomb where he assured us that we will live with him forever. Teach us to number our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

Have mercy upon us, Lord, according to your unfailing love.

Lord God, heavenly Father, look with favor upon all sick, injured, and recovering people. [We pray especially for...here name the person and the cause of the petition.] If it be your will deliver them from their infirmities. Let them hear of your unfailing love.

Have mercy upon us, Lord, according to your unfailing love.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Lord God, eternal Father, we praise you that you have delivered the Christian souls who have gone before us from this world of dust and ashes to paradise. As their prayers continually ascend before your throne, join our prayers to theirs as fragrant incense. Hear us for the sake of him who was crucified for us and always intercedes on our behalf, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Welcome!

Worship Registers

We're so glad you could join us for worship today and would love to have a record of your visit!

Any information you'd be willing to share would be greatly appreciated!

Use the QR Code below for an online worship register



The Sacrament

Stand

Preface CW 199

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

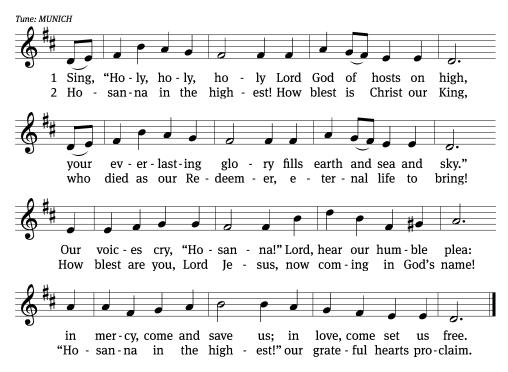
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Text: Michael D. Schultz

Tune: Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 3rd ed., Meiningen, 1693

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin.

We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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.

Words of Institution

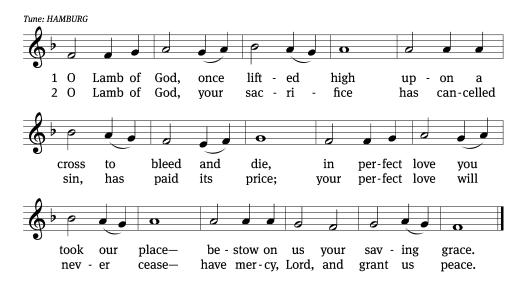
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Lamb of God



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Tune: Lowell Mason

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Be seated

Distribution

The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith. In light of our Lord's clear warning concerning His Holy Supper in 1 Corinthians 11:27-29, we ask you take the opportunity to join us in studying what our God has to say concerning this Holy Supper prior to communing.



- 5 Your holy heart has one obsession, one blessèd thing it burns to do—to cleanse the sinner from transgression; so I, a sinner, come to you. (Refrain)
- My soul is burdened; Lord, relieve me,
 by all this weight of sin oppressed!
 Though sinful, yet, in grace receive me
 and feed me as your grateful guest. (Refrain)
- Within me, Lord, your vision traces
 a heart of deep humility
 that mourns its sin and yet embraces
 the merit you have earned for me. (Refrain)

- 8 By faith I call your holy table
 the testament of your deep love,
 for by your gift I now am able
 to know the heart of God above. (Refrain)
- 9 This meal with blessing is abounding:
 to poor ones wealth, to weak ones pow'r,
 to angels joy, to hell confounding,
 and life for me in death's dark hour.
 (Refrain)
- My heart has now become your dwelling,O blessèd, holy Trinity.With angels I, your praises telling,shall live in joy eternally. (Refrain)

Text: Friedrich C. Heyder, 1677–1754, abr.; (sts. 1, Ref, 2, 4, 8–10): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941; (sts. 3, 5–7): tr. Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963 Tune: Emskirchner Choral-Buch, Leipzig, 1756

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Distribution Hymn



Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889, alt. Tune: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876 Text and tune: Public domain

Thanksgiving

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

Hymn



- 4 I will not boast in wealth or might, or human wisdom's fleeting light. But I will boast in knowing Christ at the cross. (Refrain)
- 5 Two wonders here that I confess: my worth and my unworthiness. My value fixed—my ransom paid at the cross. (Refrain)

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Keith Getty, b. 1974 Tune: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Keith Getty, b. 1974

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