

CULTIVATE

Second Wednesday at Twin Lakes Food Bank!

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 talk with guests, hand out that month's giveaway, and take prayer requests. The distribution time is from 9am -12pm. You can help out the entire time or come for the first or last 1.5 hours. Please contact Krista Hess (916-370-2892) hesskeg@gmail.com for more information or to snag the Wednesday of your choice.

Ladies Bible Study

Ladies at Mount Olive, you are cordially invited to come to our weekly Bible Study every Tuesday at 100 Dyrell Way in Folsom at 10:30am. We are just starting to study the exciting book of Genesis! The earliest history of the Hebrew nation!! For more information, please contact Inge at 916-983-0351. We look forward to seeing you! Shalom!

LWML

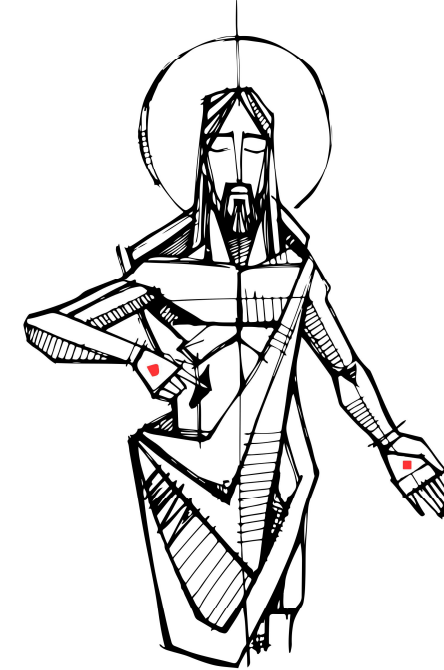
LWML is currently working on funding grant 5. Room to Grow Childcare Center - St. John's, Fallon NV for \$6,975. St. John's "Room to Grow Childcare Center" is a ministry of St. John's Lutheran Church in Fallon, NV. Since 1993 it has been providing high-quality Christian childcare. The current facility, built in 1996, needs some repair and renovation, including new security doors and hardware, sleeping cots, repainting, and improved security cameras. These changes will make the center more inviting to new families as they continue the mission of Christ-centered childcare. Please keep your coins, bills, and checks going into your mite boxes and return to the mighty mite box in the narthex to fund LWML CNH grants for 2026-2028, our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please contact Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict for questions or if you want to know more about LWML at Mt. Olive.

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.

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 6, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

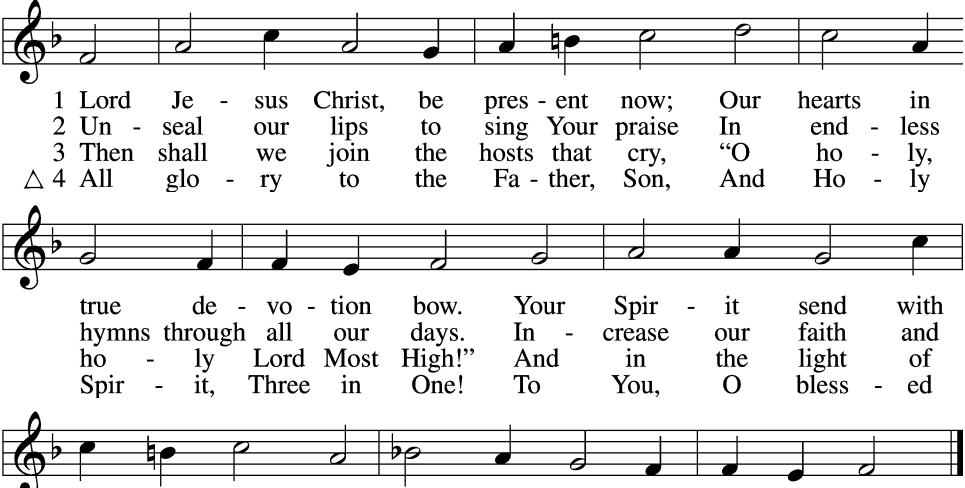
Warning the Wicked

As We Gather

In every congregation, there are those who once sat together with us in the pews but have since been lost to error or sin. Those who used to be Christian may constitute a number larger than those who are currently Christian. It is one thing to lament this and criticize from the sidelines. It is quite another to warn the wicked. Though some might assume that the chief purpose of church discipline is to condemn the sins and errors of others, our Lord reminds us that discipline is an act of love that seeks to restore the fallen. While this idea may seem out of step with the emphasis in our times on tolerance without judgment, if our Lord loves the lost enough to save us, then we are called to do no less. Key to this is warning the wicked (as Ezekiel puts it) with the voice of God’s Word. This certainly includes condemning sin and error, but it also includes restoring the fallen through forgiveness. It is not the will of our Father in heaven that any should perish, and it is the joy of heaven to welcome them back. Is it also our passion to seek them out, to warn them with the voice of God’s Word, and to welcome them home through forgiveness?

PREPARATION

Opening: 902 Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, be pres - ent now; Our hearts in
2 Un - seal our lips to sing Your praise In end - less
3 Then shall we join the hosts that cry, “O ho - ly,
△ 4 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, And Ho - ly

true de - vo - tion bow. Your Spir - it send with
hymns through all our days. In - crease our faith and
ho - ly Lord Most High!” And in the light of
Spir - it, Three in One! To You, O bless - ed

light di - vine, And let Your truth with - in us shine.
light our minds; And set us free from doubt that blinds.
that blest place We then shall see You face to face.
Trin - i - ty, Be praise through-out e - ter - ni - ty!

Text: Lutherisch Hand-Büchlein, 1648, Altenburg; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
Tune: Cationale Germanicum, 1628, Gochsheim
Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Dismissal

P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
C Thanks be to God.

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 4.
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Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Andrew Tweet
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi , Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder, Andrew Burnette, Andrew Tweet
Ushers	Norm Benedict and Karen Fontaine-Benedict
Altar Guild	Christa Sobczak

CONNECT

Sunday Service with Communion

Please join us for Sunday service at 10am. If you are unable 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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday Bible Study

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

Sunday School for school aged children - Children of elementary school age are invited to head to the room at the back of the Narthex directly following the Children’s Message during worship. Students will enjoy their lesson during the sermon and will be dismissed back to their families in the sanctuary prior to Communion. Children will be learning from Concordia's curriculum, "Jesus Teaches His Church”.

The Lunch Bunch

Please reach out to Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions about the Lunch Bunch.

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.

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **Amen.**

Benedicamus

P Let us bless the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

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.**

Closing: 707 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep His stat - utes still!
2 Or - der my foot - steps by Thy Word And make my heart sin - cere;
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, A strict - er watch to keep;
4 Make me to walk in Thy com - mands—’Tis a de - light - ful road—



Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do His will!
Let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, But keep my con - science clear.
And should I e’er for - get Thy way, Re - store Thy wan - d’ring sheep.
Nor let my head or heart or hands Of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt. Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793–1870 Text and tune: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You 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; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

P He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on 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 Pentecost 15

Psalm 92:1–4; antiphon: v. 5

C **How great are Your works, O LORD! Your thoughts are very deep!**

A It is good to give thanks | to the LORD,*
 to sing praises to Your name, | O Most High;
 to declare Your steadfast love in the | morning,*
 and Your faithful- | ness by night,
 to the music of the lute | and the harp,*
 to the melody | of the lyre.

For You, O LORD, have made me glad | by Your work;*
at the works of Your hands I | sing for joy.

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.**

How great are Your works, O LORD! Your thoughts are very deep!

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.
O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 33:7–9

⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Psalms 34:9, 19, alt.

C **Fear the LORD, | you his saints,*
for those who fear him lack | nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the | righteous,*
but the LORD delivers him out | of them all.**

Epistle

Romans 13:1–10

¹Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ²Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For rulers

P That we use our skills and abilities in honest labor and that the work of our hands be blessed, let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**

P That the Lord would grant to all who approach this altar with repentant hearts and faith to receive here the gifts bestowed in this communion of Christ’s flesh and blood, and that the Lord bless us with unity of doctrine and life together, let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**

P That the Lord grant us a blameless life and a blessed death, that at the last we be received into the arms of His mercy, and that the Lord grant His comfort and peace to the dying and all who grieve, [*especially . . .*], let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**

Silence for meditation

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C **Amen.**

Offering

956 Create in Me

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Text: Psalm 51:10–12
Tune: Johann Georg Winer, 1583–1651, adapt.
Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Church

- P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ and for all people according to their needs.
- Silence for prayer*
- P That the Lord would move us to seek out the lost, address them with the voice of God’s Word, and restore them who receive this warning with penitence, that the hearts of all once forgiven be moved to forgive one another in Christ’s name, let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P That the church burn with zeal for the lost and for those caught up in heresy, error, and immorality and learn to rejoice with the angels over every sinner who repents and is saved, let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P That the Lord of the church well supply His people with faithful pastors and church workers and that He impart His rich blessing upon those newly ordained and consecrated and those training up for church work vocations, let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P That the Lord raise up for us good and faithful leaders on every level of government, bless those who serve with gifts of wisdom and prudence, and protect and defend all who protect and defend us, let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P That the Lord continue to show mercy to those afflicted in body, mind, or soul; grant them comfort and aid; and sustain them in this mercy to everlasting life, [*and especially do we pray for . . .*], let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P That the Lord would bless the homes where His people dwell, giving courage and strength to husbands and wives in the fulfillment of their promises and blessing all parents with wisdom and grace to attend to the children in their care, let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P That we learn gratitude for the manifold and rich gifts that God supplies every day and that we learn generosity to share with those in need, let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy.**

are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God’s wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

- L This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

Verse

Matthew 5:3

- C **Alleluia. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Alleluia.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:1–20

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.
- C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” ²And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

⁵“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, ⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

⁷“Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! ⁸And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.

¹⁰“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. ¹¹For the Son of Man came to save the lost. ¹²What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

¹⁵"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Children's Sermon

Sermon Hymn: 820 My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker

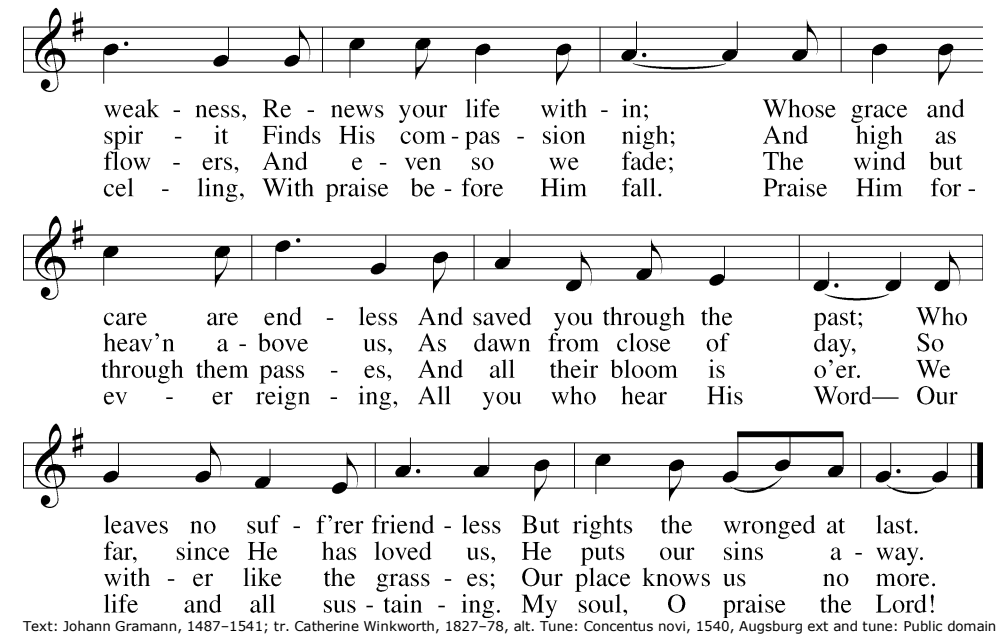


1 My soul, now praise your Mak - er! Let all with - in me
 2 He of - fers all His trea - sure Of jus - tice, truth, and
 3 For as a ten - der fa - ther Has pit - y on his
 4 His grace re - mains for - ev - er, And chil - dren's chil - dren

blest His name Who makes you full par - tak - er Of
 righ - teous - ness, His love be - yond all mea - sure, His
 chil - dren here, God in His arms will gath - er All
 yet shall prove That God for - sakes them nev - er Who

mer - cies more than you dare claim. For - get Him not whose
 yearn - ing pit - y o'er dis - tress; Nor treats us as we
 who are His in child - like fear. He knows how frail our
 in true fear shall seek His love. In heav'n is fixed His

meek - ness Still bears with all your sin, Who heals your ev - 'ry
 mer - it But sets His an - ger by. The poor and con - trite
 pow - ers, Who but from dust are made. We flour - ish like the
 dwell - ing, His rule is o - ver all; O hosts with might ex -



weak - ness, Re - news your life with - in; Whose grace and
 spir - it Finds His com - pas - sion nigh; And high as
 flow - ers, And e - ven so we fade; The wind but
 cel - ling, With praise be - fore Him fall. Praise Him for -

care are end - less And saved you through the past; Who
 heav'n a - bove us, As dawn from close of day, So
 through them pass - es, And all their bloom is o'er. We
 ev - er reign - ing, All you who hear His Word— Our

leaves no suf - f'rer friend - less But rights the wronged at last.
 far, since He has loved us, He puts our sins a - way.
 with - er like the grass - es; Our place knows us no more.
 life and all sus - tain - ing. My soul, O praise the Lord!

Text: Johann Gramann, 1487–1541; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Concentus novi, 1540, Augsburg ext and tune: Public domain

Sermon "The Greatest in the Kingdom" -Pastor Daniel Vang

Apostles' Creed

C **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.**