

Mt. Olive Lutheran Church

Sunday, March 17th

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 Devoted Commitment

Religious sociologists sometimes divide Christians into two groups: committed Christians and cultural Christians. The former are usually defined as those who are active in a congregation, who pray regularly, who read Scripture, etc. The latter are those individuals who call themselves Christian and perhaps have some Christian beliefs. Yet, they do not strive to live a Christian life. They are not interested in church involvement.

Those definitions are interesting when trying to understand shifts in American Christianity. However, they demonstrate a false assumption about the Christian religion. There is indeed a devoted commitment at the center of Christianity, but it is not man's commitment to God. Even believers will at times demonstrate lukewarm commitment at best. Instead, at the heart of Christianity we find God's devotion and commitment to us. It is a devoted commitment so strong that it put God on the cross.

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

700 Draw Us to Thee



1 Draw us to thee, for then shall we walk in thy
2 Draw us to thee, Lord, lov - ing - ly; let us de -
3 Draw us to thee; O grant that we may walk the
4 Draw us to thee that al - so we thy heav'n-ly
5 Draw us to thee un - ceas - ing - ly; in - to thy



steps for - ev - er and has - ten on where thou art
part with glad - ness that we may be for - ev - er
road to heav - en! Di - rect our way lest we should
bliss in - her - it and ev - er dwell where sin and
king - dom take us. Let us for - e'er thy glo - ry



gone to be with thee, dear Sav - ior.
free from sor - row, grief, and sad - ness.
stray and from thy paths be driv - en.
hell no more can vex our spir - it.
share; thy saints and joint heirs make us.

Text: tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.; Friedrich Funcke, 1642–1699

Tune: As hymnodus sacer, Leipzig, 1625

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Invocation

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

Amen.

Confession

CW 173

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.
Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,

and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,

according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Declaration of Grace

CW 173

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.
Amen.

The Word

Salutation

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation, that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive the forgiveness of sins, victory over the grave, and finally inherit eternal life; 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

Isaiah 43:1–7

¹But now, this is what the LORD says—
he who created you, Jacob,
he who formed you, Israel:
“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have summoned you by name; you are mine.
²When you pass through the waters,
I will be with you;
and when you pass through the rivers,
they will not sweep over you.
When you walk through the fire,
you will not be burned;
the flames will not set you ablaze.
³For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior;
I give Egypt for your ransom,
Cush and Seba in your stead.
⁴Since you are precious and honored in my sight,
and because I love you,
I will give people in exchange for you,
nations in exchange for your life.
⁵Do not be afraid, for I am with you;
I will bring your children from the east
and gather you from the west.
⁶I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’
and to the south, ‘Do not hold them back.’
Bring my sons from afar
and my daughters from the ends of the earth—
⁷everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.”

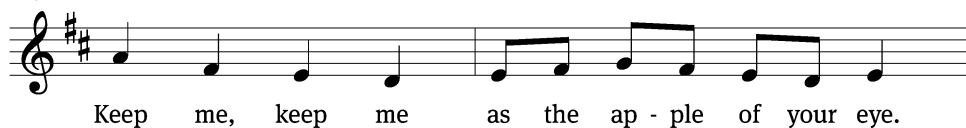
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 121D

Refrain



Keep me, keep me as the ap - ple of your eye.



Hide me, hide me in the shad-ow of your wings.

Tone



I lift up my eyes to the / mountains—
where does my help / come from?
My help comes / from the LORD,
the maker of heav- / en and earth.
He will not let your / foot slip—
he who watches over you will not / slumber;
indeed, he who watches over / Israel
will neither slum- / ber nor sleep. *Refrain*

The LORD watches / over you—
the LORD is your shade at / your right hand;
the sun will not harm / you by day,
nor the / moon by night.
The LORD will keep you / from all harm—
he will watch o- / ver your life;
the LORD will watch over your coming and / going
both now and for- / evermore.

**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***

Tune: Jane Marshall

Tune: © 1986 Choristers Guild. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 734541

Setting: © 1993 Kermit G. Moldenbauer, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 734541

Second Reading

Hebrews 5:7–9

⁷During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered ⁹and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The children may come forward during verse 3 for the children's sermon

Hymn of the Day

808 *Drawn to the Cross*



1 Drawn to the cross, which you have blessed with heal - ing
2 How well you know my griefs and fears, your grace a -
3 Wash me and take a - way each stain; let noth - ing
4 To pledge my la - bor will - ing - ly, which shall so



gifts for souls dis - tressed, to find in you my
bused, my mis - spent years; so now to you with
of my sin re - main. For cleans - ing through your
sweet a ser - vice be that an - gels well might



life, my rest, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
con - trite tears, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
cross and pain, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
en - vy me, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.

Text: Genevieve M. Irons, 1855–1928, alt.

Tune: Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896

Text and tune: Public domain

God's Word In Our Lives

Rethinking Devoted Commitment

John 12:20-33

²⁰Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. “Sir,” they said, “we would like to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.

²³Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. ²⁵Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

²⁷“Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name!”

Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.

³⁰Jesus said, “This voice was for your benefit, not mine. ³¹Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.



**Rethinking
Religion**

Stand

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

Reception of New Members

Friends in Christ,

After a review and instruction in the simple teachings of the Bible and our Lutheran church, you have requested to become members of this congregation. You have come to worship today to confess your unity with us and to take your place as a part of this faith community. I now ask you:

Do you believe in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? If so, answer: I do.

I do.

Do you believe that the teachings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and this congregation, as you have come to know them, are faithful to the Word of God? If so, answer: I do.

I do.

Do you desire to remain faithful to the teachings of Christ, be diligent in the use of God's Word and sacraments, and lead a godly life as the Lord gives you strength? If so, answer: I do, and I ask God to help me.

I do, and I ask God to help me.

Is it your desire to join us in worship and mission and support this work with your prayers and gifts? If so, answer: It is, and I ask God to help me.

It is, and I ask God to help me.

With sincere joy we welcome you as members of Mt. Olive.

Address to the Congregation

Brothers and sisters,

As we welcome Tyler and Jenni to our Christian family, I encourage you in the name of Jesus to keep them in your minds, hold them in your hearts, and pray for them again and again. Show them the face of friendship and offer them a hand of support. Encourage them with your “works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.”

The peace of Christ be with us all. Amen.

Prayer

Gracious Father, we thank you for leading Tyler and Jenni to desire to become members of our congregation and for giving them joy to confess their faith to us. Guide us with your wisdom as we worship and work together. Mold our minds and hearts in a single Christlike will so that we may be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer; through 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



Prayer of the Church

Brief intercessory prayers may be added in a fitting place.

Eternal Lord, give us peace as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ. Lead us to see clearly the path you have laid out for us.

Work in us so that we believe and live the Word we have heard today.

Provide courage and compassion to all who preach and teach your Word. Fill them with a love like yours as they proclaim your grace to us and all people.

Move us to love all ministers of the Word wherever they serve.

Guard and guide the families of our congregation. Lead husbands and wives to love each other with commitment, respect, and patience. Help parents to grasp the eternal value of keeping their children close to Jesus all their lives. Grant joy to those who are single, and make them a blessing to others.

Protect us from the temptations that surround us; give us pure hearts and minds.

Provide wisdom and insight to those who make laws and set policies. Give us respect for those who protect us from crime. Lead us to value the rights of our fellow citizens and to defend those who cannot defend themselves.

Bless our land with peace and prosperity so that the gospel may be proclaimed to all.

Give us passion to share the story of your love with our family and friends. Overcome unbelief, and open the hearts of people everywhere to believe the good news that Jesus has forgiven their sins and opened the gates of heaven.

Fill us with joy over every sinner who repents and comes to trust in you.

Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind. [Pour out your special blessing on . . . *here name the person and the cause of the petition.*] Give patience and compassion to all who care for the sick and dying.

Lift the eyes of the distressed to your love in Christ.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Gracious God, you govern and direct all things and you love all people. Hear our prayers, spoken and silent, and answer them in your wisdom and grace.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

The Sacrament

Stand

Preface

CW 183

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

CW 184

The musical score is written in a single treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. It consists of seven staves of music. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of might. Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Tune: Marty Haugen

Tune: © 1984, 1985 GLA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 734541

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

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.



Jesus, Lamb of God

CW 186

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us your peace.

The musical score is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The first two staves form the first line of the song, the next two form the second line, and the final two form the third line. The lyrics are placed below the corresponding notes.

Tune: Marty Hangen

Tune: © 1984, 1985 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 734541

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.

Distribution Hymn

667 *Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared*



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, you have pre - pared this feast for
2 Al - though you did to heav'n as - cend, where an - gel
3 Yet, Sav - ior, you are not con - fined to an - y
4 We eat this bread and drink this cup, your pre - cious



our sal - va - tion; it is your bod - y
hosts are dwell - ing, and in your pres - ence
hab - i - ta - tion, but you are pres - ent
Word be - liev - ing that your true bod - y



and your blood, and at your in - vi - ta - tion
they be - hold your glo - ry, all ex - cel - ling,
ev - 'ry - where and with your con - gre - ga - tion.
and your blood our lips are here re - ceiv - ing.



as wea - ry souls, with sin op - pressed, we come to
and though your peo - ple shall not see your glo - ry
Firm as a rock this truth shall stand, un - moved by
This Word re - mains for - ev - er true, and there is



you for need - ed rest, for com - fort, and for par - don.
and your maj - es - ty till dawns the judg - ment morn - ing,
an - y dar - ing hand or sub - tle craft and cun - ning.
naught you can - not do, for you, Lord, are al - might - y.

5 Though reason cannot understand,
 yet faith this truth embraces:
your body, Lord, is even now
 at once in many places.
I leave to you how this can be;
your Word alone suffices me;
 I trust its truth unfailing.

6 Lord, I believe what you have said;
 help me when doubts assail me.
Remember that I am but dust,
 and let my faith not fail me.
Your supper in this vale of tears
refreshes me and stills my fears
 and is my priceless treasure.

7 Grant that we worthily receive
 your supper, Lord, our Savior,
and, truly grieving for our sins,
 may prove by our behavior
that we are thankful for your grace
and day by day may run our race,
 in holiness increasing.

8 For your consoling supper, Lord,
 be praised through out all ages!
Preserve it, for in ev'ry place
 the world against it rages.
Grant that this sacrament may be
a blessed comfort unto me
 when living and when dying.

Text: tr. Emanuel Cronenwett, 1841–1931, alt.; Samuel Kinner, 1603–1668

Tune: Peter Sobren, c. 1630–c. 1692, alt.

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.

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

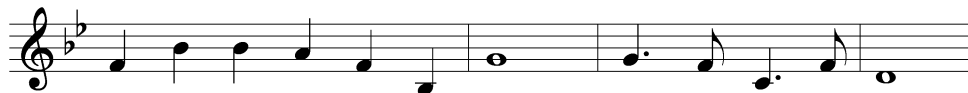
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

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

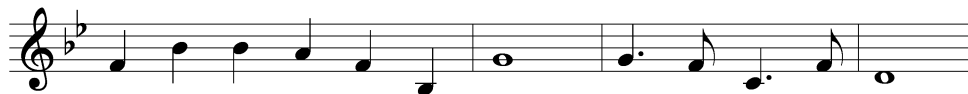
Amen.

Hymn

813 He Will Hold Me Fast



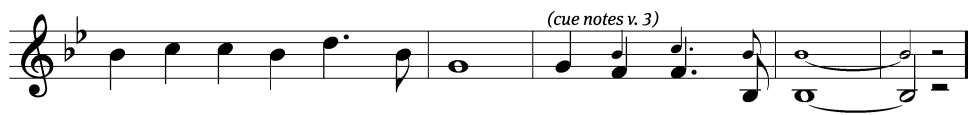
1 When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
 2 Those he saves are his de-light; Christ will hold me fast;
 3 For my life he bled and died; Christ will hold me fast;



when the tempt-er would pre-vail, he will hold me fast.
 pre-cious in his ho-ly sight, he will hold me fast.
 jus-tice has been sat-is-fied; he will hold me fast.



I could nev-er keep my hold thro' life's fear-ful path,
 He'll not let my soul be lost; his prom-is-es shall last;
 Raised with him to end-less life, he will hold me fast

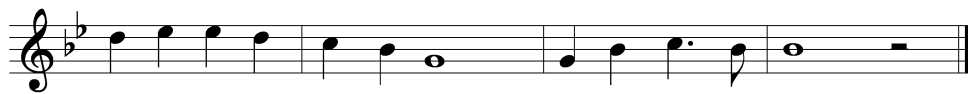


for my love is of-ten cold— he must hold me fast.
 bought by him at such a cost, he will hold me fast.
 till our faith is turned to sight when he comes at last! (Refrain 2X)

Refrain



He will hold me fast; he will hold me fast;



for my Sav-ior loves me so, he will hold me fast.

Text (sts. 1–2): Matt Merker, b. 1984, alt.; (sts. 1, Ref; 2): Ada Habershon, 1861–1918; (st. 3): Matt Merker, b. 1984

Tune: Matt Merker, b. 1984

Text (sts. 1–2): Public domain

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