



**Mt. Olive Lutheran Church**

**February 25<sup>th</sup>**

## **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.

### **Rethinking Suffering Under The Cross**

We know that the cross was an instrument of torture and execution. However, Scripture also uses the term "cross" to refer to any suffering that one endures because he is believer: the painful denial of the desires of the flesh; ridicule and persecution from unbelievers; etc. This is one reason people reject religion. They see Christians struggling in life with these crosses, while non-Christians often seem perfectly happy. Even the prophet Jeremiah asked, "Why do all the faithless live at ease?" (12:1).

Today, Jesus asks us to rethink suffering under the cross. It is not pointless pain. Our crosses are not how we pay for sin. Jesus already did that on his cross. Our crosses are not redemptive, but they are constructive. Any suffering unbelievers face is only bad, a foretaste of worse to come. But the suffering believers face under the cross is only good, a way Christ connects us tightly to himself with fire-tested faith.

### **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.

# Hymn

## 704 Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex -  
2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, to his im - age  
3 Let us al - so die with Je - sus; his death from the  
4 Let us glad - ly live with Je - sus; since he's ris - en



am - ple pure, flee the world which would de - ceive us and to  
e'er con - form; heav - en's glo - ry soon will please us, sun - shine  
sec - ond death, from our soul's de - struc - tion, frees us, quick - ens  
from the dead, death and grave must soon re - lease us. Je - sus,



sin our souls al - lure. Ev - er in his foot - steps tread - ing,  
fol - low on the storm. Though we sow in tears of sor - row,  
us with life's glad breath. Let us mor - ti - fy, while liv - ing,  
thou art now our head. We are tru - ly thine own mem - bers,



bod - y here, yet soul a - bove, full of faith and  
we shall reap in heav'n - ly joy, and the fears that  
flesh and blood and die to sin, and the grave that  
where thou liv - est, there live we; take and own us



hope and love, let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful  
now an - noy shall be laugh - ter on the mor - row. Christ, I  
shuts us in shall but prove the gate to heav - en. Je - sus,  
con - stant - ly, faith - ful Friend, as thy dear breth - ren. Je - sus,



Lord, a - bide with me; Sav - ior, lead; I fol - low thee.  
suf - fer here with thee; there, O share thy joy with me.  
here I die to thee, there to live e - ter - nal - ly.  
here I live to thee, al - so there e - ter - nal - ly.

*Text: tr. J. Adam Rimbach, 1871–1941, alt.; Sigmund von Birken, 1626–1681*

*Tune: Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.*

*Text and tune: Public domain*

**Stand**

## **Invocation**

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

## **Confession**

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just  
and will forgive us our sins  
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,**

**I am sinful by nature**

**and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins**

**with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

## **Absolution**

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice 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.**

## **Lord, Have Mercy**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

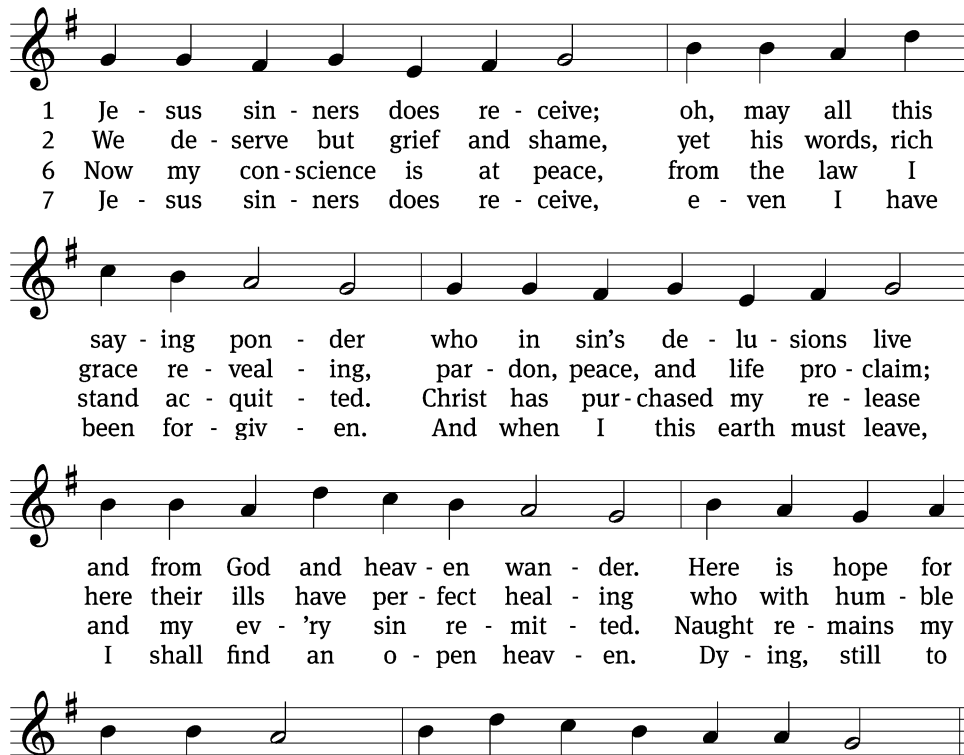
**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

# Hymn

## 654 *Jesus Sinners Does Receive* sts. 1–2, 6–7



1 Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive; oh, may all this  
2 We de - serve but grief and shame, yet his words, rich  
6 Now my con - science is at peace, from the law I  
7 Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive, e - ven I have

say - ing pon - der who in sin's de - lu - sions live  
grace re - veal - ing, par - don, peace, and life pro - claim;  
stand ac - quit - ted. Christ has pur - chased my re - lease  
been for - giv - en. And when I this earth must leave,

and from God and heav - en wan - der. Here is hope for  
here their ills have per - fect heal - ing who with hum - ble  
and my ev - 'ry sin re - mit - ted. Naught re - mains my  
I shall find an o - pen heav - en. Dy - ing, still to

all who grieve: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.  
hearts be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.  
soul to grieve: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.  
him I cleave: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.

*Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756, abr.*

*Tune: Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, Darmstadt, 1699*

*Text and tune: Public domain*

## The Word

### Salutation

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; 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

*Job 1:13–22*

<sup>13</sup>One day when Job's sons and daughters were feasting and drinking wine at the oldest brother's house, <sup>14</sup>a messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys were grazing nearby, <sup>15</sup>and the Sabeans attacked and made off with them. They put the servants to the sword, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

<sup>16</sup>While he was still speaking, another messenger came and said, "The fire of God fell from the heavens and burned up the sheep and the servants, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

<sup>17</sup>While he was still speaking, another messenger came and said, "The Chaldeans formed three raiding parties and swept down on your camels and made off with them. They put the servants to the sword, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

<sup>18</sup>While he was still speaking, yet another messenger came and said, "Your sons and daughters were feasting and drinking wine at the oldest brother's house, <sup>19</sup>when suddenly a mighty wind swept in from the desert and struck the four corners of the house. It collapsed on them and they are dead, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

<sup>20</sup>At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship <sup>21</sup>and said:

"Naked I came from my mother's womb,  
and naked I will depart.

The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away;  
may the name of the LORD be praised."

<sup>22</sup>In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# Psalm of the Day

*Psalm 22*

## Refrain



## Tone



My God, my God, why have you for- / saken me?

Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of / anguish?

I am a worm and / not a man,

scorned by everyone, despised by the / people.

All who see me / mock me;

they hurl insults, shaking / their heads.

“He trusts in the / LORD,” they say,

“let the LORD / rescue him.” *Refrain*

All my bones are / on display;

you lay me in the / dust of death.

A pack of villains en- / circles me;

they pierce my hands / and my feet.

They divide my clothes a- / mong them

and cast lots for my / garment.

But you, LORD, do not be / far from me.

You are my strength; come quickly to / help me.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son**

**and to the Holy / Spirit,**

**as it was in the be- / ginning,**

**is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

*Text: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941; German version Paul Gerhardt; attr. Bernard of Clairvaux*

*Tune: Hans Leo Hassler*

*Setting: Paul G. Bunjes*

*Tune: Public domain*

*Setting: © 1982 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: License no. 130337336*



## Second Reading

*Romans 5:1–11*

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup>perseverance, character; and character, hope. <sup>5</sup>And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup>You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

<sup>9</sup>Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! <sup>10</sup>For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! <sup>11</sup>Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The children may come forward during verse 2 for the children's devotion*

## Hymn of the Day

817 *Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart*



1 Lord, thee I love with all my heart; I pray thee,  
2 Yea, Lord, 'twas thy rich boun - ty gave my bod - y,  
3 Lord, let at last thine an - gels come, to A-br'ham's



ne'er from me de - part, with ten - der mer - cy cheer me.  
soul, and all I have in this poor life of la - bor.  
bos - om bear me home that I may die un - fear - ing;



Earth has no plea - sure I would share; yea, heav'n it -  
Lord, grant that I in ev - 'ry place may glo - ri -  
and in its nar - row cham - ber keep my bod - y



self were void and bare if thou, Lord, wert not near me.  
fy thy lav - ish grace and help and serve my neigh - bor.  
safe in peace - ful sleep un - til thy re - ap - pear - ing.



And should my heart for sor - row break, my trust in thee can  
Let no false doc - trine me be - guile; let Sa - tan not my  
And then from death a - wak - en me that these mine eyes with



noth - ing shake. Thou art the por - tion I have sought; thy pre - cious  
soul de - file. Give strength and pa - tience un - to me to bear my  
joy may see, O Son of God, thy glo - rious face, my Sav - ior



blood my soul has bought. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and  
cross and fol - low thee. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and  
and my fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, my prayer at -



Lord, my God and Lord, for - sake me not! I trust thy Word.  
Lord, my God and Lord, in death thy com - fort still af - ford.  
tend, my prayer at - tend, and I will praise thee with - out end.

*Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Martin M. Schalling, 1532–1608*

*Tune: Zwey Bücher . . . Tablatur, Strassburg, 1577*

*Text and tune: Public domain*

# God's Word in our Lives

## Rethinking Suffering Under The Cross

*Mark 8:31-38*

<sup>31</sup>He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

<sup>33</sup>But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. “Get behind me, Satan!” he said. “You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”

<sup>34</sup>Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. <sup>36</sup>What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? <sup>37</sup>Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? <sup>38</sup>If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father’s glory with the holy angels.”



**Rethinking  
Religion**

*Stand*

## **Apostles' Creed**

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

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From there 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.**

*Be seated*

# 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*



## Prayer of the Church

*Brief intercessory prayers may be added in a fitting place.*

Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to free us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.

**We confess that without your love we are lost.**

Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

**Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.**

Guard and guide those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and values as Christians.

**By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.**

Keep in your care those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, and those victimized by war and injustice. [We pray especially for...*here name the person and the cause of the petition.*] Comfort all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.

**Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.**

Watch over those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.

**Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.**

Hear us as we pray in silence.

*Silent prayer*

Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**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.**

## **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

## 867 Afflicted Saint, to Christ Draw Near sts. 1–2, Ref, 3–4

1 Af - flict - ed saint, to Christ draw near, your Sav - ior's  
2 Your faith is weak, your foes are strong, and if the  
3 Should per - se - cu - tion rage and flame, still trust in  
4 When called to bear your weight - y cross, or sore af -

gra - cious prom - ise hear; his faith - ful Word you can be -  
con - flict should be long, the Lord will make the tempt - er  
your Re - deem - er's name. In fi - ery tri - als you shall  
flic - tion, pain, or loss, or deep dis - tress, or pov - er -

lieve, that as your days your strength shall be. v. 2  
flee, that as your days your strength shall be. Refrain  
see that as your days your strength shall be. Refrain  
ty, still as your days your strength shall be. Refrain

*Refrain*  
So, sing with joy, af - flict - ed one; the bat - tle's fierce, but the  
vic - t'ry's won! God shall sup - ply all that you need;  
yes, as your days your strength shall be.

Text (sts. 1–4): John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.; (Ref): Constance Dever, b. 1960

Tune: Constance Dever, b. 1960

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