

CONTRIBUTE

Online Giving

There are two convenient ways to give online. Either by using the "Joyful Response Giving" on the website or via Paypal. Simply log on to your Paypal Account, select "SEND" and type in Mount Olive Lutheran Church of Folsom California. We always accept checks, but we do have a limit as to how many we can deposit monthly, so if online giving is an option for you, rest assured, it is easy, safe and secure.

The Baptism of Our Lord January 11, 2026



Connecting People to Jesus, Cultivating Meaningful Lives, and Contributing to God's Kingdom Work, Together



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

The Spirit-Marked Servant

As We Gather

All people are descendants of the first man, Adam. After the worldwide flood of God's judgment of sin, Noah and his sons became the progenitors of all mankind. It was of the lineage of Shem (Genesis 11) that the man Abram was born. The descendants of Abram/Abraham were named Hebrews or Jews, after Judah, one of Jacob's sons; this naming pertained to all of Israel after the Babylonian exile. To this day, they are referred to as God's "chosen people" after the words of Moses: "For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for His treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth" (Deuteronomy 7:6). They were chosen to be the lineage of the Messiah, the deliverer, the Christ. Faithful to His promise, God took on flesh "of the house and lineage of David" (Luke 2:4) as the incarnate Son of God and Son of Mary of Nazareth.

Today we hear that divine promise in Isaiah 42, identifying Jesus as God's chosen servant. From the beginning, however, we are told He is not only to be King of the Jews alone but a light to lighten the Gentiles also. The great news is that He is the Savior of and for all people, the descendants not only of Abraham but also of Adam and Noah! By repentance of sin and faith in Christ, worked by the same Spirit that marked Jesus as the chosen one at His Baptism, now all who are baptized into Christ—Jew or Gentile—are the chosen people of God. Praising and thanking God for calling and saving us, we echo the Gospel to all people in the words of the Psalm: "Praise the Lord, all nations! Extol Him, all peoples!" (Psalm 117:1).

PREPARATION

LWML

The Mt. Olive Lutheran Women's Missionary League wishes to thank the congregation for returning their Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes full of wonderful and thoughtful Christmas gifts for children, we were able to deliver 34 boxes and make a monetary donation to Operation Christmas Child. Operation Christmas Child sends shoeboxes to children in need around the world together with the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Regional Event at Town and Country Lutheran 4049 Marconi Avenue, Sacramento, CA on Saturday, January 17, 2026, at noon. High Tea, please bring family and friends. A special thank you to LWML CNH ladies for their support for our Mighty Mites and District Events. Meet at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church on the day of the event at 11:15 and carpool to Town and Country Lutheran Church.

LWML is meeting as needed before the Lunch Bunch on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 11:30 pm. Check with Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict for our next meeting. We wish you a blessed Christmas and thank you for your support of the LWML missions and grants. In January I will pick up with the LWML history from the 1970s. Thank you, Lana Sullivan

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

Hello Ladies,

After a short break, we have started again our LifeLight Bible Study. We are still in the Gospel of Matthew beginning with the 24th Chapter. You are always invited to join us every Tuesday at 10am at 110 Dyrell Way in

Folsom

WE would love to welcome you as we are contributing to a meaningful and informative study. For more information, please call Inge at 916-983-0351. Shalom!

YOUTH

The Youth will be meeting Jan 17 from 4-6pm at Faith Lutheran Church in Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

January 18th at the Zittel's 6pm we will meeting for dinner and Bible Study. We'll be working through the Epistle to the Colossians for a couple weeks.

Feel free also to reach out to Pastor Dan or Elisse Tweet at council.educ.molc@gmail.com or 916-216-8722 for more info.

SECOND WEDNESDAY TWIN LAKES FOOD BANK MINISTRY CONTINUES

Reach out to our neighbors with love and prayer on the second Wednesday of each month. Would you consider volunteering for an upcoming month as we pre-plan to cover this meaningful ministry opportunity? A team of 3 people is needed to greet and converse with guests as they wait for groceries, hand out that month's giveaway item, and take prayer requests. The distribution time is from 9am -12pm. You can help out the entire time or come for the first 1.5 hour or the last 1.5 hour. Please contact Krista Hess (916-370-2892) hesskeg@gmail.com for more information or to snag the Wednesday of your choice.

Opening Hymn: LSB 394 and Praise

Songs of Thankfulness

Introduction and prelude

Verse 1,2 congregation

Vs 3 choir

Vs 4, 5 congregation

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Psalm 117

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.

- P** Praise the LORD, all nations! Extol Him, all peoples!
C For great is His steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD!

Confession and Absolution

- P** Jesus Christ is God's chosen one, who came and who comes again today to call everyone to salvation from sin and death and who makes all who are baptized in His name to be the chosen sons and daughters of God. Marked by the sacred waters of Holy Baptism, let us receive God's assurance and promise of forgiveness.
- C** Almighty God, our dear Father in heaven, in Holy Baptism You have marked us with the sign of the holy cross upon our foreheads and upon our hearts to mark us as people of Your choosing to be redeemed by Christ the crucified. Open our eyes to Your light of freedom and forgiveness and to Your

calling of us to be Your own chosen people of Your eternal kingdom.

P In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

At this time, the congregation will rise and extend the “peace of the Lord” with one another forgiving one another just as our Lord has forgiven us.

WORD

In the service of the Word, God grants us His grace through the reading and preaching of His Word. Wherever His Word is, there He promises to be (Matt 18:20). The words of Holy Scripture are to make [us] wise unto salvation (2 Timothy 3:15).” They do this but not by simply talking about Jesus but giving Jesus to us who crucified for our sins and raised for our justification. The Word of God is the Word of Life.

Introit for Baptism of Our Lord

C Behold My servant, whom I uphold, My chosen, in whom My soul delights.

A I will tell of the decree:*

The LORD said to Me, “You are my Son; today I have begotten You.

Ask of Me, and I will make the nations Your heritage,*
and the ends of the earth Your possession.

You shall break them with a rod of iron*
and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”

CONNECT

Sunday Service with Communion

Please join us for Sunday service at 10am. If you are not able to join us in person, our Sunday Services will be available on YouTube or Facebook. You can access the links on our website at www.mountlivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers and younger, feel free to grab a Blessing Activity Bag in the Narthex on your way into service or utilize the Nursery, located behind the musicians. Sunday School teachers & subs still needed, please reach out to Elisse (916)216-8722 or council.educ.molc@gmail.com

Sunday Bible Study

Come and gather with us at 9am to learn more about the Word of God.

The Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch will be meeting next at noon on January 15th at noon. Please plan to bring your own lunch and join us in some wonderful fellowship and lively conversation! We meet in the classroom behind the sanctuary. All ages are welcome! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Fred Hoffman / Eric Baer
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder, Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Rick and Lana Sullivan
Altar Guild	Karen Fontaine

Now therefore, O kings, be wise;*
be warned, O rulers of the earth.
Serve the LORD with fear,*
and rejoice with trembling,
for His wrath is quickly kindled.*
Blessèd are all who take refuge in Him.

C **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.

**Behold My servant, whom I uphold, My chosen, in whom My soul
delights.**

Text: ESV® Text: © 2001 Crossway Bibles. Used by permission: Creative Worship License no. 110000362

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.
Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You
proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the
Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in
their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of
everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who
lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever.
C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 42:1–9

¹Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my Spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
²He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
³a bruised reed he will not break,
and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
⁴He will not grow faint or be discouraged
till he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his law.
⁵Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people on it
and spirit to those who walk in it:
⁶“I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;
I will take you by the hand and keep you;
I will give you as a covenant for the people,
a light for the nations,
⁷to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.
⁸I am the LORD; that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to carved idols.
⁹Behold, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth
I tell you of them.”

C Amen.

Lord’s Prayer

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.

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.

Hymn to Depart: Men of Old”

LSB 397 “As with Gladness

Introduction
Vs. 1,2 congregation
Vs. 3 choir
Vs. 4,5 congregation

*Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 1.
Copyright © 2025 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.*

Acknowledgments
Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House.

P Grant that Your church be guided in true faith and worship by faithful pastors and shepherds of Your flock, that we may sing Your praises joyfully now and in eternity. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Help us to live with integrity as people of Your own possession, guarding us from all evil and leading us safely in the ways of Your good and gracious will. Give to all in the authority of government a desire for good order to the promotion of freedom and faithfulness to the ways of peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P To all who are yet enslaved by the darkness of sin and separation from You, cause the light of Your salvation to break forth that many may hear of Your deliverance and the hope of life and love by faith in the Savior and be drawn by the Spirit to Your covenant of Holy Baptism. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Grant healing and relief to all who are sick, homebound, or in any need or distress, that they may know the power of Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We remember all the saints who have gone before us, [*especially* . . .]. Give us a heart of wisdom that when our last hour comes, we are granted a blessed end in the life of the world to come. 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 Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 6:1–11

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Verse

Mark 1:11b

P Alleluia.

C You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased.

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 3:13–17

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

☩ Glory to You, O Lord.

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; ¹⁷and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

☩ This is the Gospel of the Lord.

☩ Praise to You, O Christ.

**Sermon Hymn: LSB 404 Jesus, Once with Sinners
Numbered**

**Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Chosen” - Sermon by
Rev. Daniel Vang. Delivered by Fred Hoffman.**

Offering

Offertory (instrumental)

Apostles’ Creed

**☩ 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

☩ All glory and praise to You, O God, for You have created all mankind in Your image to live in Your love and fellowship forever in Your eternal kingdom. By Your design, You have defeated the devil and the power of sin and death by the sacrifice of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. He became Your chosen one in His Baptism in the waters of the Jordan River and by Your Holy Spirit, in order that all who are baptized in His name and by the same Spirit may be restored to newness of life as Your chosen sons and daughters. Help us to extend the same invitation of Your mercy and grace to all people. Lord, in Your mercy,

☩ hear our prayer.