

The Messenger

The monthly newsletter of Mount Olive Lutheran Church

March 2024



Mount Olive Lutheran Church
LC-MS
3411 South Taft Ave
Loveland, CO 80537
970-669-7350

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Sunday Worship
with Holy Communion
9:00am

followed by Fellowship &
Education Hour

Order of Matins the last
Sunday of each month

Rev. Mark Nierman
pr_nierman@juno.com
970- 980-5584

Please call or email Pastor to
schedule an appointment or to
give him your prayer requests.



Never Forsaken

"Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" These are the precise words, spoken in Aramaic, that our Lord uttered on the cross (Matthew 27:46). Translated, they mean, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me." It is a cry made in deep pain and loneliness. It is the cry of rejection.

It is certainly not the first time these words have been uttered. Any well catechized Jew who heard Jesus cry out would know that these are the opening words of psalm 22. Psalm 22 is a psalm of lament. In it the psalmist speaks of great opposition and feels as if God is ignoring his pleas for help and has forsaken him. It is a psalm that speaks of deep sorrow, agony and strife. Most importantly, it is a psalm about Christ.

Consider the many ways that this psalm describes the suffering of our Lord Jesus Christ at His crucifixion. Psalm 22:7-8 says, "All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads; 'He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!'" In Luke 23:35-37 we read, "And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!' The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!'" In Psalm 22:18 it says, "they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots." John 19:23-24a tells us, "When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was

continued on next page

seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom, so they said to one another, 'Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be.'" Consider also Psalm 22:16, "For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet." This finds its fulfillment in the crucifixion of Jesus. This is a rich and meaningful psalm which speaks of Christ, and I encourage you to take some time to read it during this season of Lent.

Let us go back to those words, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani." Though the Psalmist initially feels that he has been forsaken by God, he recalls God's faithfulness and believes that God will deliver him. These words find their highest fulfillment as they are uttered by our Lord Jesus Christ. What Jesus says is no mere poetic sentiment. The agony and suffering is real. In body and soul, Jesus was forsaken of God. That was the curse of hell and the pain of hell. The Devil rejoiced thinking he had won. He was wrong. All the attacks against the Devil failed. On the third day Jesus Christ rose victoriously from the grave, and sin, death and hell were defeated.

Do you ever feel like the Psalmist? Alone? Forsaken? In Christ, we are never forsaken and alone. Jesus was forsaken so that we could be reconciled to God. Jesus was raised so that we could confidently say that our God is with us.

In Christ,

Pastor Mark Nierman

Here we have a firm foundation,
Here the refuge of the lost:
Christ, the Rock of our salvation,
Is the name of which we boast;
Lamb of God for sinners wounded,
Sacrifice to cancel guilt!
None shall ever be confounded
Who on Him their hope have built. LSB 451:4

Climate Change, Conservation, And Christianity

Dr. David Hartnett, distinguished retired professor of Biology at Kansas State University, and now a member at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church in Estes Park, will be presenting a paper on stewardship of creation titled "Climate Change, Conservation, And Christianity" on Saturday March 16th at 2:00 pm. at Mt. Calvary in Estes Park. Everyone is invited! Please join us for an insightful presentation from a biblical perspective

March at Mount Olive

If you are interested in praising God through music, give some thought and prayer to joining. We'd love to have you! For more information, contact Janelle Flanscha.

- **Choir Practice** **Wednesdays at 6:00 pm**
5:45-6:20pm (during Lent)

- **Hand Bell Practice** **Sunday mornings at 7:45 am**

If you are interested in praising God through music, give some thought and prayer to joining. We'd love to have you! For more information, contact Janelle Flanscha.

- **Single Deck Pinochle** **2nd Friday of the month 2:00 pm**

Everyone is welcome to play! Bring a snack to share and join the fun!! Contact Rick Pfeiffer for more information.

- **Ladies' Brunch** **4th Saturday of the month**

Join the women of Mount Olive for food and fellowship at CJ's Patio Grill located at 1331 Eagle Dr., Loveland in the Thompson Valley Town Center. Bring a friend and join the fun! For more information, contact Lani Brandt.

- **Men's Night Out** **last Thursday of the month**

Join the men of Mount Olive for food and fellowship! Bring a friend and join the fun! Gathering locations will be announced in the weekly bulletins. For more information, contact Rick Pfeiffer.

- **Dominoes (Mexican Train)** **4th Friday of the month**

Never played? Doesn't matter! We will explain our version and help you along!! Bring a snack to share and join in the friendly competition!! For more information, contact Rick Pfeiffer.

**If you are unable to attend worship, here are a few ways to
spend time with the Lord on Sunday.**

Visit Mount Olive's website at www.mountlivelutheranchurch.360unite.com and listen to Pastor Nierman's weekly sermons.

Worship Anew worshipanew.org DIRECTV Channel 377 – [TCT Network] 9:30 am

Today, *Worship Anew* reaches thousands of people each week across the nation and around the world via television stations, the DVD subscription program, as well as by making the program available online.

Lutheran Hour Ministries lhm.org

Catch the Lutheran Hour on these local stations.

KOA Denver, CO 850 AM Sun 6:00 AM

KFKA Greeley, CO 1310 AM Sun 9:30 AM

Sirius XM Family Talk 131, Sun 8:00 AM

MOUNT OLIVE *LUTHERANS FOR LIFE* * LIFE TEAM

Equipping Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices for life.

March for Life is coming to Colorado

Friday, April 12, 2024

10:15 - LCMS Prayer Service near the Capitol

(Look for the LCMS and Lutherans for Life banners to find us.)

11am – March for Life Rally

12noon – March for Life

Colorado State Capitol

200 E Colfax Ave

Bus Transportation to the Colorado March for Life

From the North:

Faith Lutheran, 3999 E. State Hwy 60, Johnstown 8:30 am

Mt. Zion Lutheran, 500 Drake Street, Denver 9:20 am

If you would like a seat on one of these buses, you must register on the Rocky Mountain District website, <https://rm.lcms.org/2024-colorado-march-for-life/>. The deadline to reserve a seat on a bus is March 29.

Contact Deaconess Sara Smith, District Life Coordinator RMD with any questions at:

DistrictLifeCoordinator@gmail.com 513-509-8108

See the poster on the bulletin board in the Information Center

***Lutherans For Life is a Recognized Service Organization of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. Our Mount Olive Life Team is a recognized life team of Lutherans For Life.**

*** For more information about Lutherans For Life visit lutheransforlife.org**

Hurting from abortion? *Word of Hope* can help - 888-217-8679 or www.word-of-hope.org

Mount Olive Ladies Guild

Our Next Guild Meeting is March 12, 2024, at 9:00am in the lower level.

Hostesses: Jan Closson and Shirley Jamieson

Devotion: Jodi Allison – *Good Grief*

Bible Study: Bea Raedeke – *Take My Life* – p17, LWML Spring Quarterly

Mite Box Devotion: Shirley Jamieson

All ladies of the congregation are invited for a time of fellowship, prayer, Bible study, in-gathering of Mites and offerings, and a short business meeting. Guests are always welcome! If you have questions, you are welcome to contact Joyce Flanscha or Jodi Allison.

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, April 13th

NORTHERN LWML ZONE SPRING WORKSHOP

At Risen Savior Lutheran Church

3031 W 144th Ave, Broomfield, CO 80023

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Paulison

Registration & Light Breakfast: 9:00-9:30am

Registration fee: \$8.00 (includes lunch)

More details on poster in Information Center

LOOKING AHEAD

During April and May the ladies' Guild will be sponsoring an ingathering for Life Choices and Orphan Grain Train. The items gathered will be taken to the LWML Rocky Mountain District Convention which is in June in Greeley. Stay tuned for details!

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Sunday School is up and running! We are excited to offer preK-2 grade Early Childhood Sunday School and 3-8th grade Sunday School. Opening begins in the church basement with a short song, and Catechism by Heart. Please join us following fellowship time at 10:45am every Sunday.

BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE

Donation for March 2024 House of Neighborly Service

The work of House of Neighborly Service includes assisting and advocating for those experiencing crisis, with resources, basic needs assistance, goal oriented, solution focused case management, educational support and training, program shelter and more.

BOARD OF FELLOWSHIP

Lenten Dinners – Wednesdays, 5:15 – 6:15 pm

The remaining Lenten Dinners will be held on the following dates and hosted by:

**March 6 – Ladies Guild
March 13 - Board of Education
March 20 – Choir/Bells**

Come and enjoy a meal and fellowship! Free-will offerings support House of Neighborly Service. Sign up in the Information Center to bring a dessert!

Easter Breakfast – Sunday, March 31, 7:30 – 8:30 am

An Easter Breakfast of breakfast casseroles, biscuits & gravy, fruit and donuts will be put on by the Youth with the free-will offering going toward their Higher Things Conference Trip to Portland, Oregon. Make plans to attend!

Coffee Crew

Thank you to our Coffee Crew who have served for the last 5 months! Look for a signup in the Information Center to serve for a month at a time. Everyone is welcome to join the Coffee Crew! If you have any questions, just ask anyone serving coffee!

Tablecloth care

Signup in the Information Center to change out and launder the tablecloths as needed.

MOUNT OLIVE KEENAGERS

There is a sign-up sheet in the Information Center for those who are interested in Keenager gatherings. Please see Verona or Bob Runyan with questions. Thank you.

March Servants of the Church

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.

1 Peter 4:10

March 3

Elders: Rick Pfeiffer and Brad Perry
Ushers: Joshua Nierman and Cory Becker



March 10

Elders: Mike Allison and Steve Hammes
Ushers: Aedan Kaplan and Brian Beumer

March 17

Elders: Dan Flanscha and Rick Pfeiffer
Ushers: Peter Hammes and Brian Fischer

March 24

Elders: Brad Perry and Steve Hammes
Ushers: Dennis Ulrich and Tyler Selbe

March 31

Elders: Mike Allison and Dan Flanscha
Ushers: Chipper Banks and Caleb Nierman

March Altar Guild:

Marvin and Joyce Flanscha

March Coffee Crew:

Brad and Karen Perry

Servants for Lenten Services

March 6 – March 31, 2024

Mid-Week Lenten Services (March 6, 13, 20)

Elder: 4:30pm Brad Perry
Elder: 6:30pm Rick Pfeiffer



Maundy Thursday – March 28

Elders: 7:00 pm Dan Flanscha and Steve Hammes
Ushers: 7:00 pm Rick Pfeiffer and Brad Perry

Good Friday – March 29 (6:30 pm)

Elders: 7:00 pm Rick Pfeiffer and Brad Perry
Ushers: 7:00 pm Stefan Goeglein

EASTER – March 31

Elders: 6:30 am Mike Allison and Rick Pfeiffer
Ushers: 6:30 am TBD

Elders 9:00 am Brad Perry and Dan Flanscha
Ushers: 9:00 am Chipper Banks and Caleb Nierman

March



Birthdays

March 4	Lola Thorne
March 5	Jack Thiesen
March 6	Jodi Allison
March 6	Hudson Meggenberg
March 8	Carson Rosenberger
March 10	Hazel Dunn
March 10	August Warner
March 12	Kelsey Stevenson
March 15	Larry Haagenson
March 16	Karen Pfeiffer
March 17	Paul Hammes
March 18	Debi Schroeder
March 20	Corey Becker
March 21	Karen Brakel
March 22	Jacob Brandt
March 24	Martha Hammes
March 25	Linda Brainard
March 25	John Kreiger
March 27	Sara Hovanec
March 28	Shirley Jamieson
March 29	Taylor Peterson
March 30	Jennifer Goeglein



Anniversaries

March 2 Sharon & Ed Roe

March 19 Ray & Dianne Stahla

March 29 Bryan & Sarah Herrera

The flower chart is located in the Information Center.

- Arrangements are \$50 per week. When paying for your flowers please note "Altar Flowers" including the date you're providing the flowers and place your payment in the offering plate. It's appreciated if flowers are paid for at least two Sundays in advance of the date you sign up for.
- Fill out the specific occasion for your flowers on the flower chart as well.
- If you would like, you may take your arrangement home after the service.
- If you have any questions, please contact Joyce Flanscha.



March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 9:30am Women's Bible Study	2
3 Mite Box Sunday 7:45amTintinnabulations 9 am Holy Communion 10:45am Bible Class/SS 11:45 am Fellowship 11:45am Elders	4	5	6 6:30am Men's Bible Study 4:30/6:30 pm Lenten Service 5:15-6:15 pm Lenten Meal 5:45-6:20 pm Choir	7	8 9:30am Women's Bible Study 2:00 pm Pinochle	9
10 Good News 7:45amTintinnabulations 9:00 am Holy Communion 10:45am Bible Class/SS 12:00 pm Stewardship Meeting	11	12 9 am Ladies Guild 6:30 pm Trustees Mtg	13 6:30am Men's Bible Study 4:30/6:30 pm Lenten Service 5:15-6:15 pm Lenten Meal 5:45-6:20 pm Choir	14	15 9:30am Women's Bible Study	16
17 Life News 7:45amTintinnabulations 9:00 am Holy Communion 10:45am Bible Class/SS	18	19 9am Winkel	20 6:30am Men's Bible Study 4:30/6:30 pm Lenten Service 5:15-6:15 pm Lenten Meal 5:45-6:20 pm Choir	21	22 9:30am Women's Bible Study	23 10:am Ladies Brunch Bunch
24 Palm Sunday 7:45amTintinnabulations 9:00 am Holy Communion 10:45am Bible Class/SS	25	26	27 6:30am Men's Bible Study 6:00 pm Choir	28 Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm Service	29 Good Friday OFFICE CLOSED 9:30am Women's Bible Study 7:00 PM Good Friday Service	30
31 Easter 6:30 & 9:00 am Holy Communion 8:30 Easter Egg Hunt 7:30-8:30 am Easter Breakfast						