

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

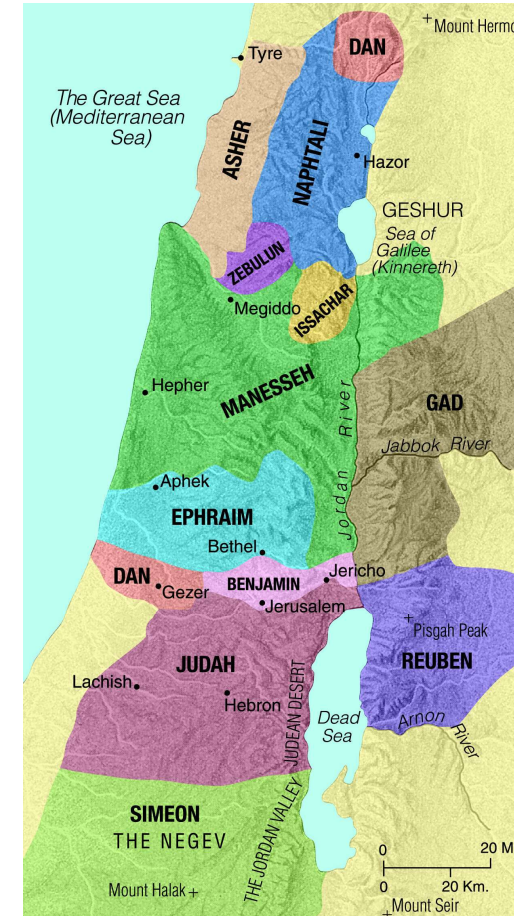
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

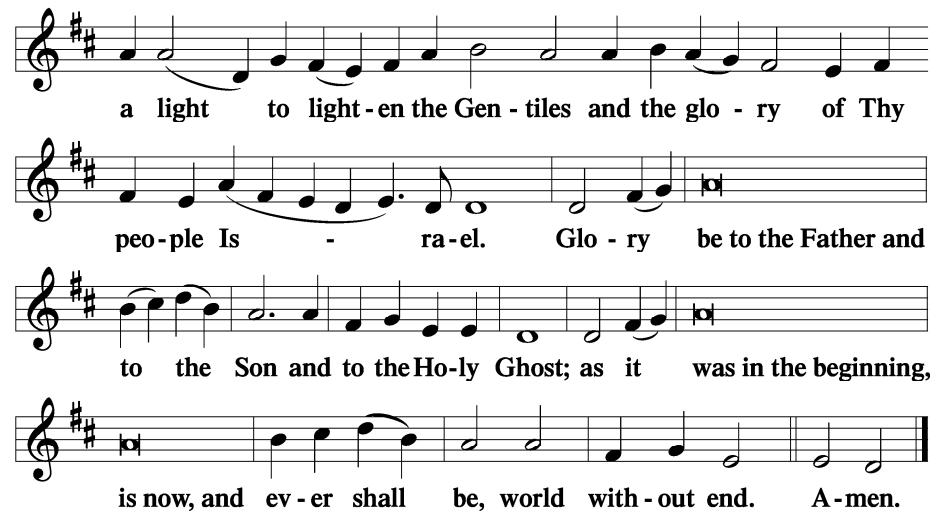
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

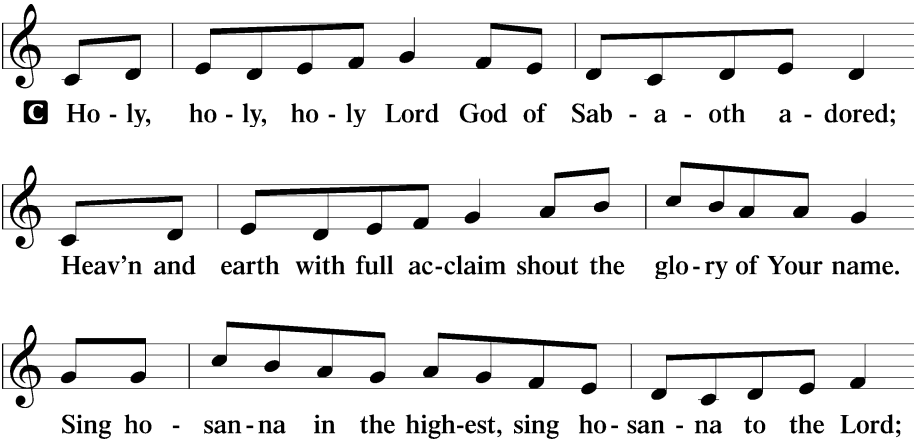
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)" for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

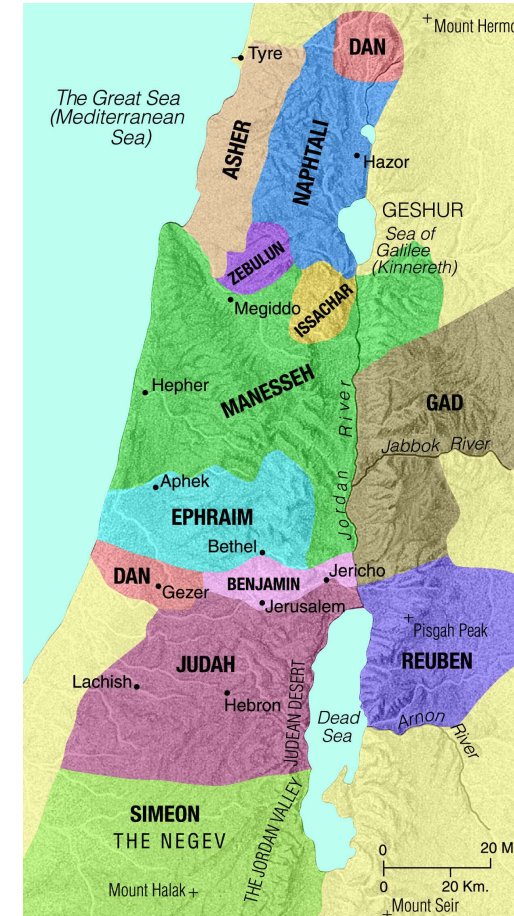
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

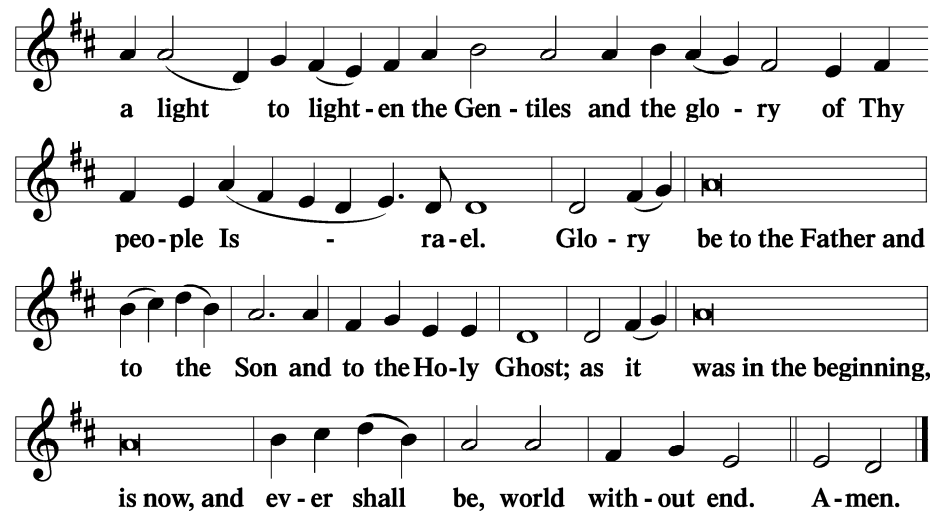
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

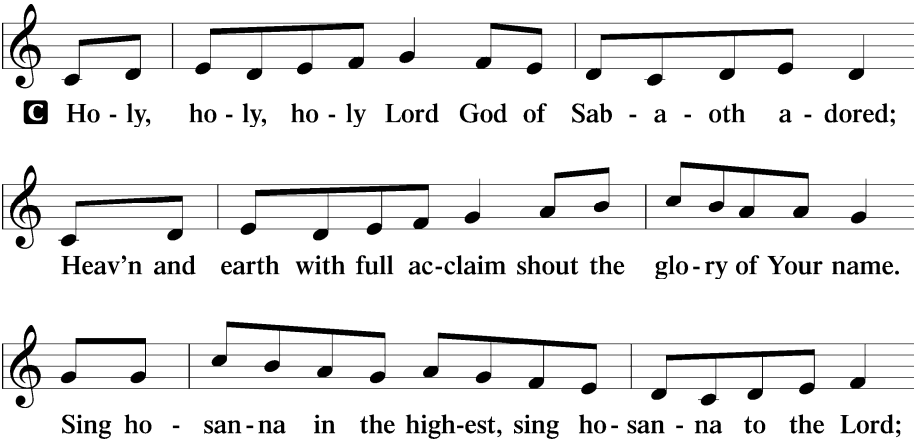
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

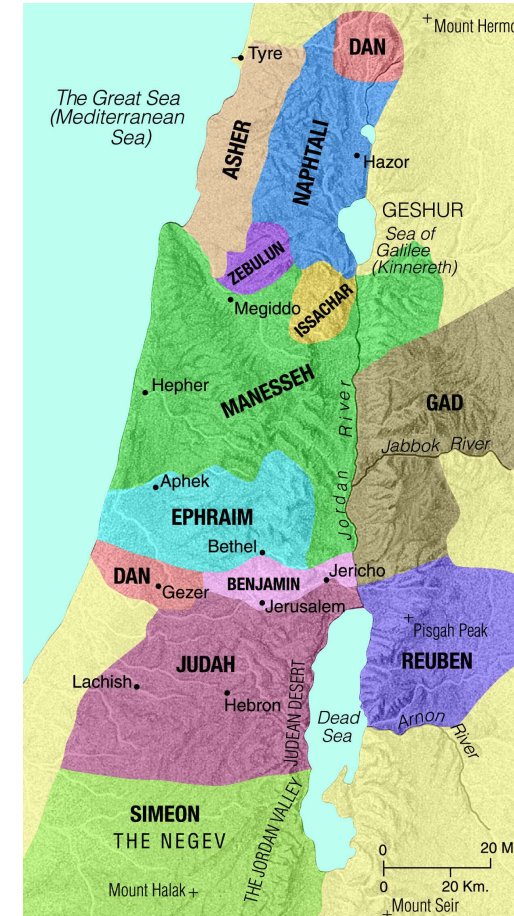
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

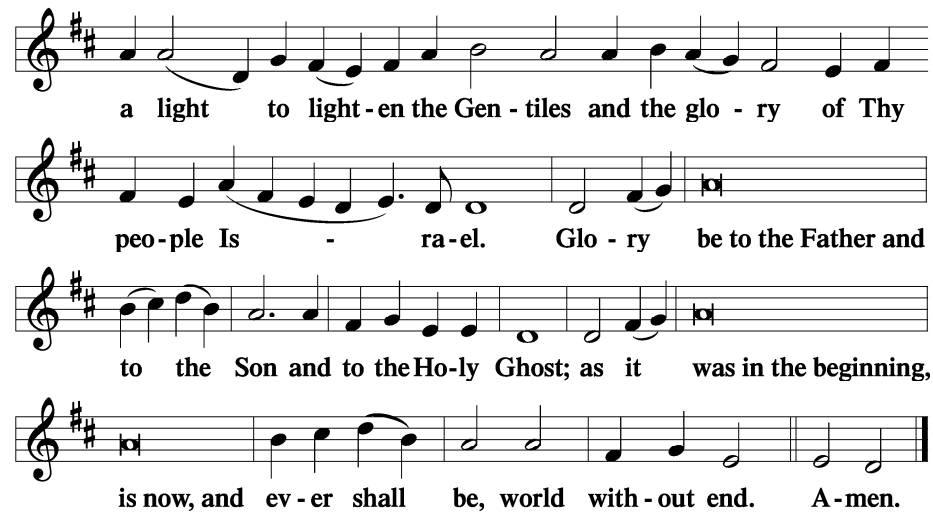
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

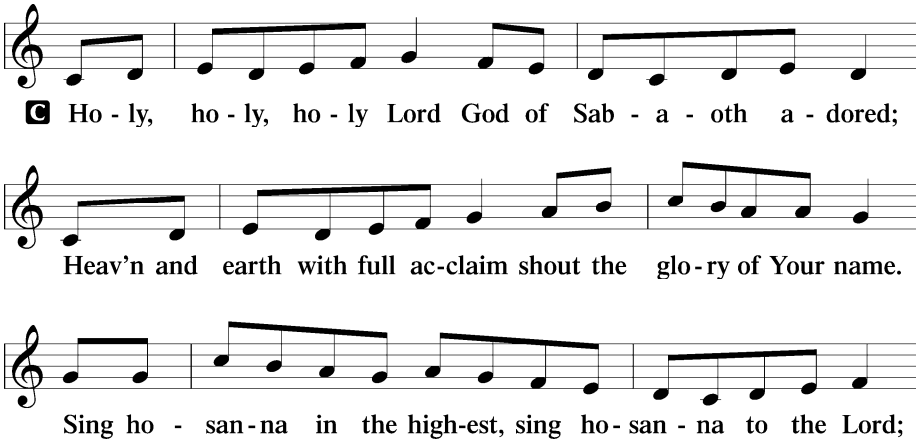
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

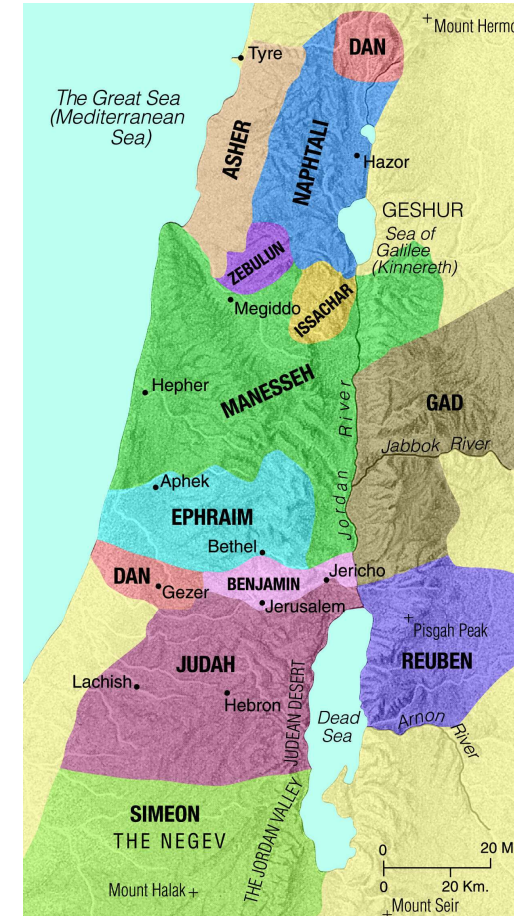
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about

a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204

C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

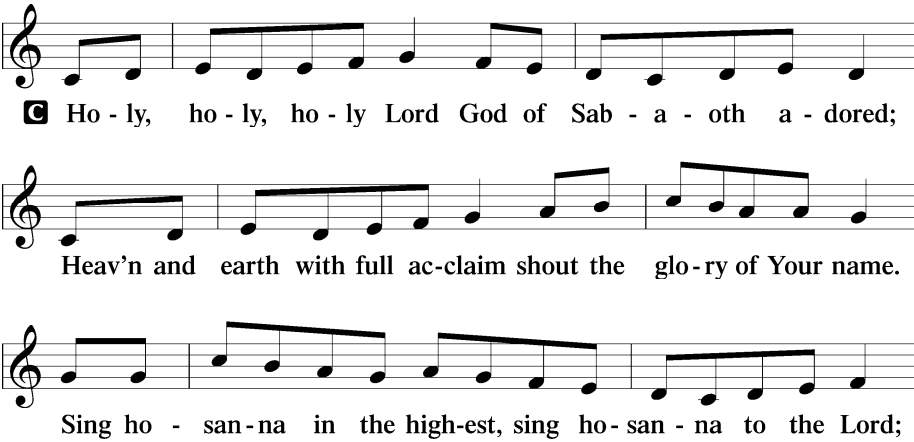
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✙ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192

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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)" for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

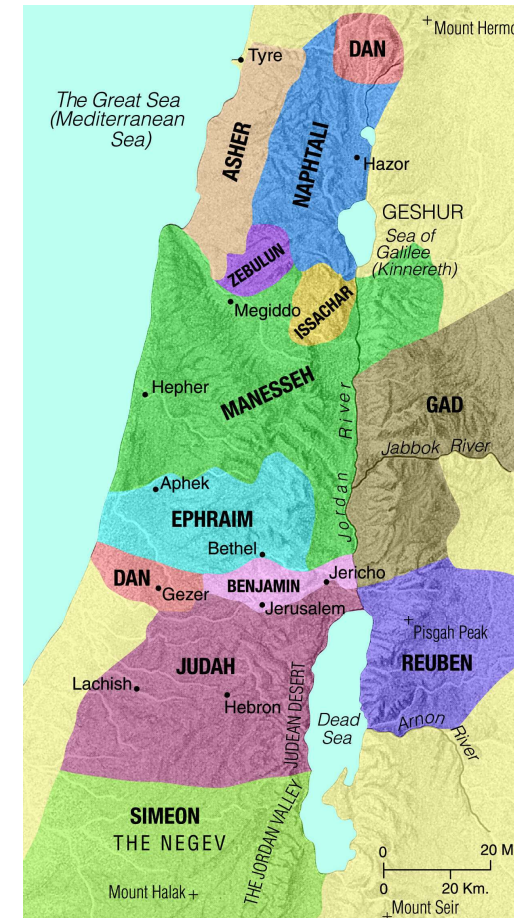
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

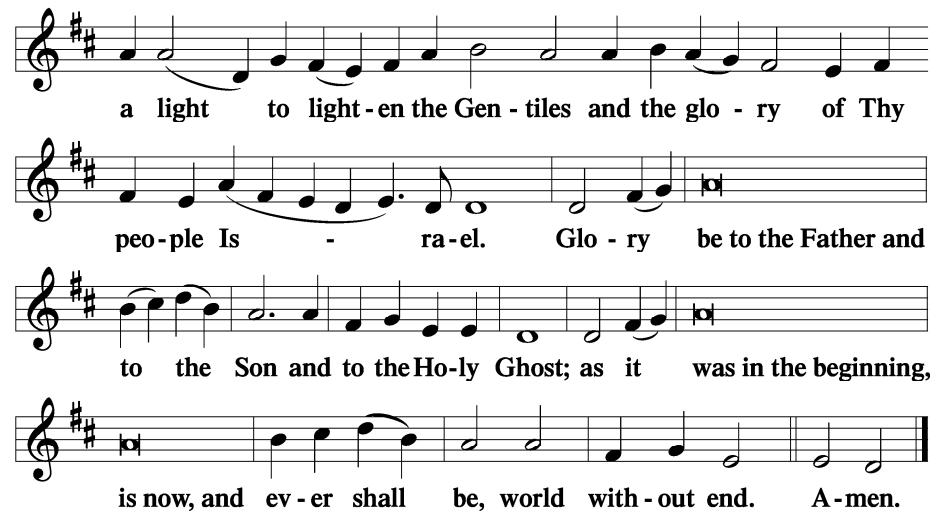
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
 and the staff for his shoulder,
 the rod of his oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
 Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

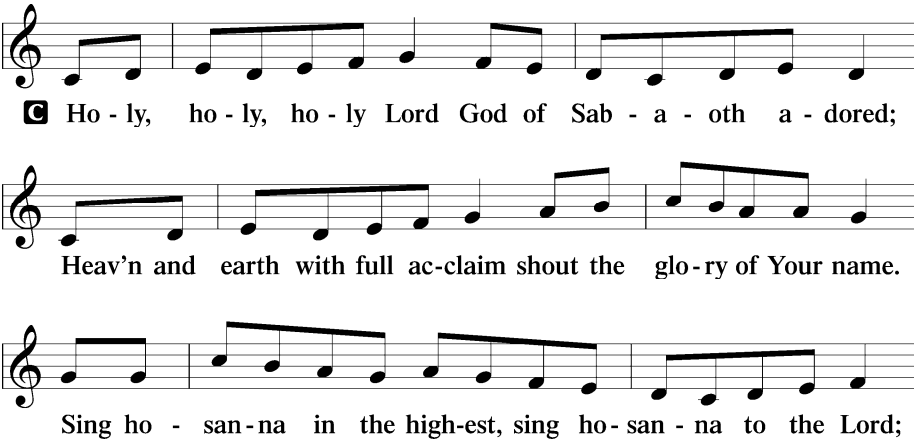
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

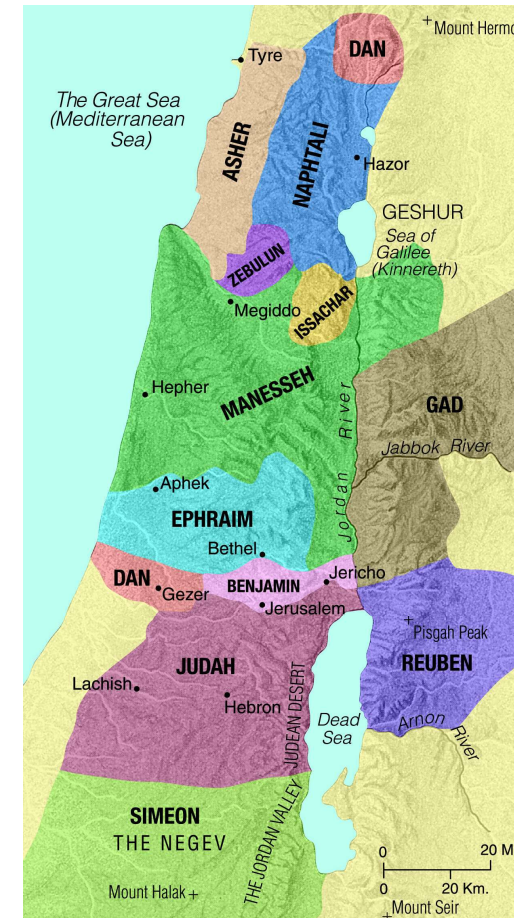
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

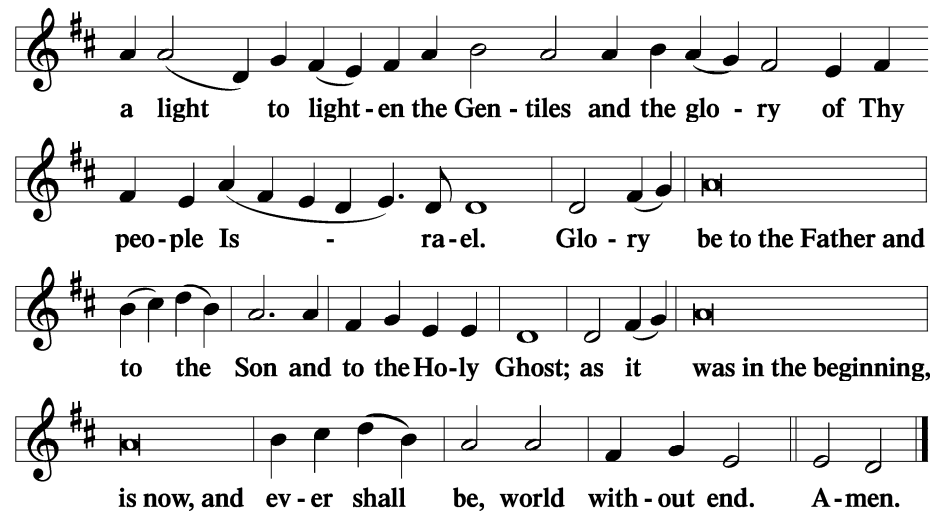
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

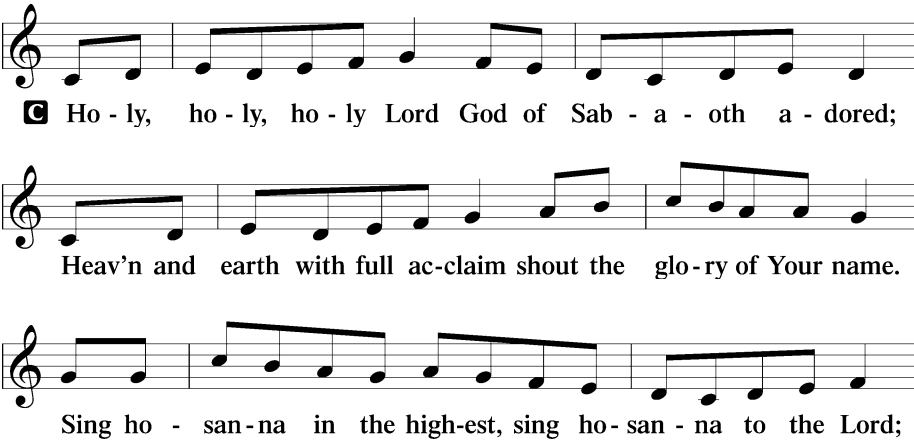
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✙ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

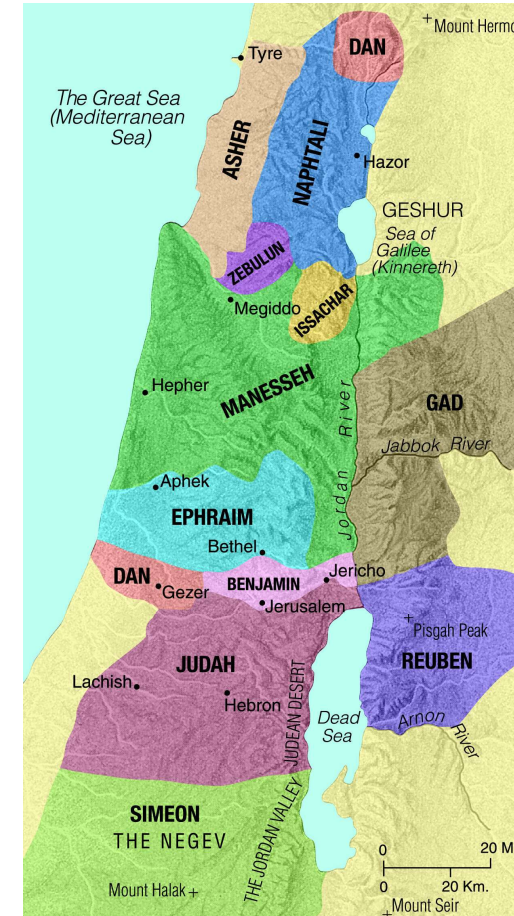
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

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

- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
C Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
P Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

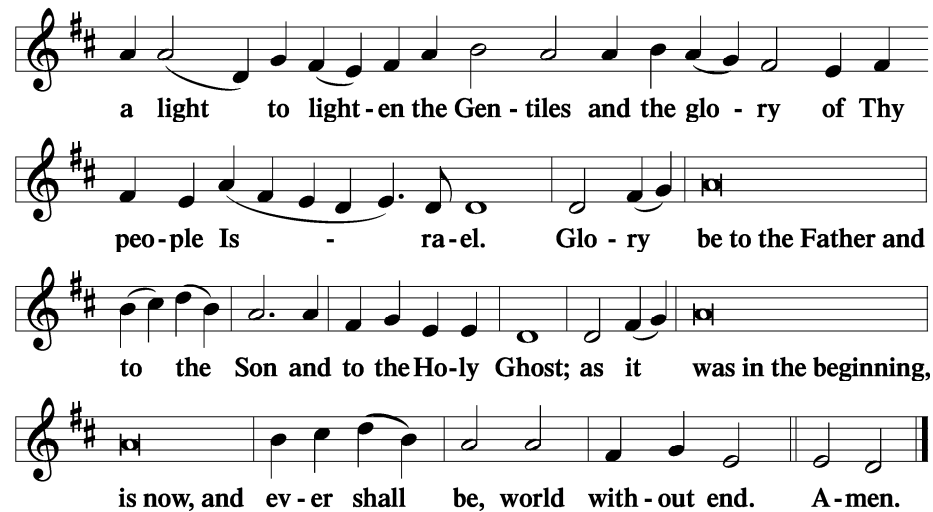
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
 and the staff for his shoulder,
 the rod of his oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
 Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

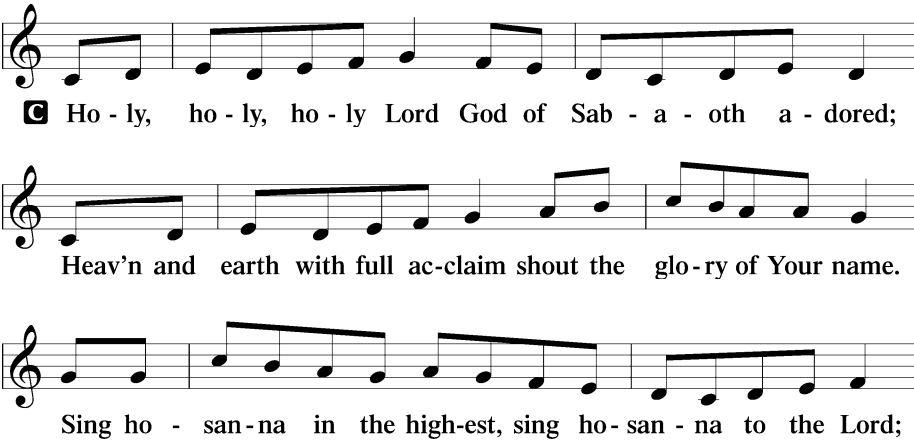
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✙ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)" for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

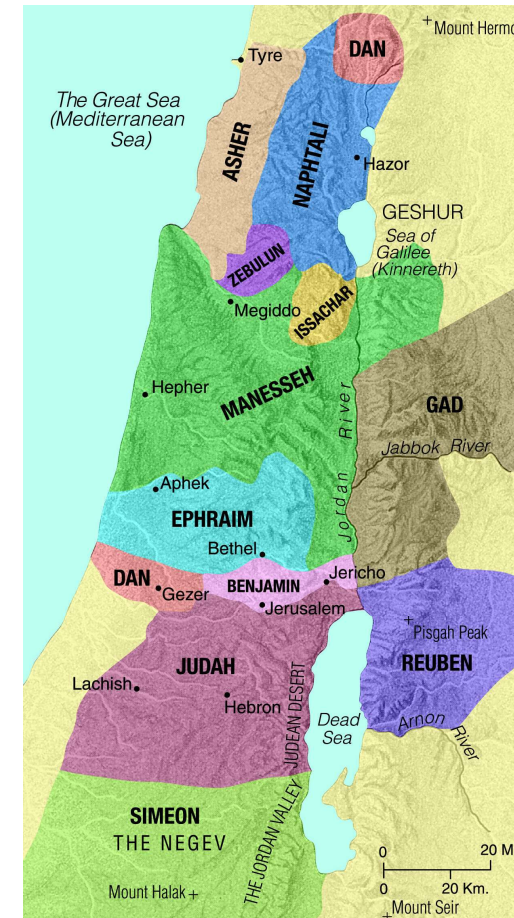
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

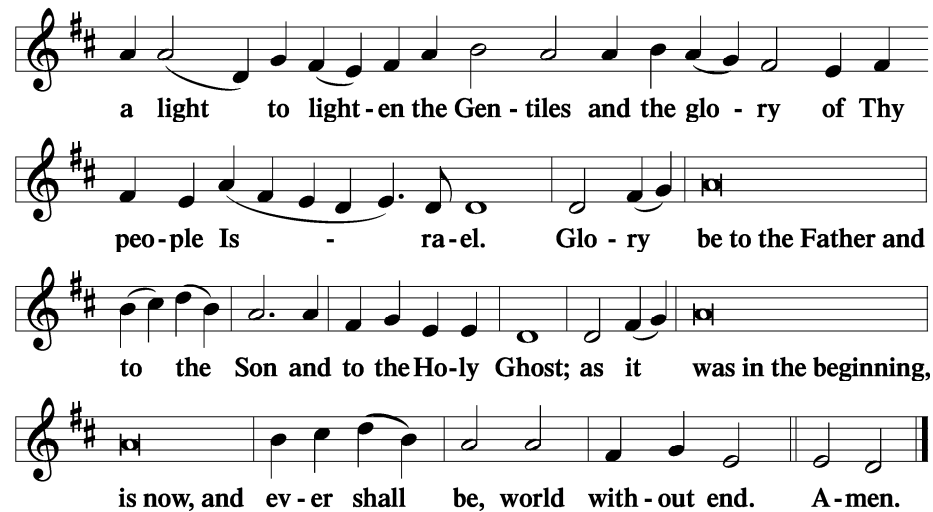
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

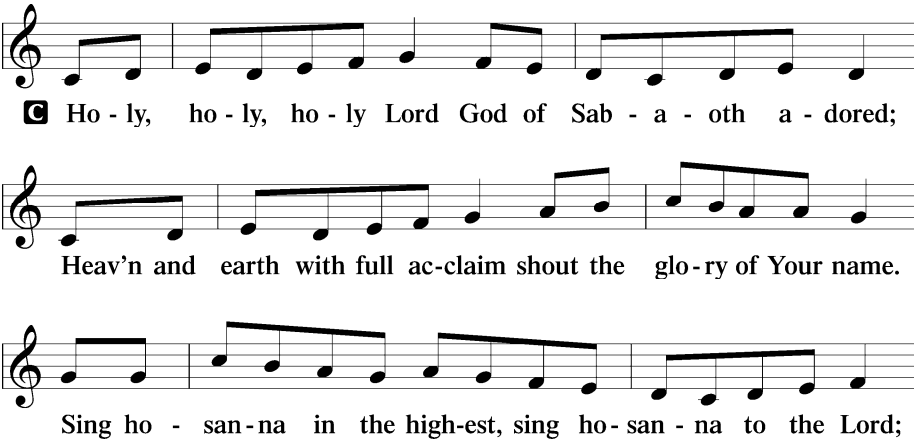
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

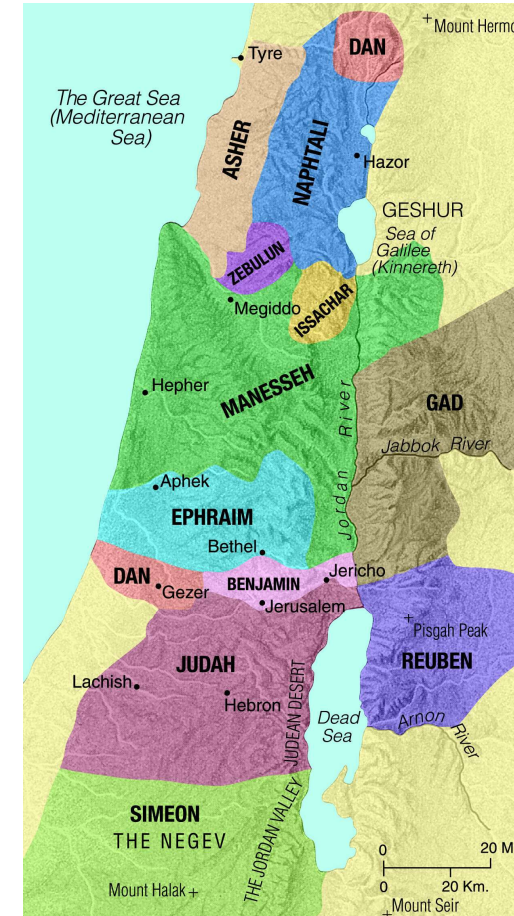
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

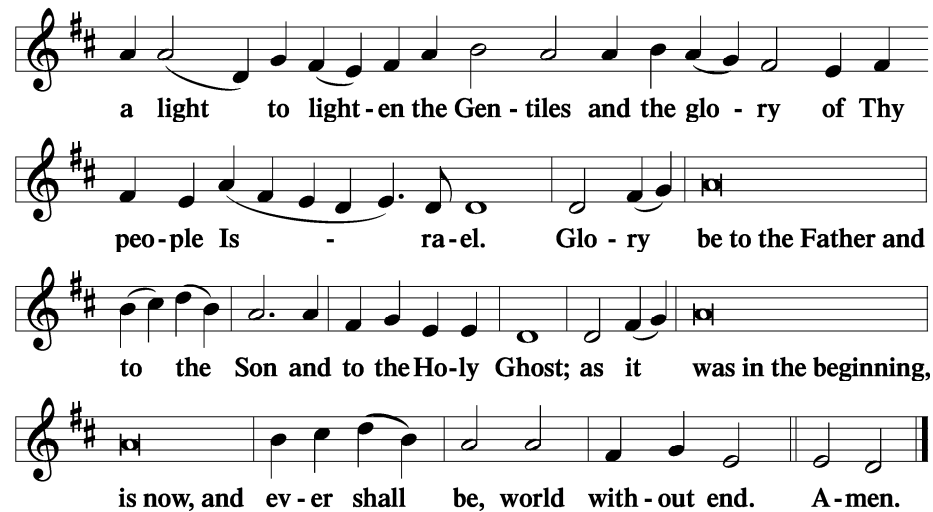
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

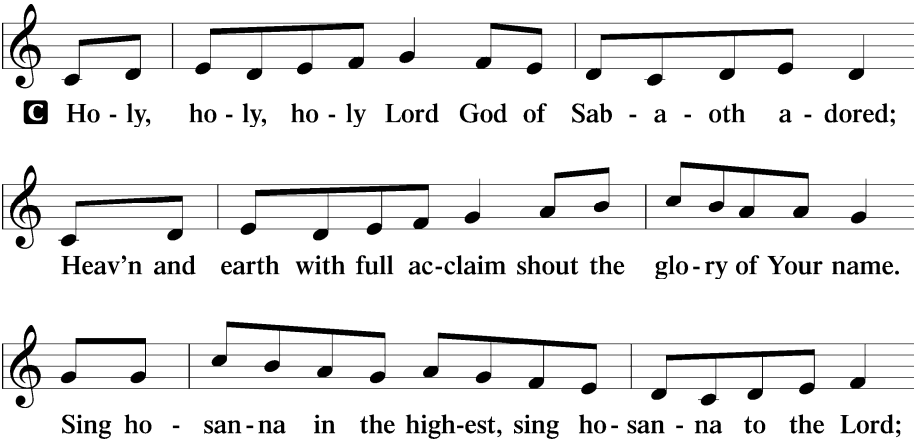
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✙ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192

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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

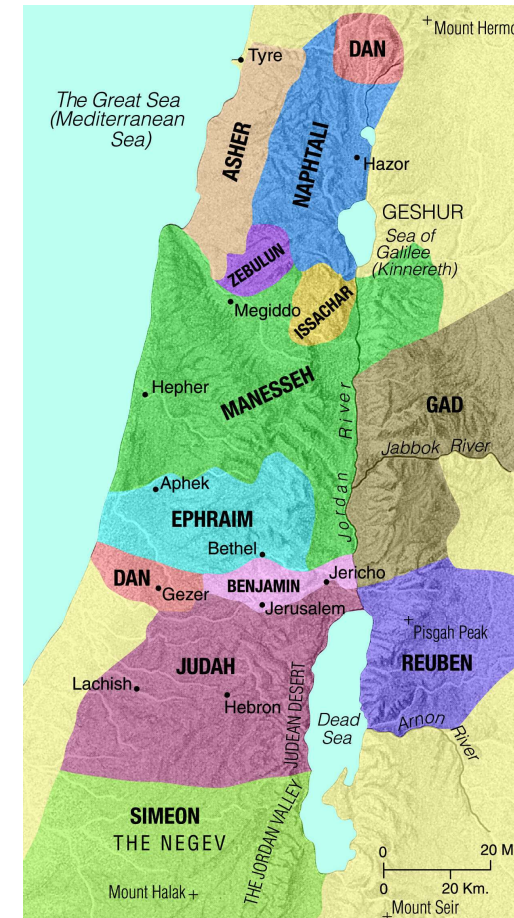
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

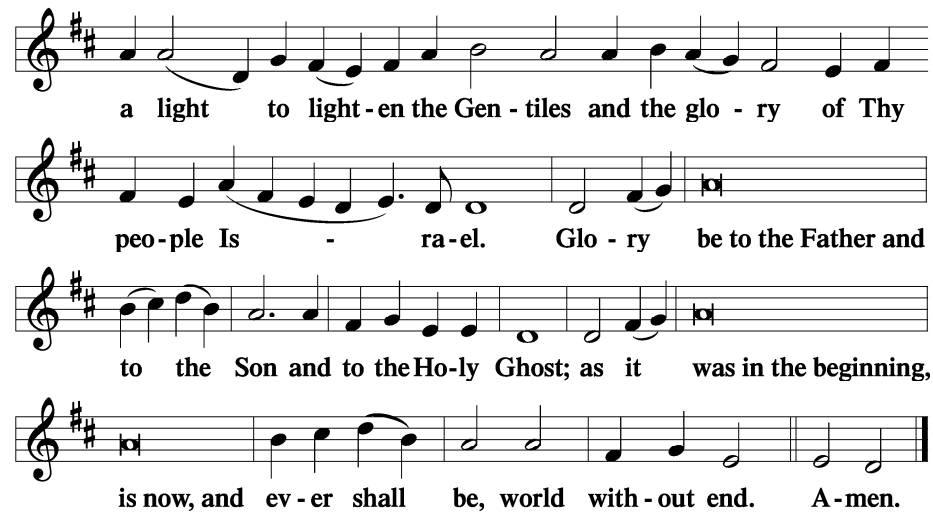
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
 and the staff for his shoulder,
 the rod of his oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
 Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

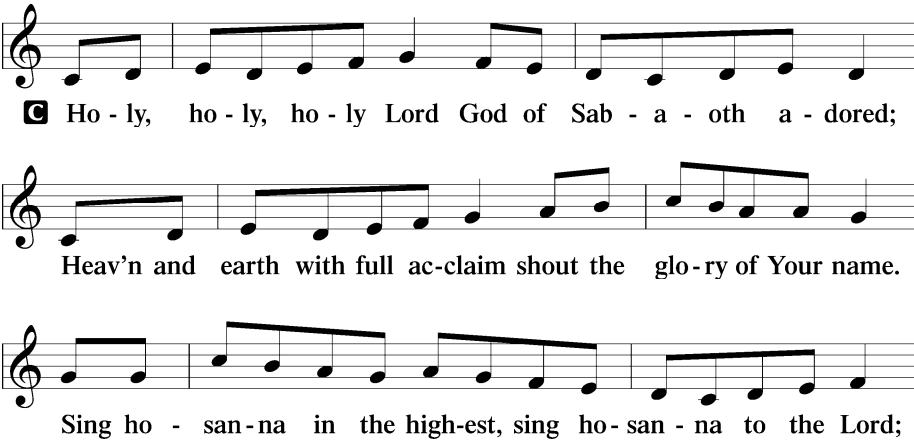
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✙ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55) for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

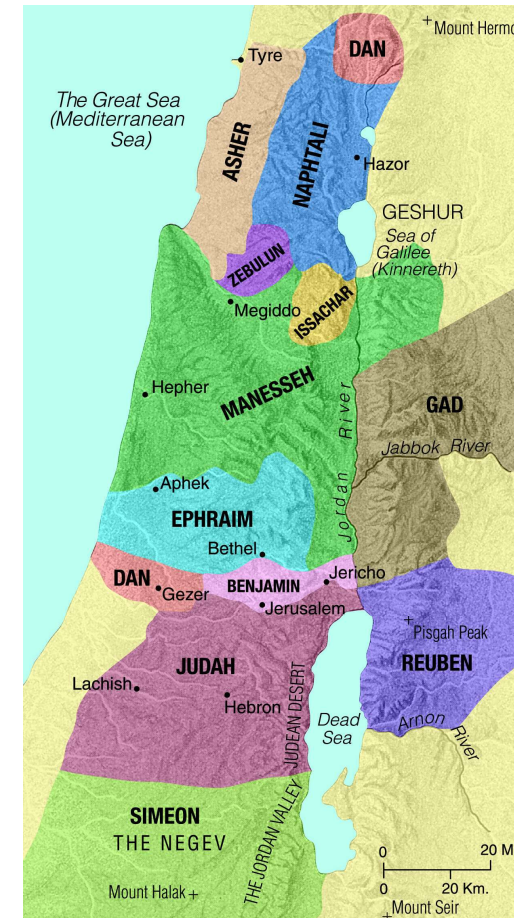
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

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

- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
C Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
P Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

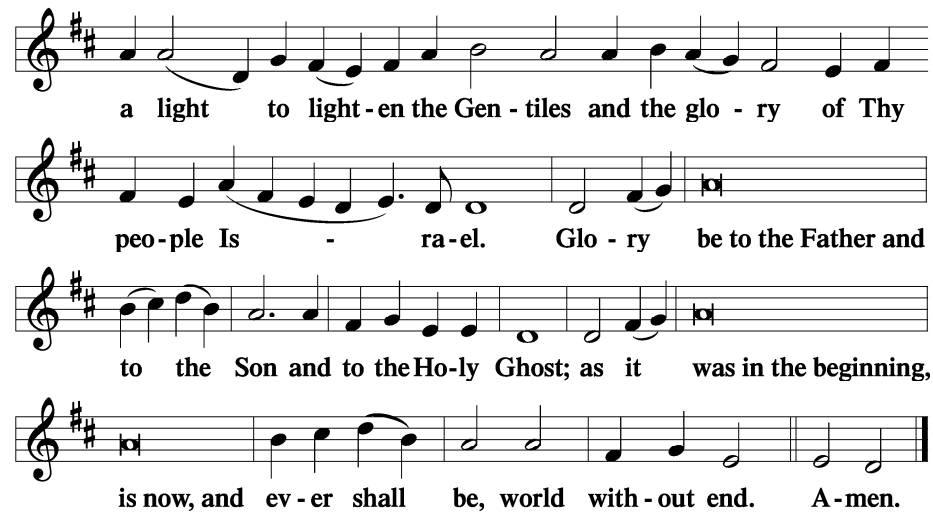
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
 and the staff for his shoulder,
 the rod of his oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
 Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

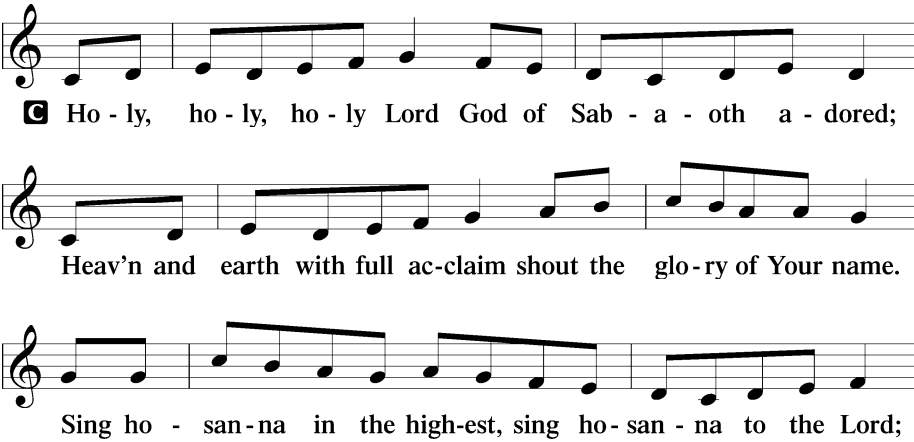
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55) for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

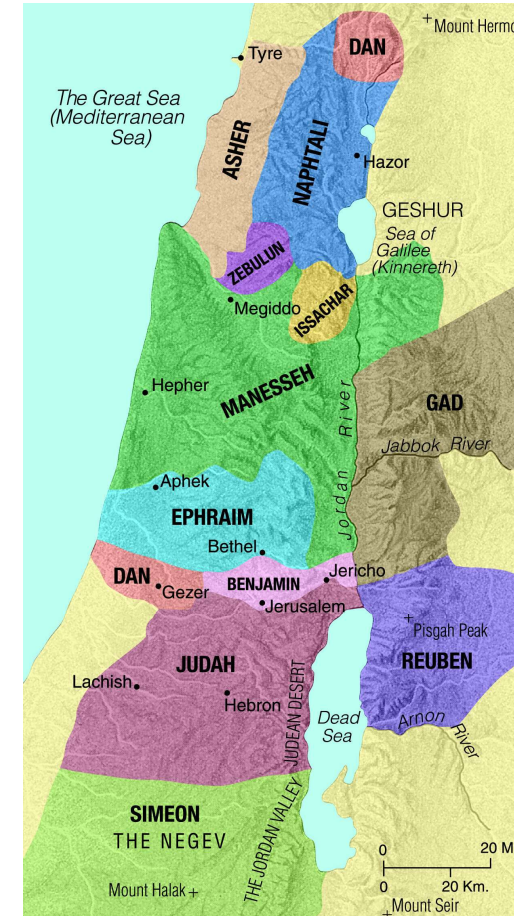
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

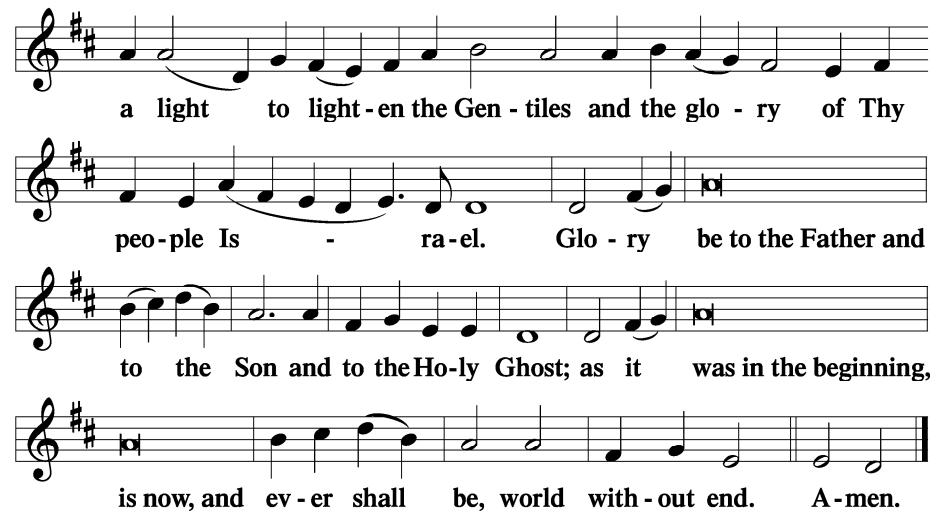
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

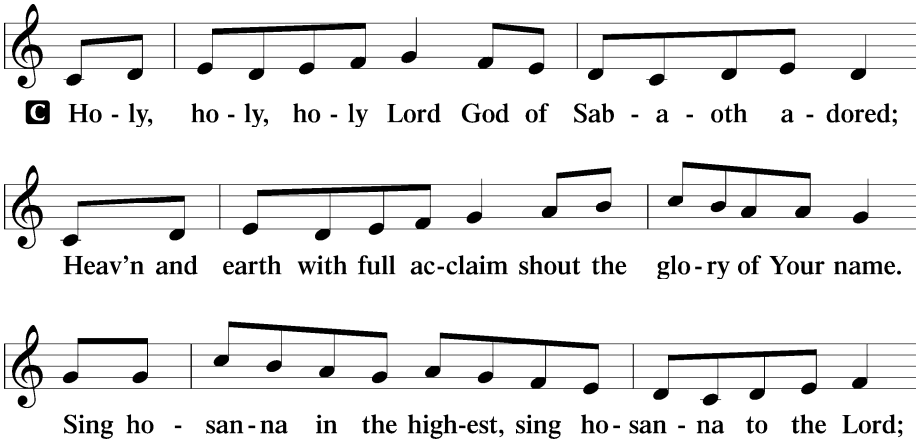
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✙ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

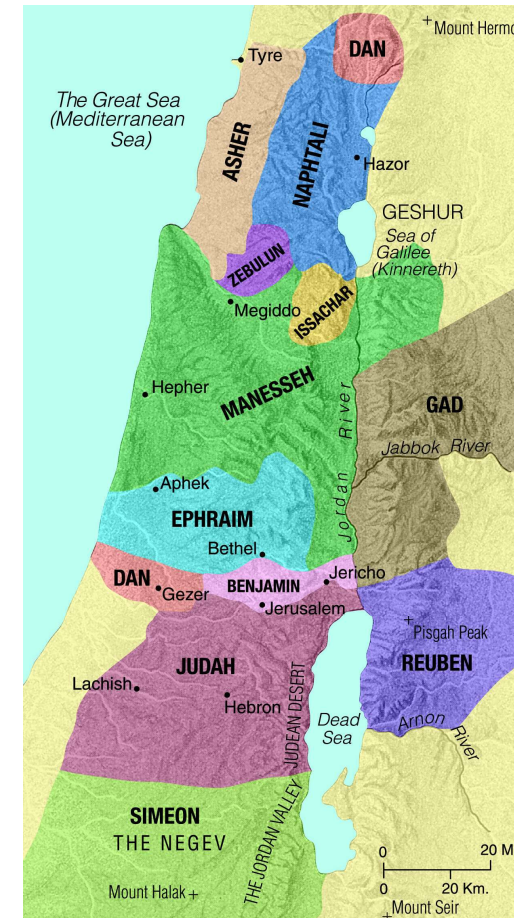
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

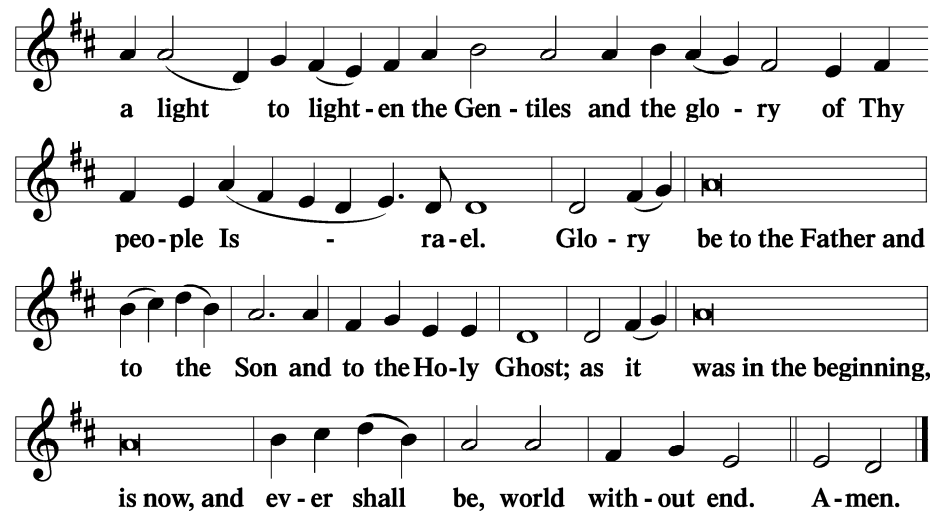
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

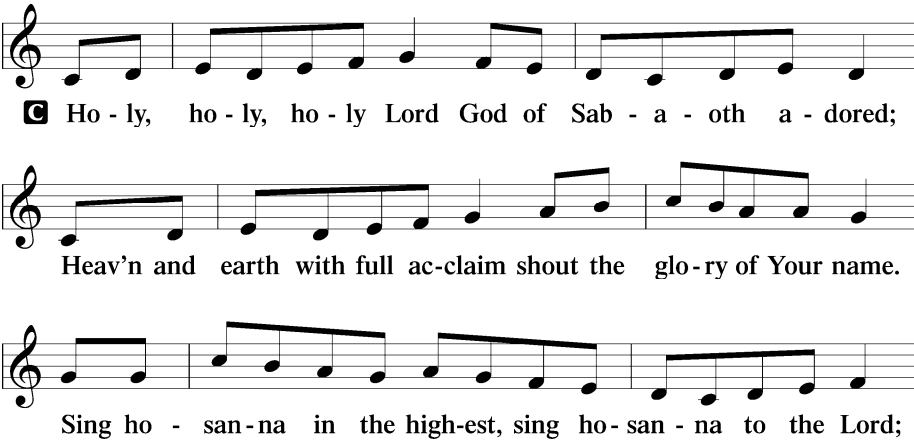
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)" for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

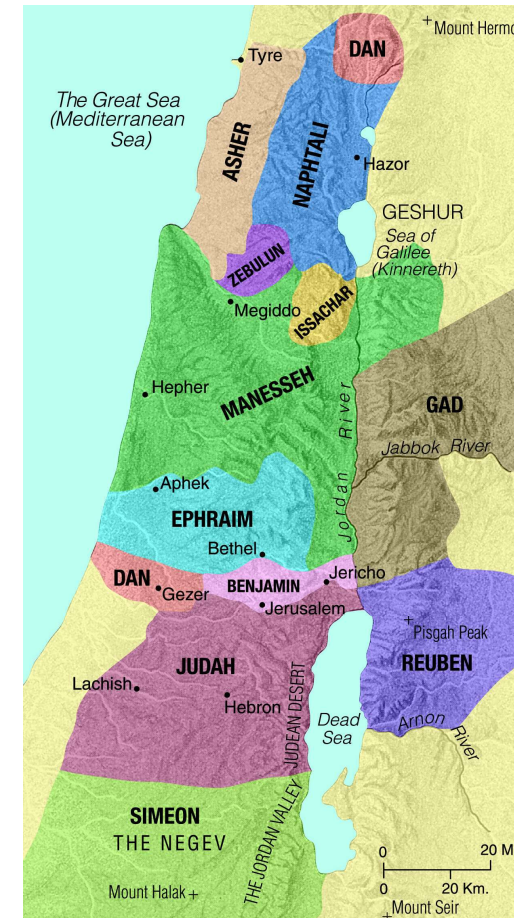
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

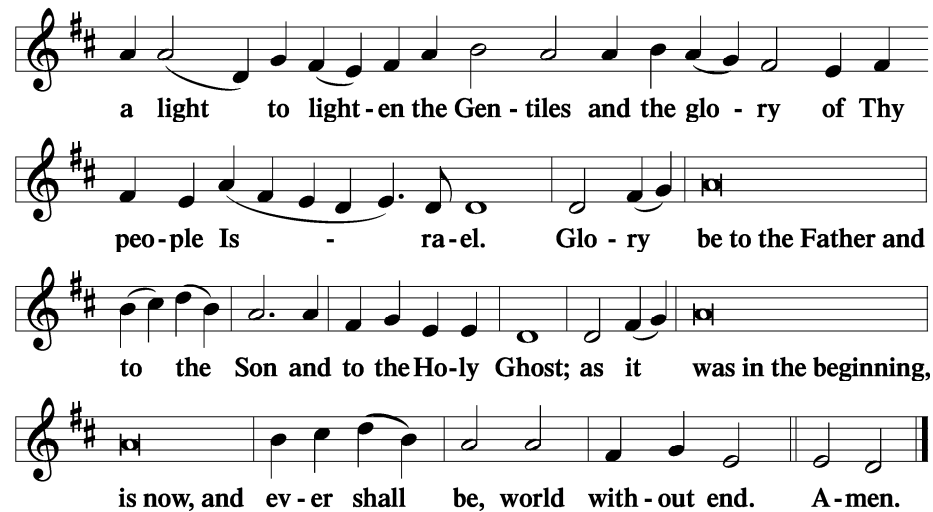
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

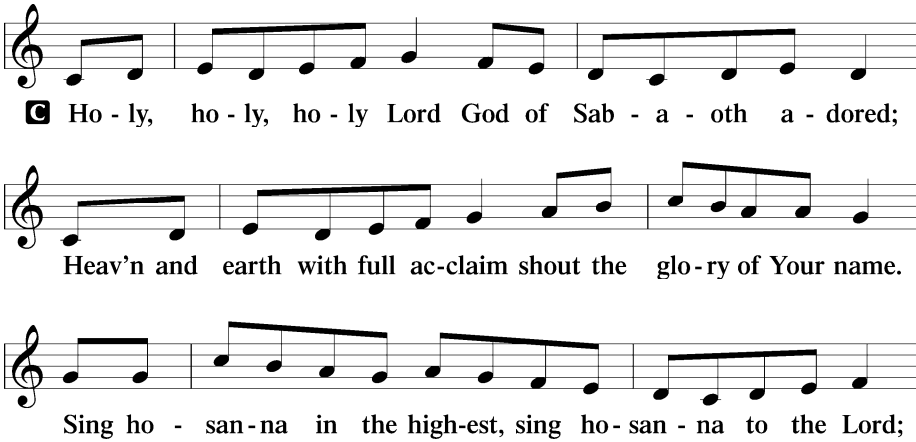
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)" for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✝ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✝ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

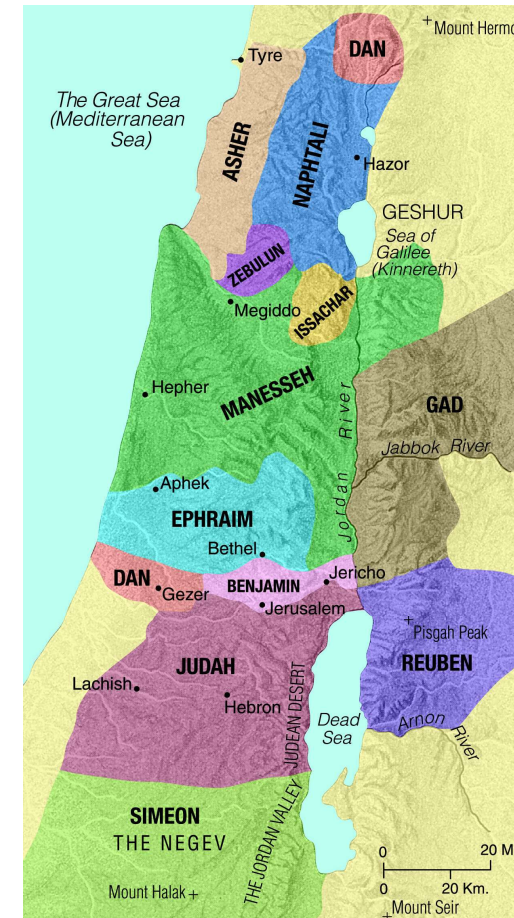
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

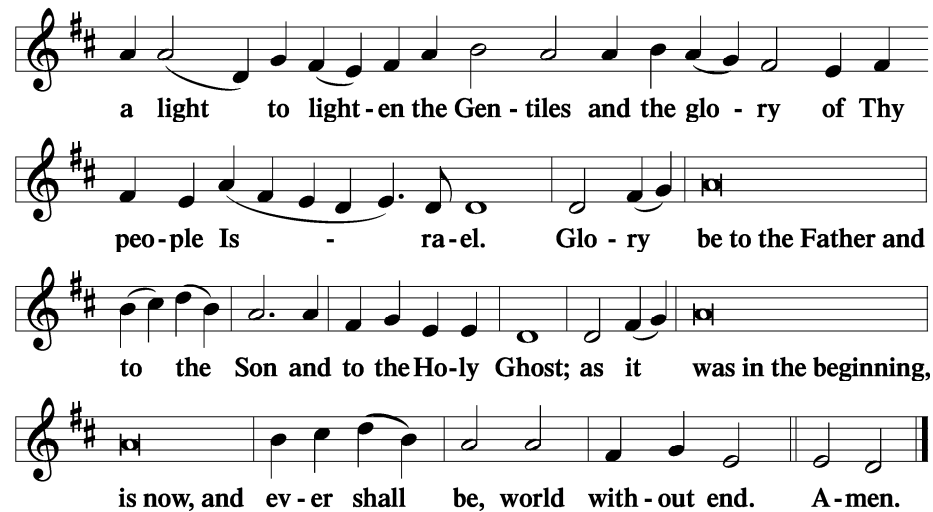
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

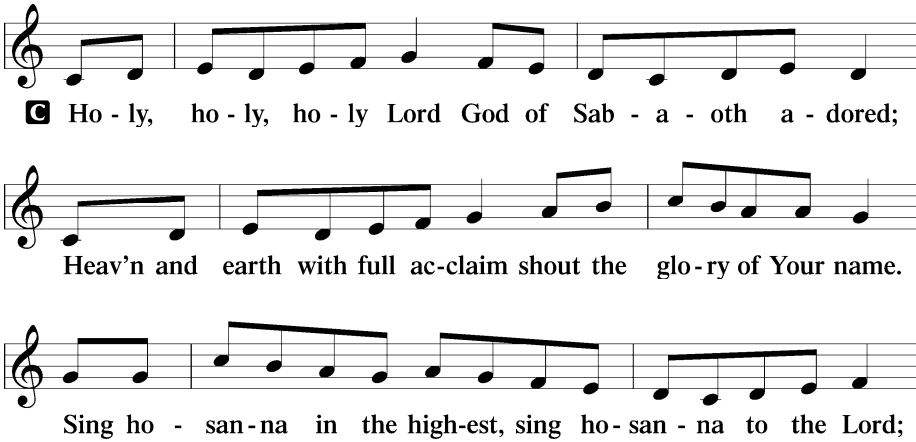
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192

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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

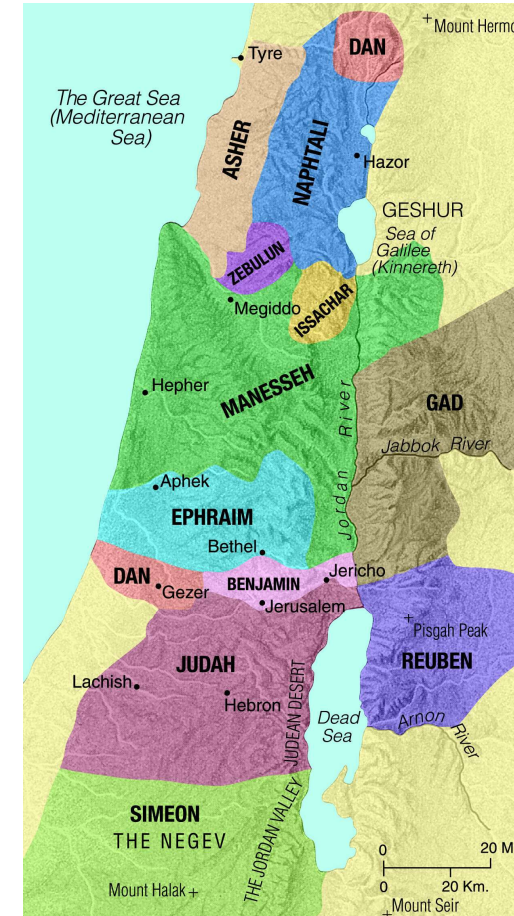
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about

a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers; *
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204

C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

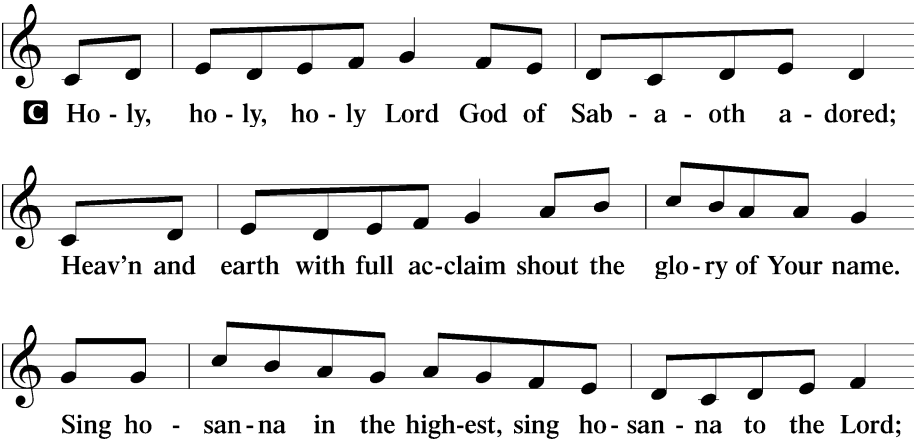
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

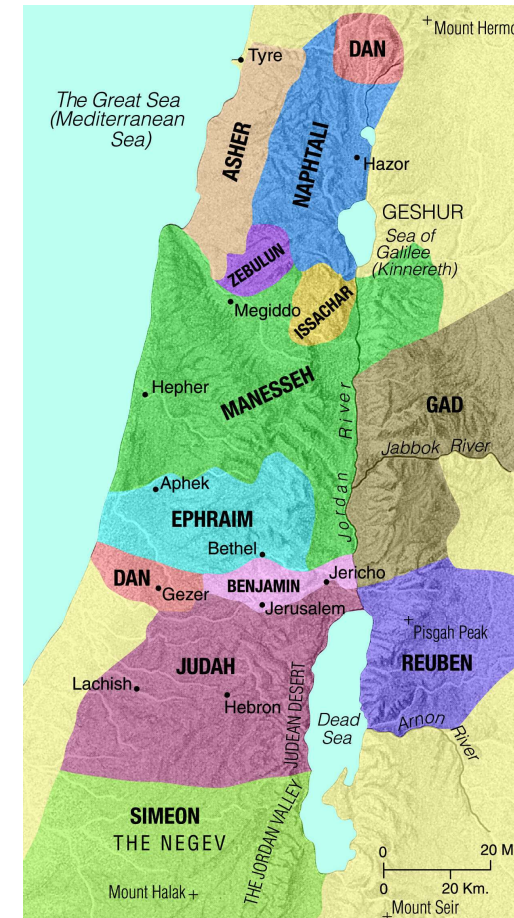
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

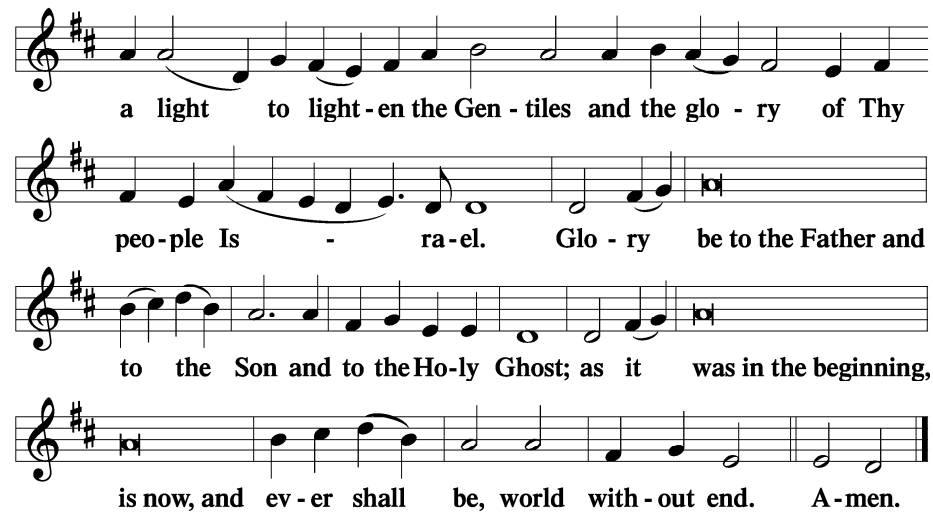
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

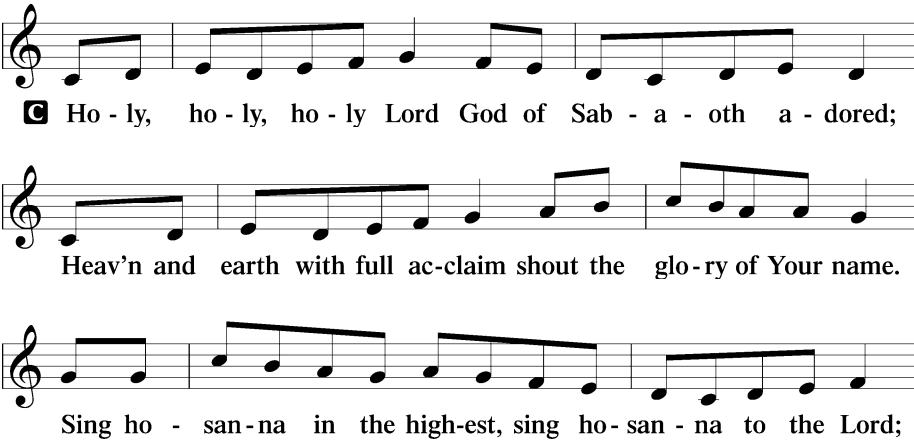
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192

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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✝ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✝ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

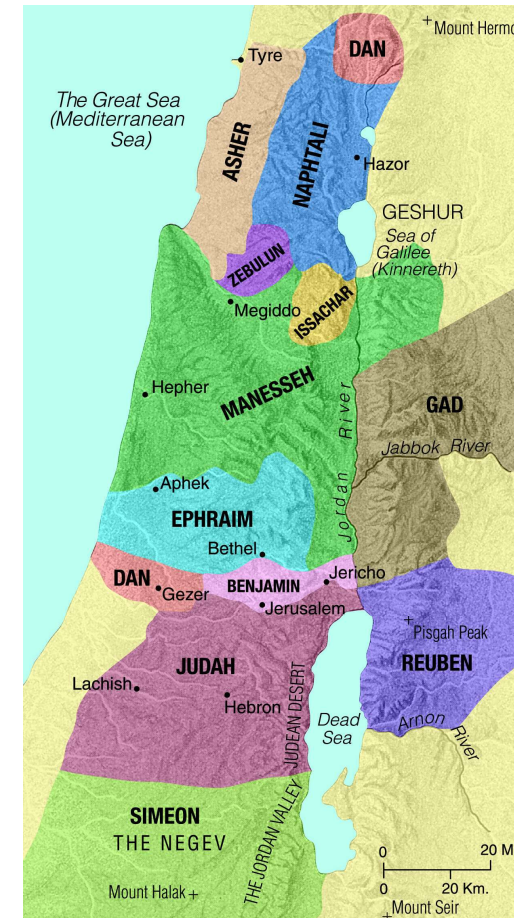
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

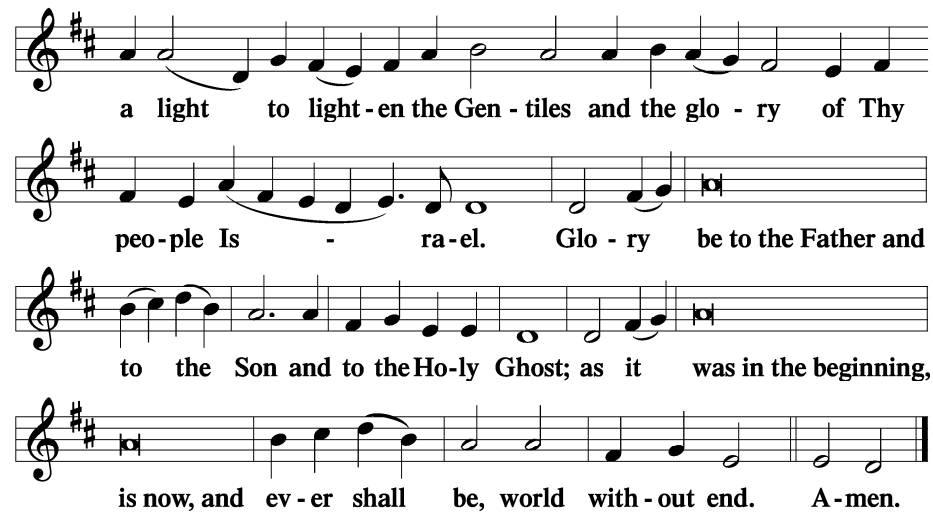
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

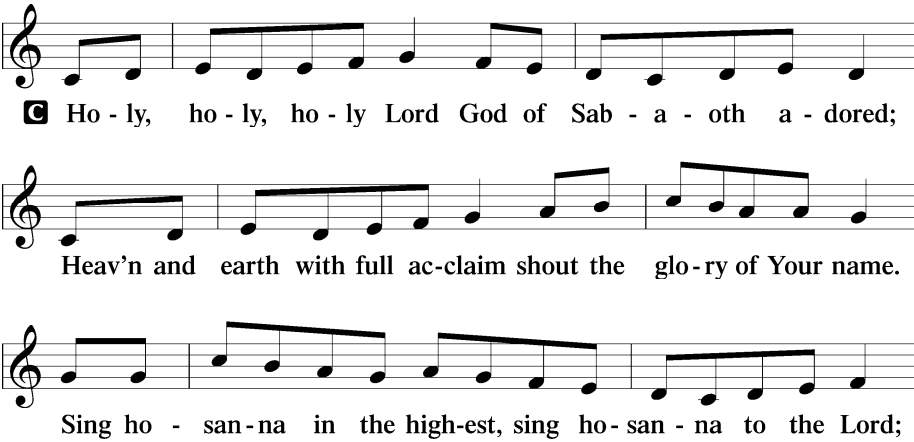
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

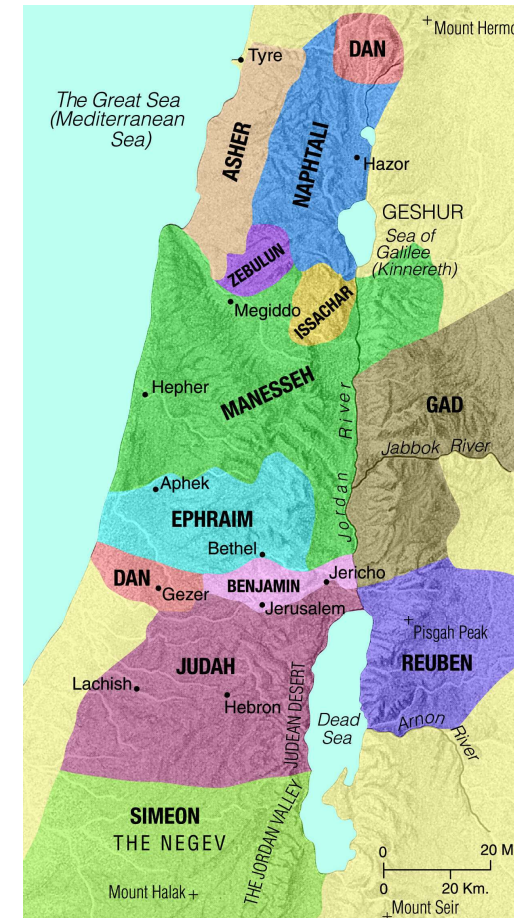
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

- P** Now, let us follow Him!
- 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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
 For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
 and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
 Posterity shall | serve him;*
 it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about

a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204

C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

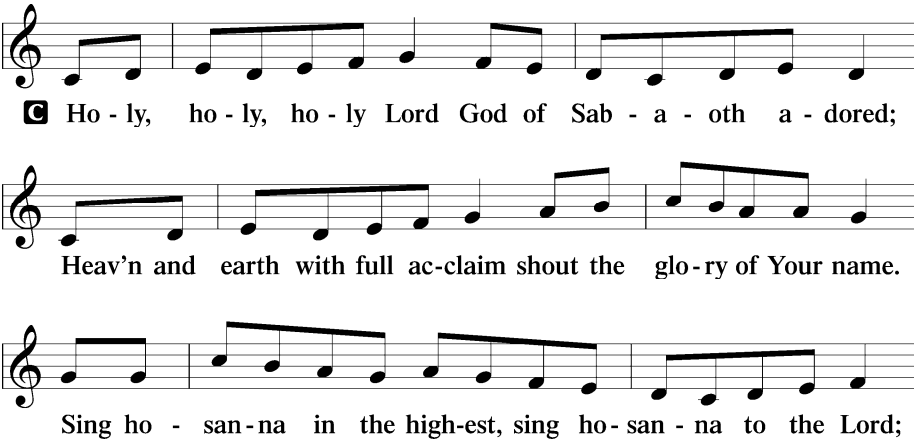
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192

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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism).”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

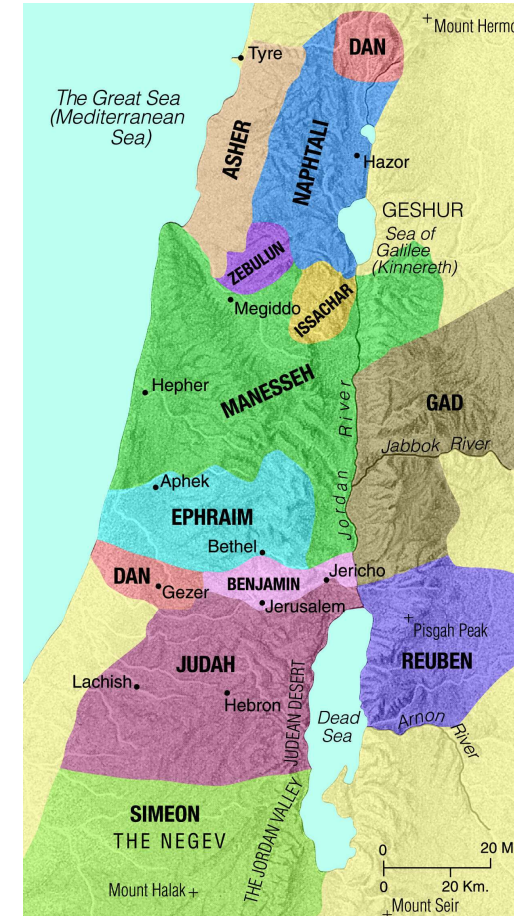
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about

a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204

C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

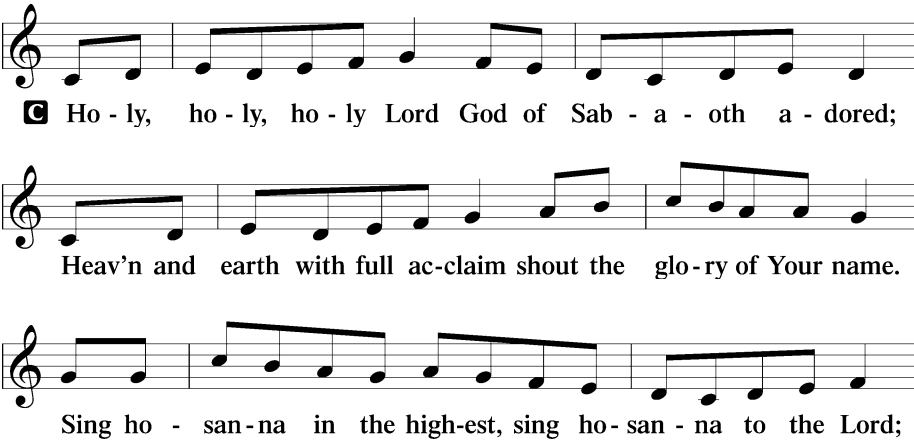
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192

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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

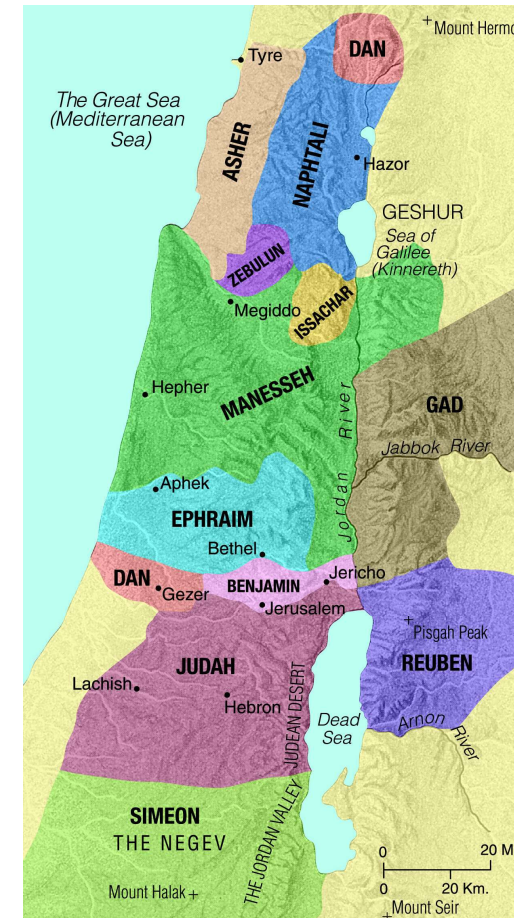
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about

a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204

C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

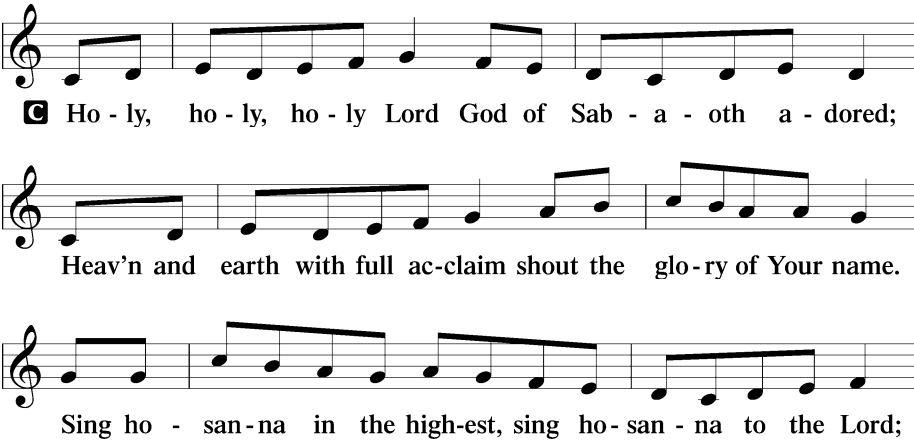
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✙ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)" for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

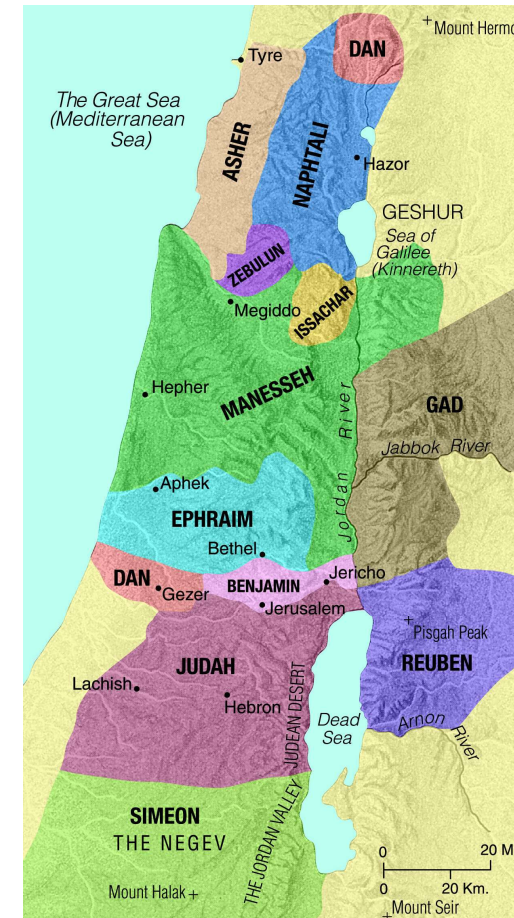
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

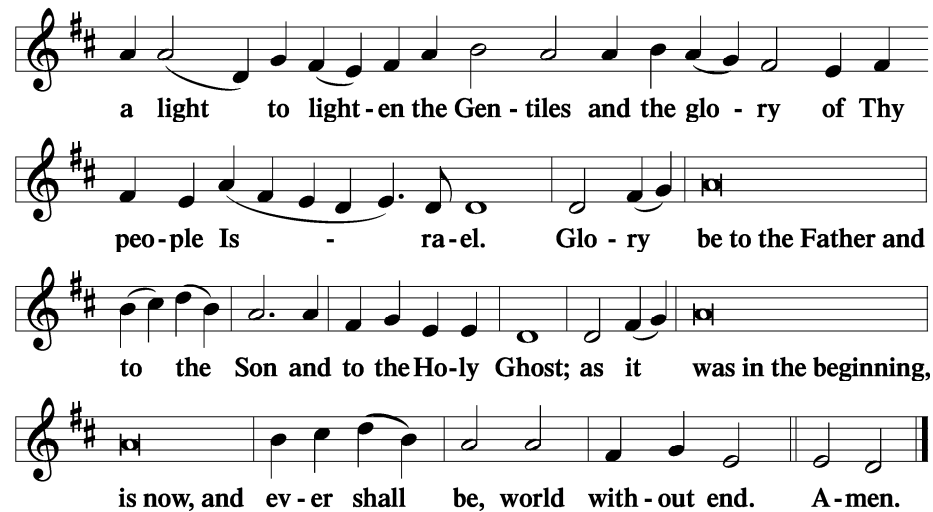
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
 and the staff for his shoulder,
 the rod of his oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
 Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

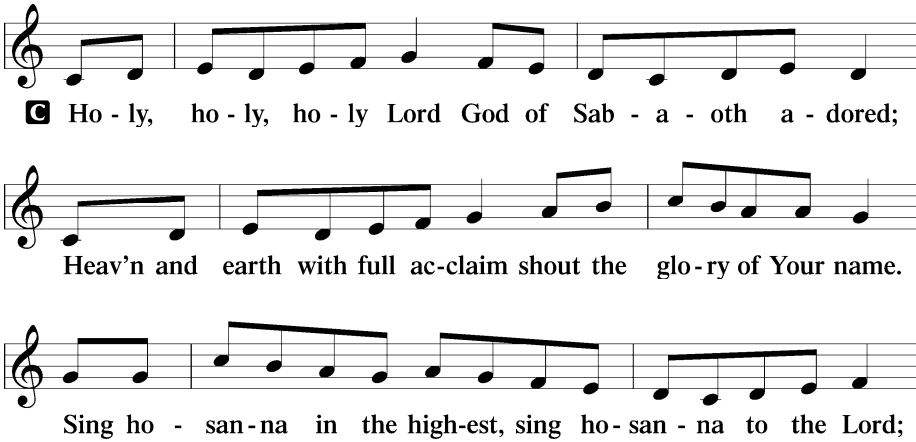
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✙ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

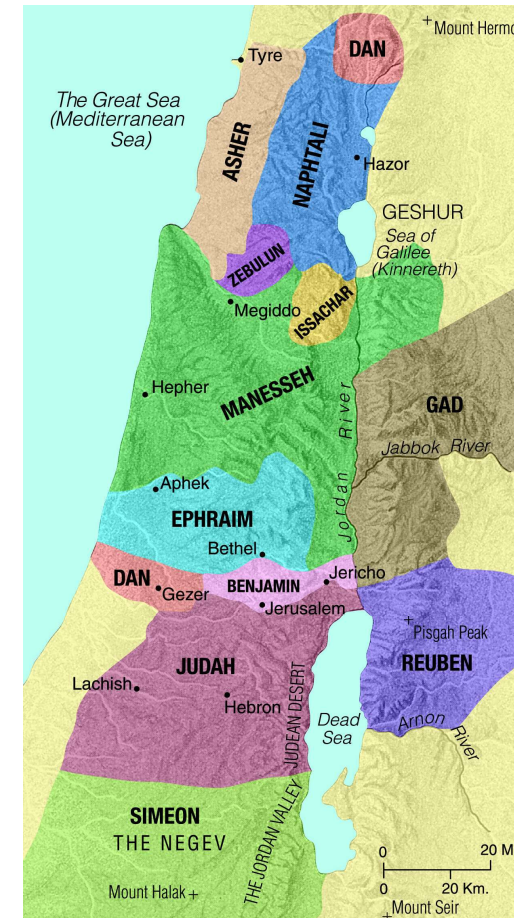
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

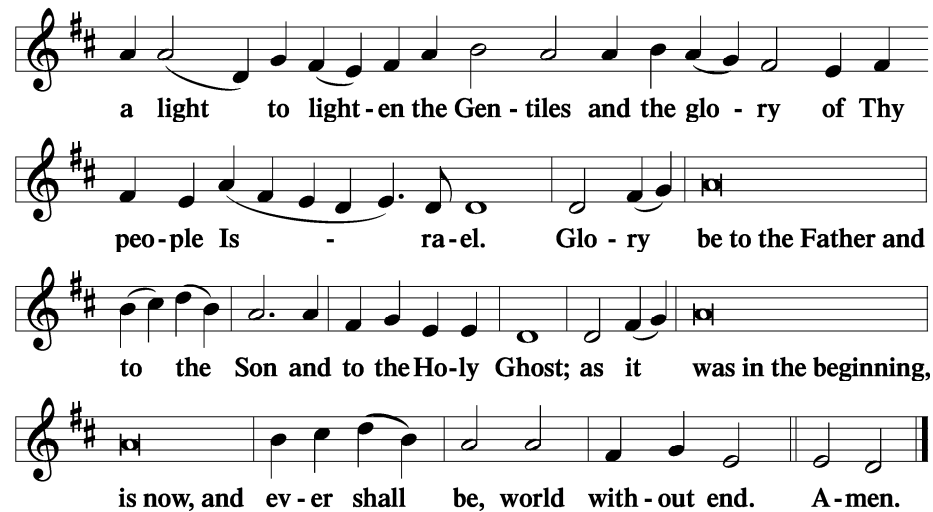
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
 and the staff for his shoulder,
 the rod of his oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
 Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

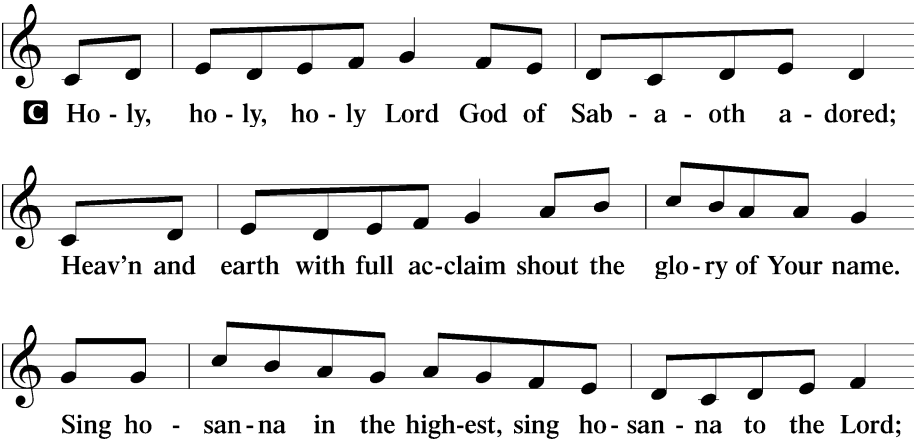
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

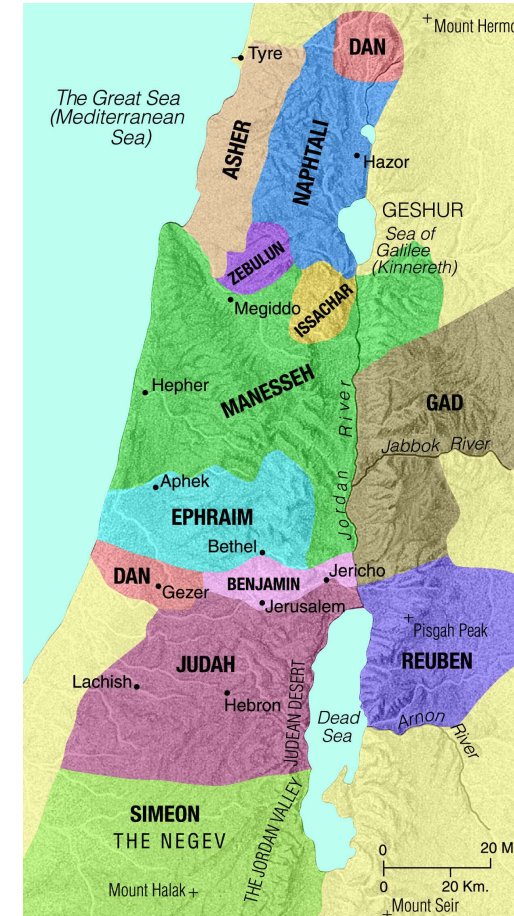
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about

a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204

C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
 and the staff for his shoulder,
 the rod of his oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
 Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

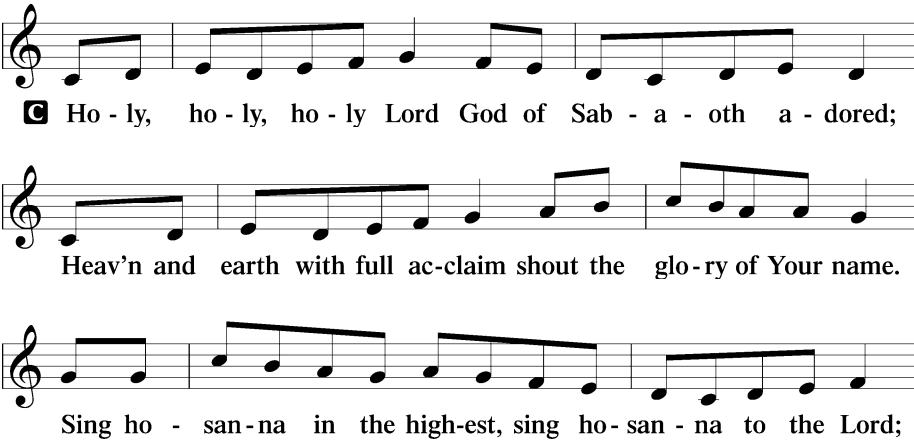
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192

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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

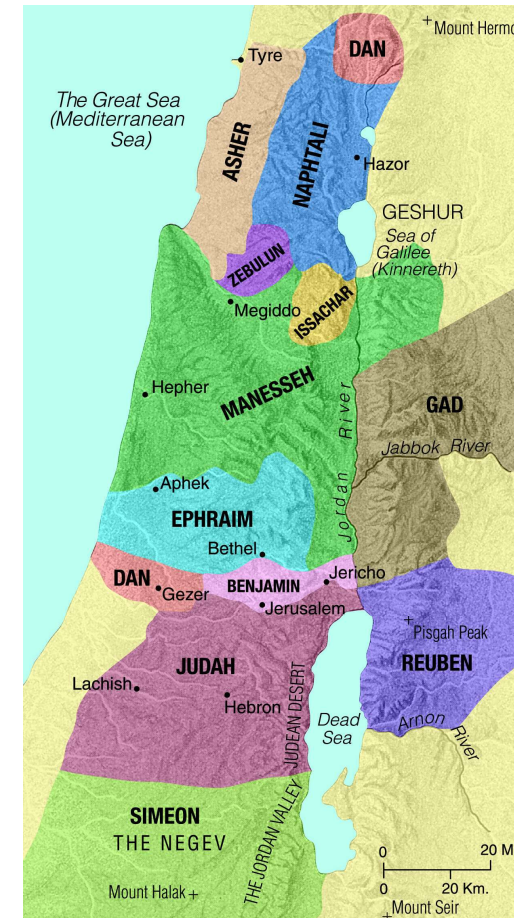
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

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

- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
C Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
P Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

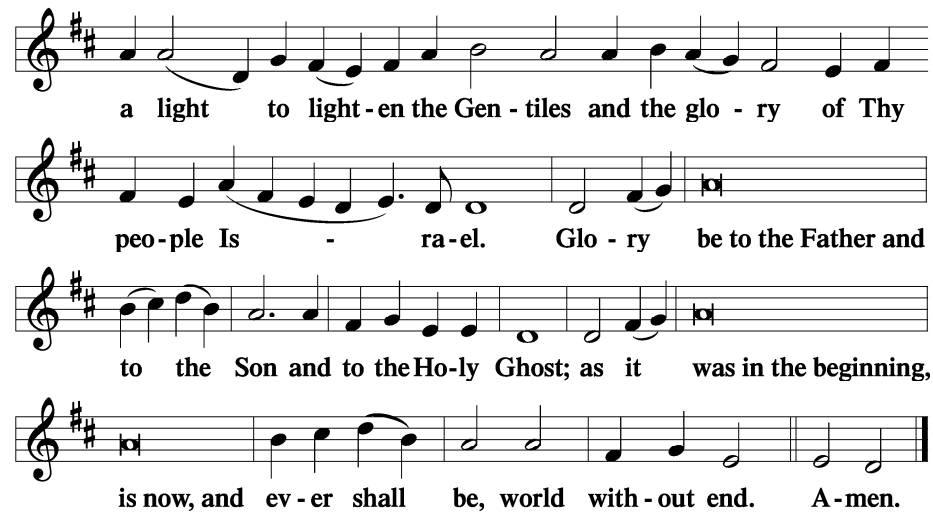
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

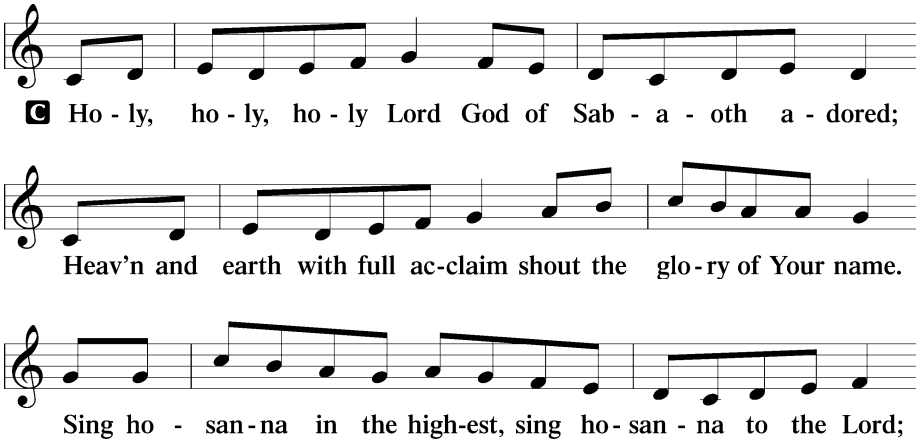
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✙ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

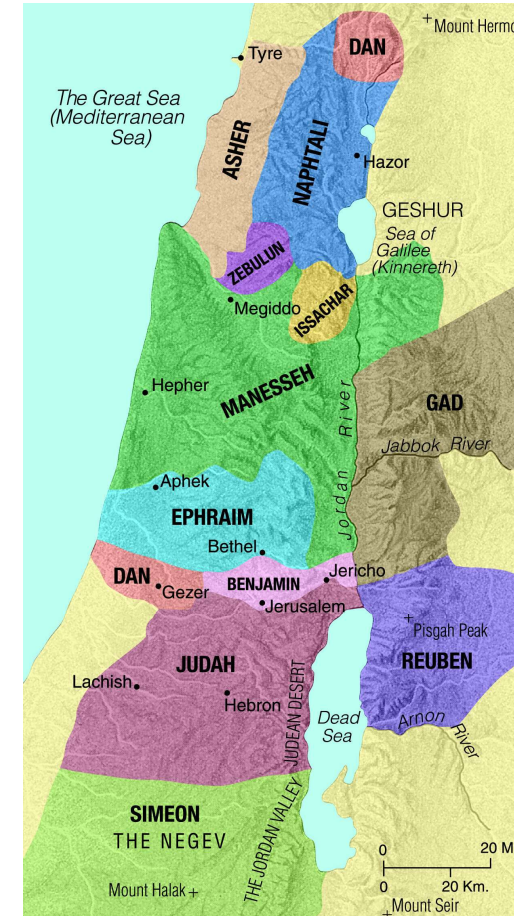
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

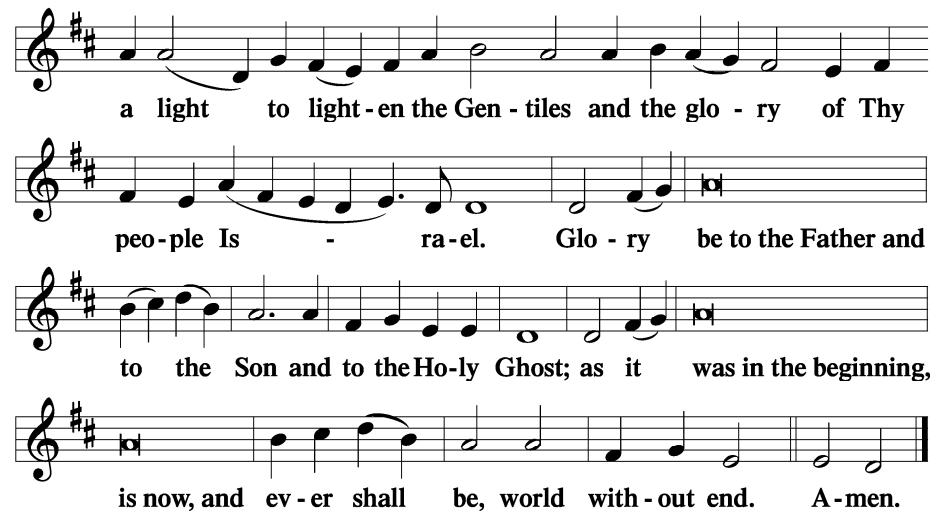
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

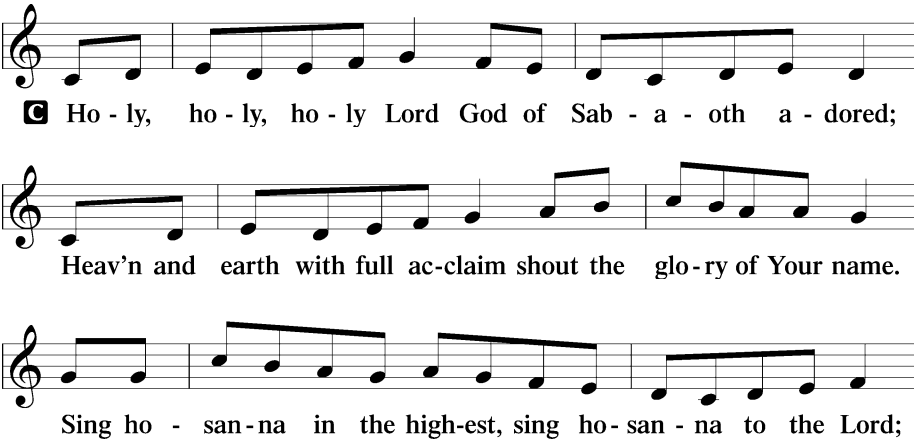
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

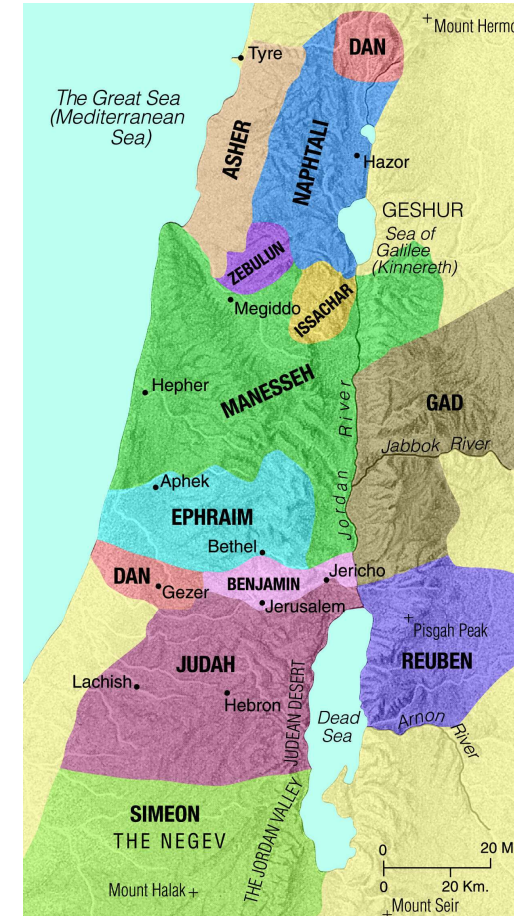
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

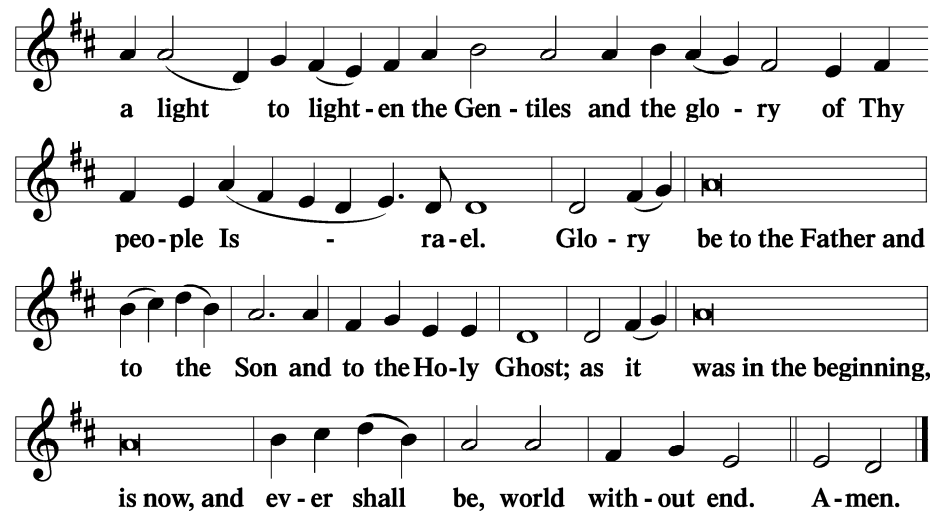
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

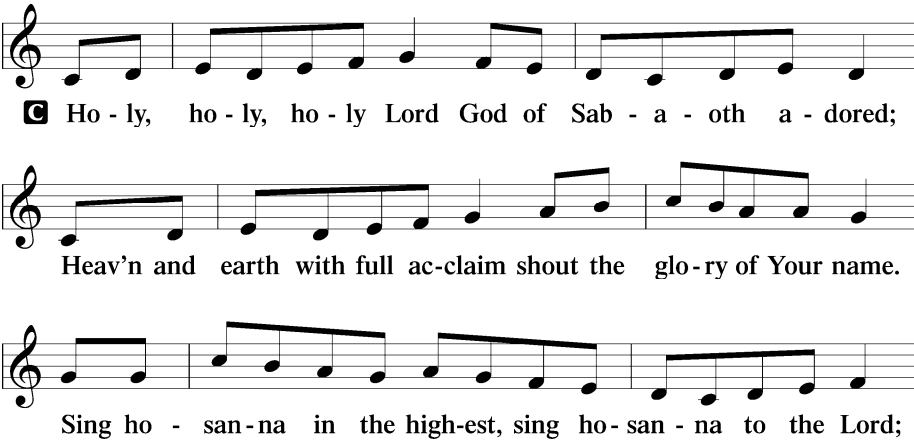
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)" for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

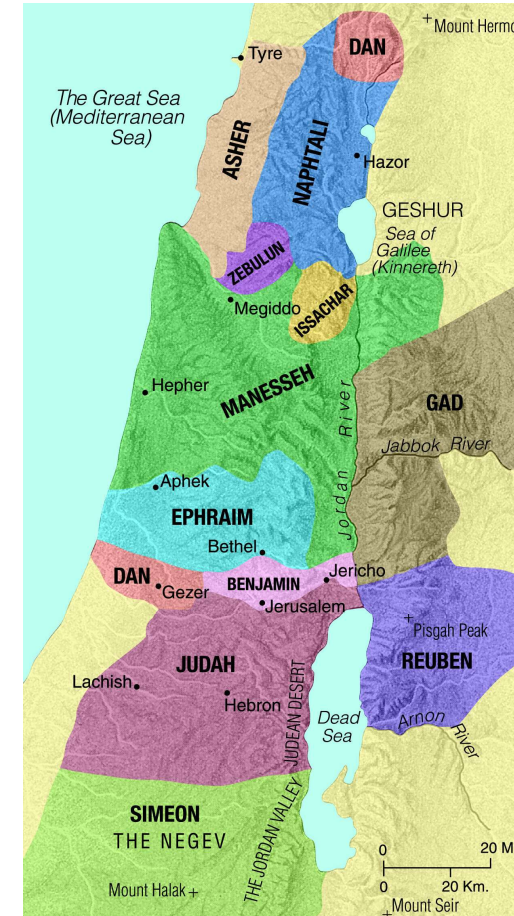
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

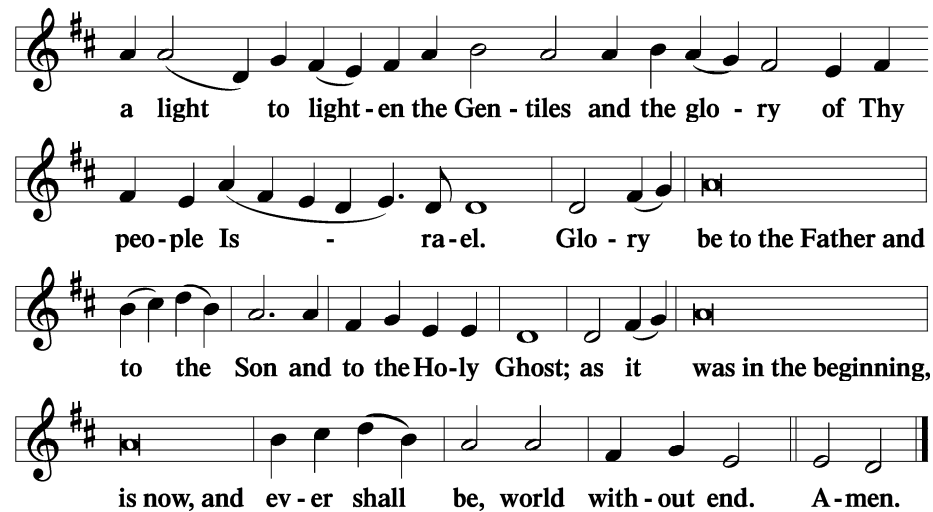
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
 and the staff for his shoulder,
 the rod of his oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

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

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

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

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
 world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
 tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.
 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
 world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
 Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
 cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
 which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

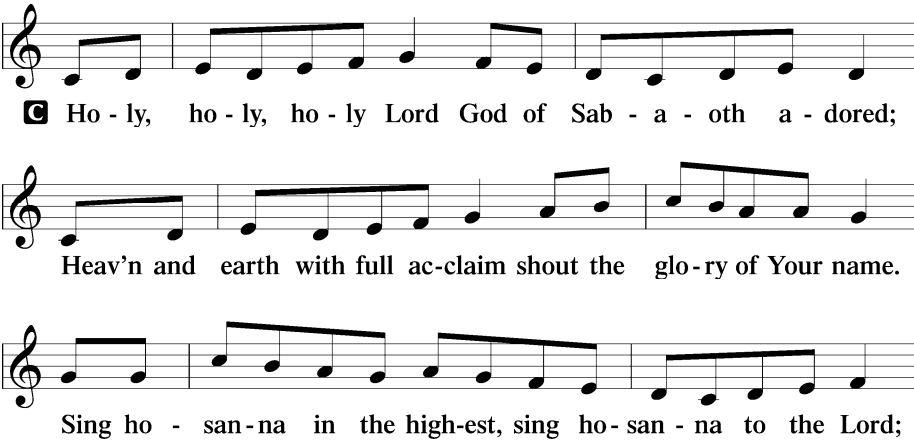
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✝ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✝ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

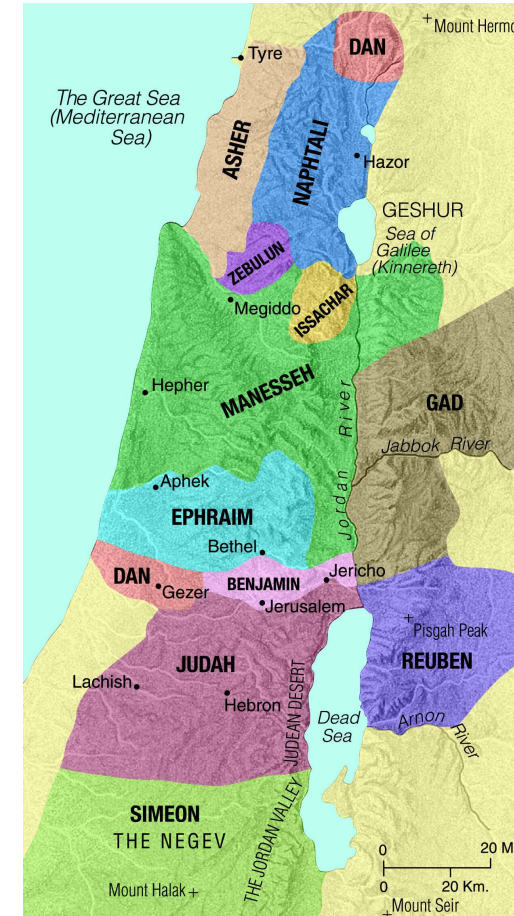
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

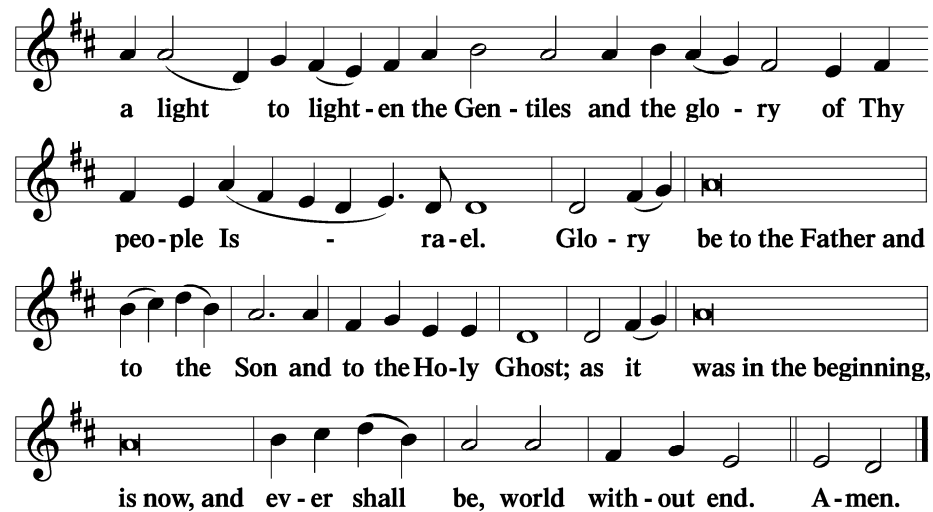
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

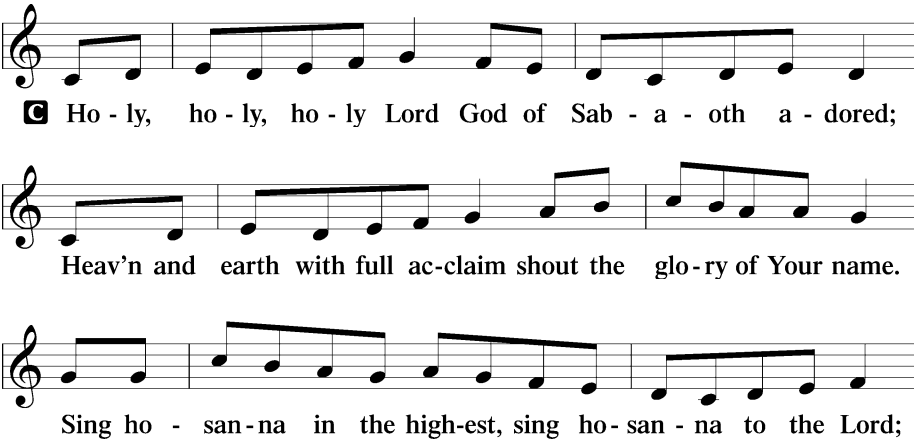
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

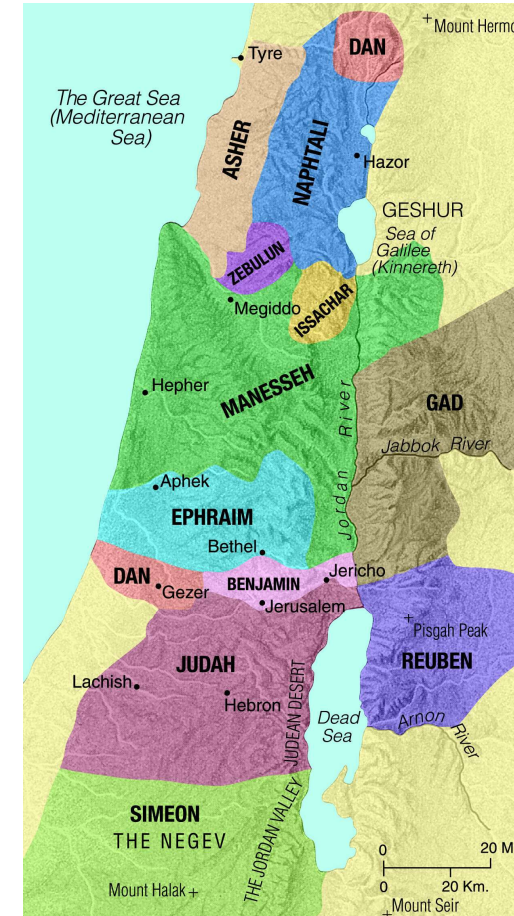
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

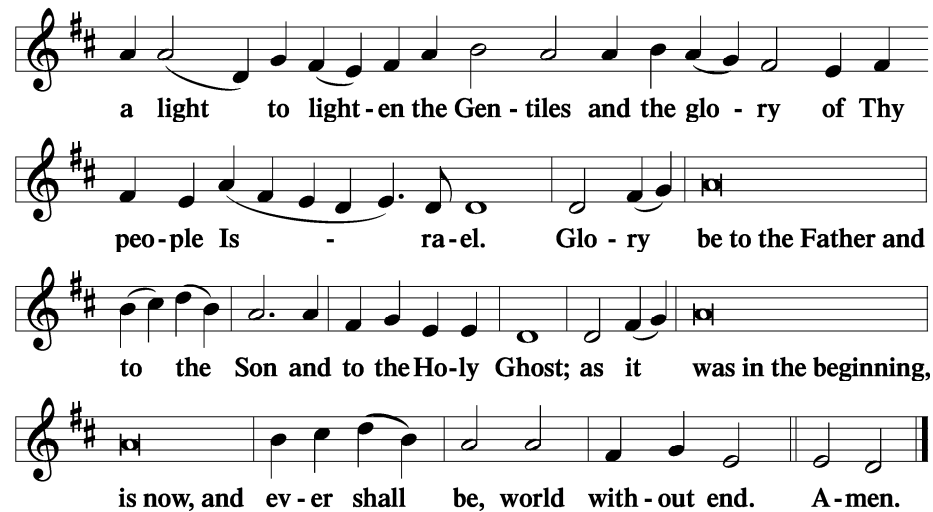
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

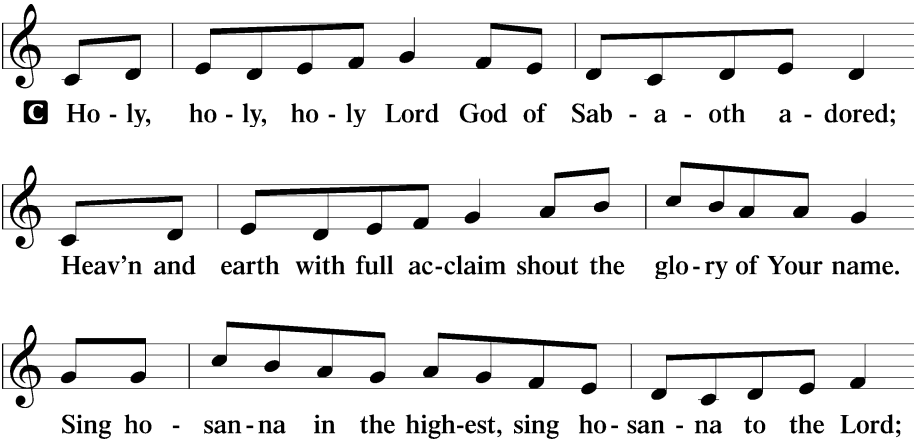
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)" for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

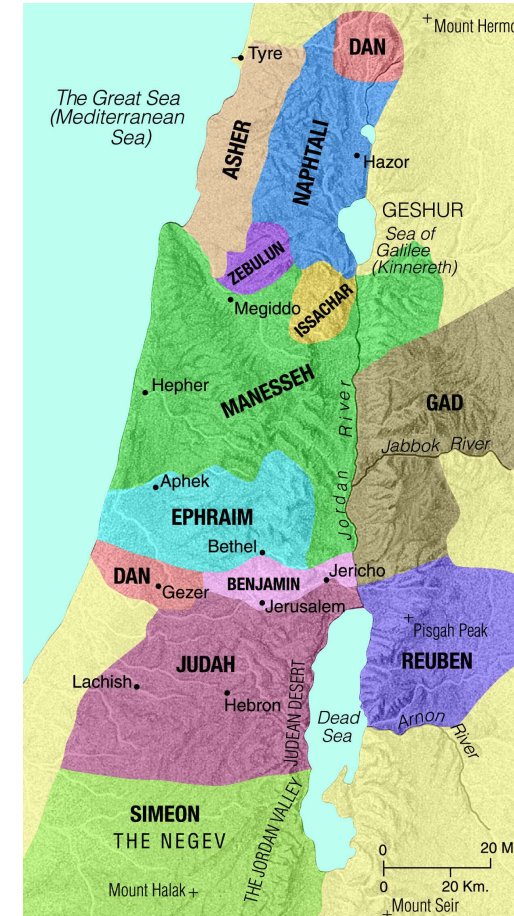
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

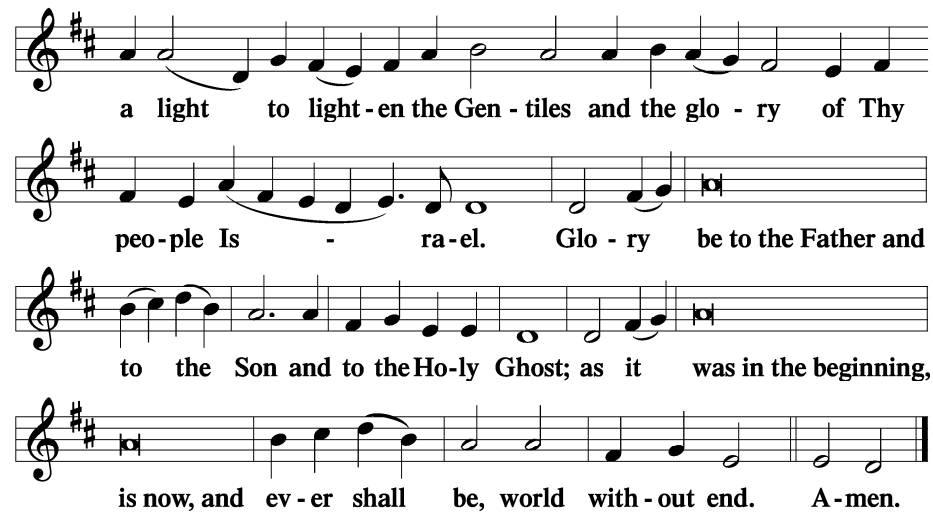
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

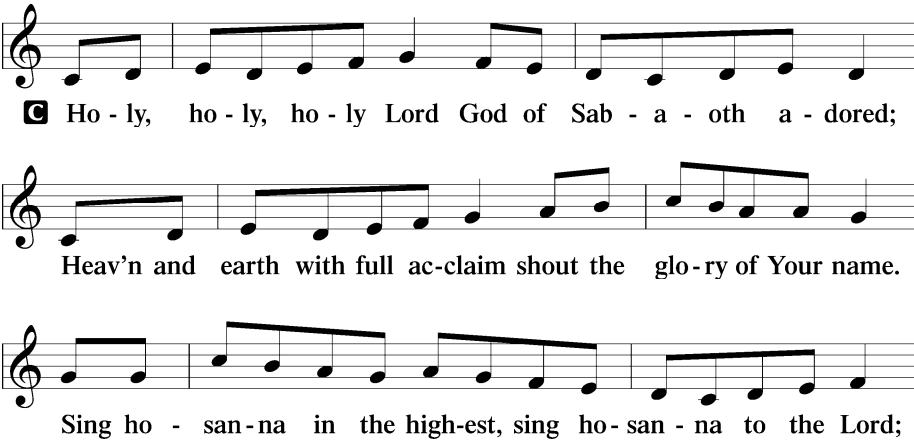
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)" for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

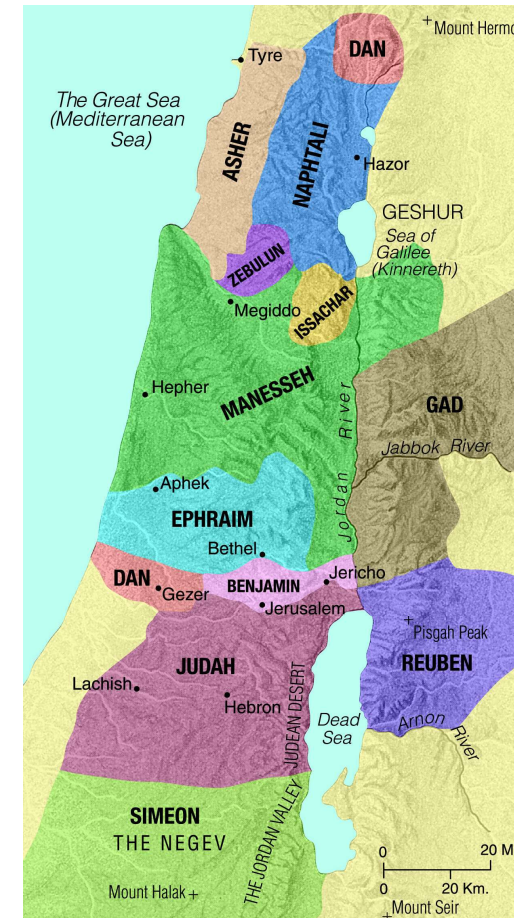
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

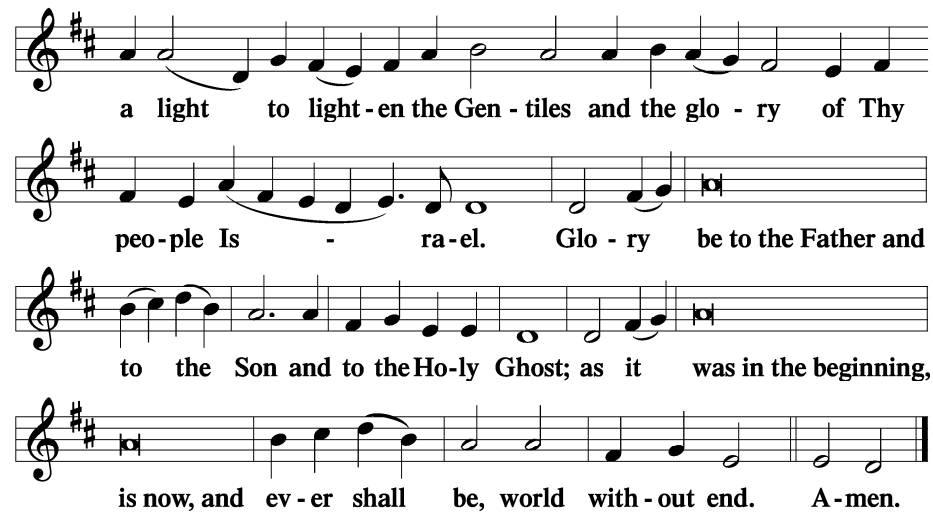
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
 and the staff for his shoulder,
 the rod of his oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
 Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

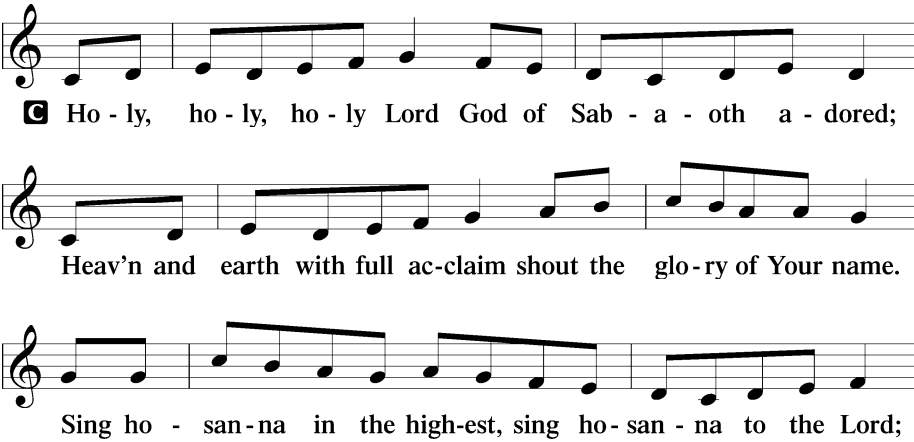
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192

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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✝ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✝ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

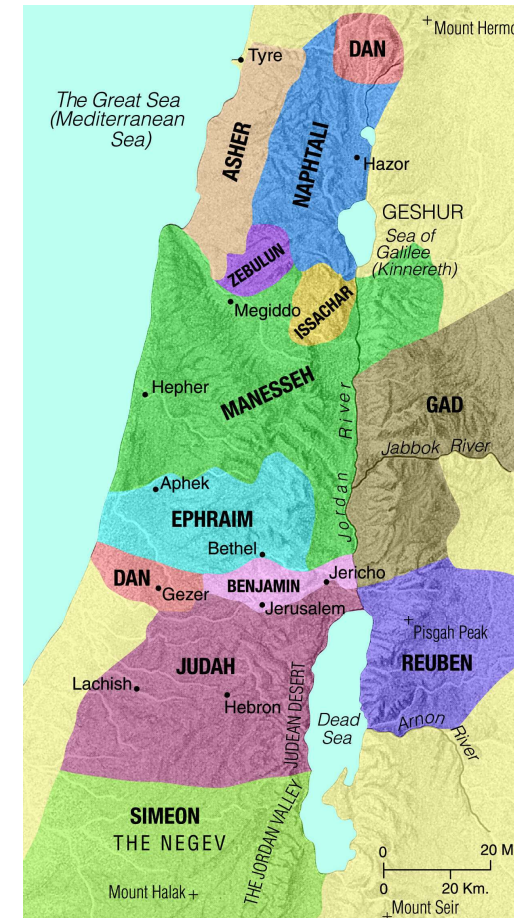
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

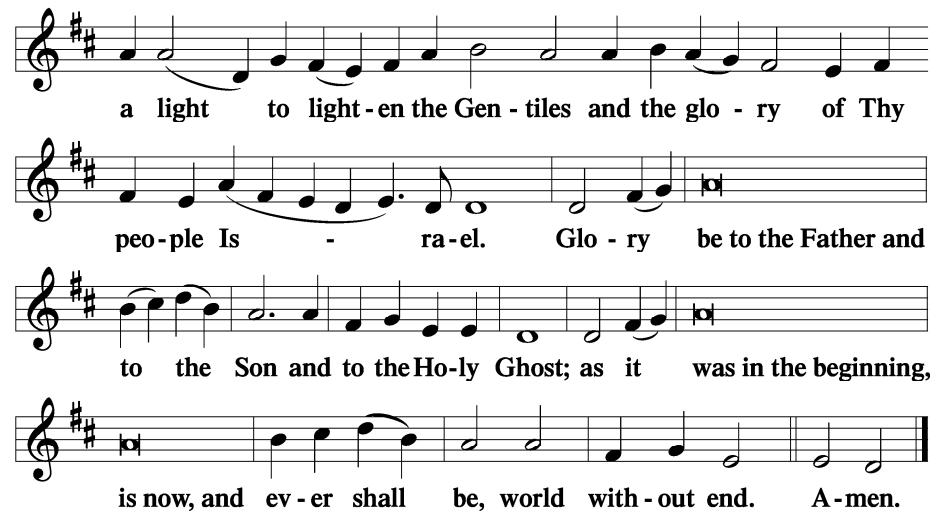
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
 and the staff for his shoulder,
 the rod of his oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
 Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

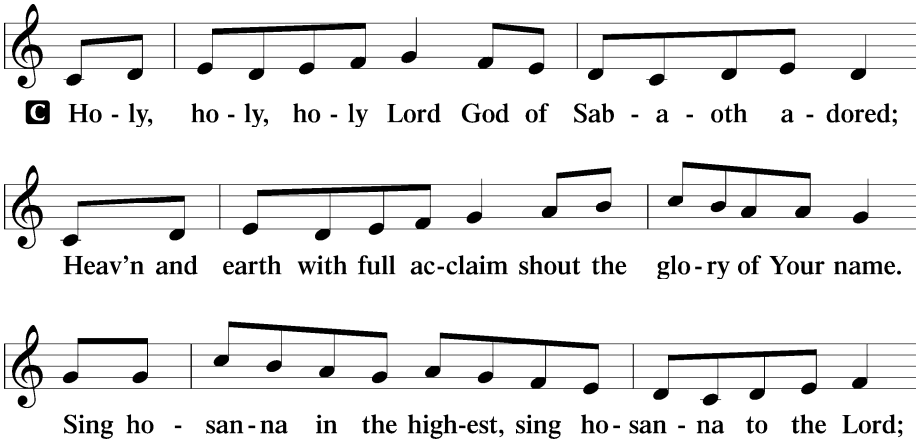
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✙ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✝ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✝ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

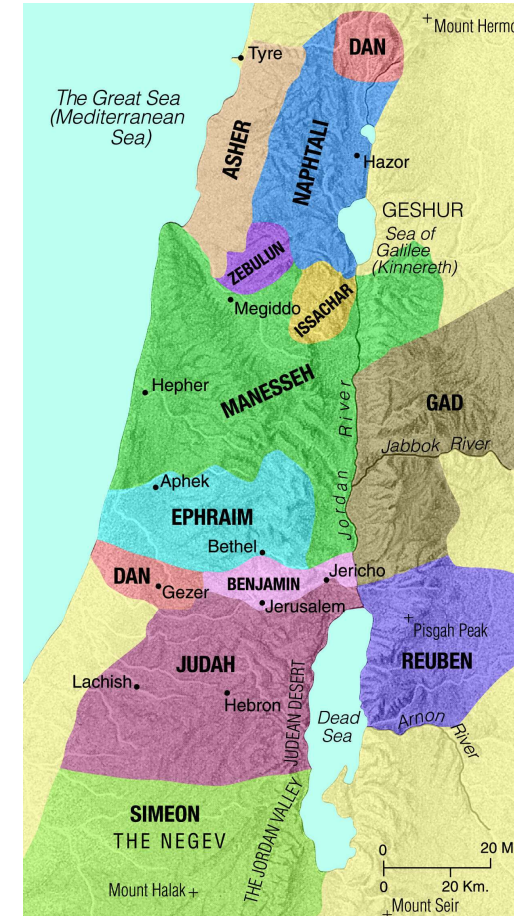
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

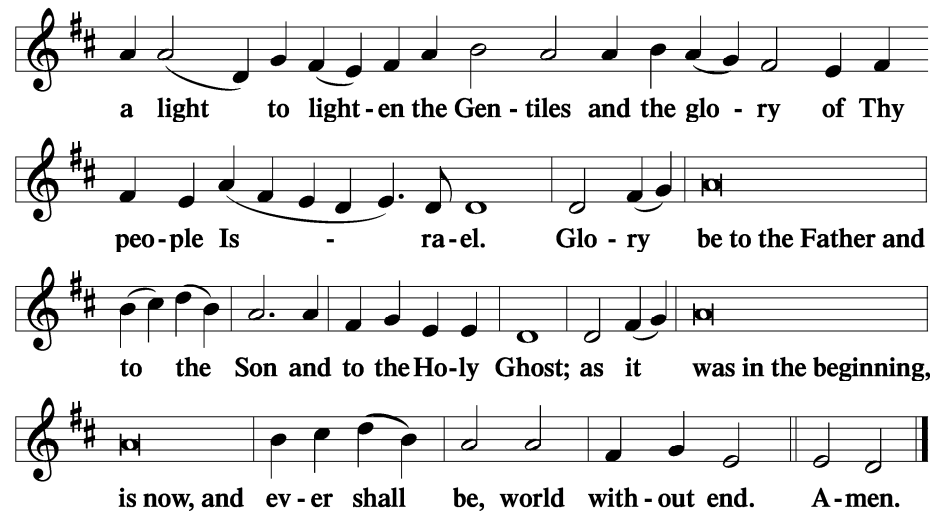
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
 and the staff for his shoulder,
 the rod of his oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
 Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

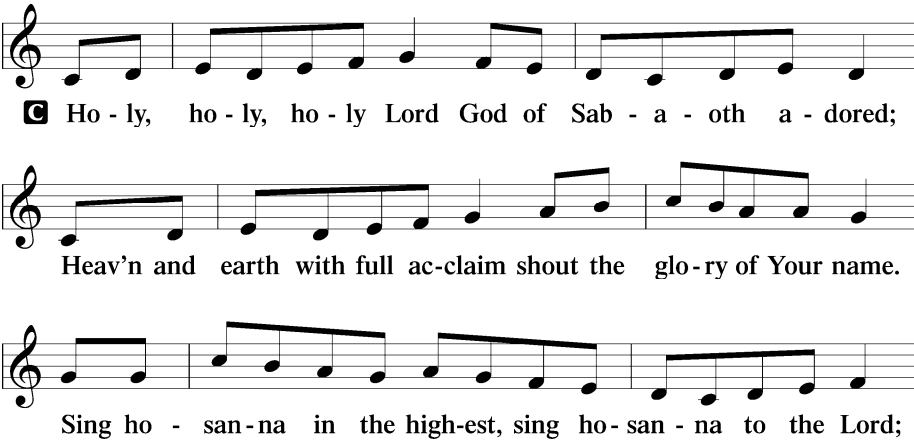
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism).”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

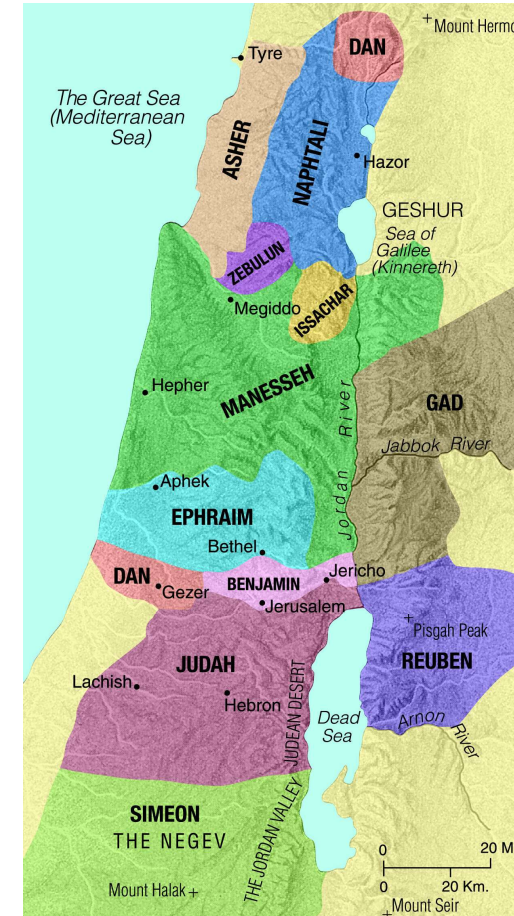
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

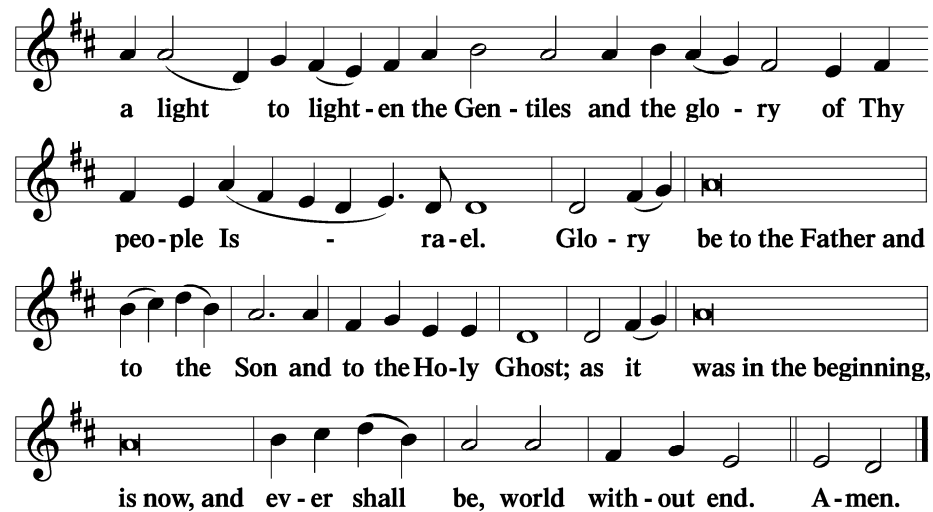
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

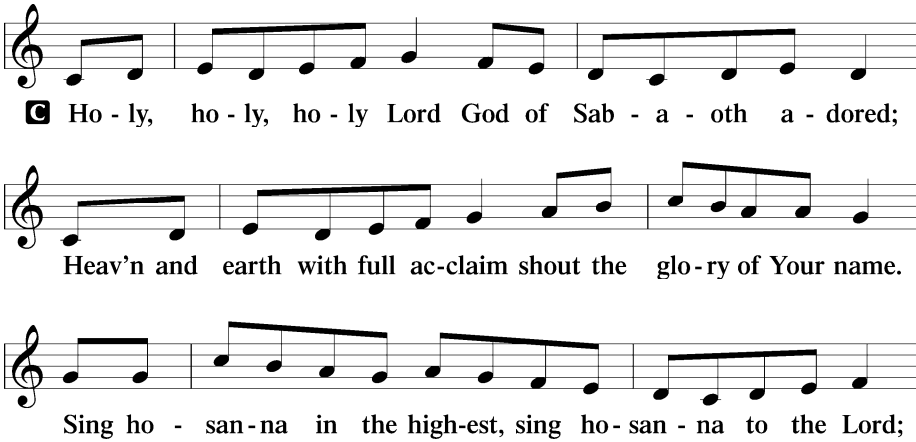
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55) for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

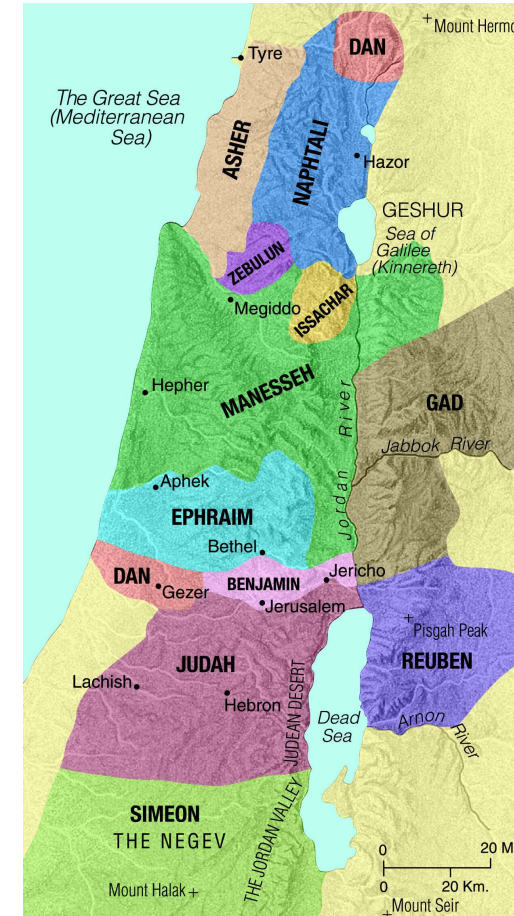
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

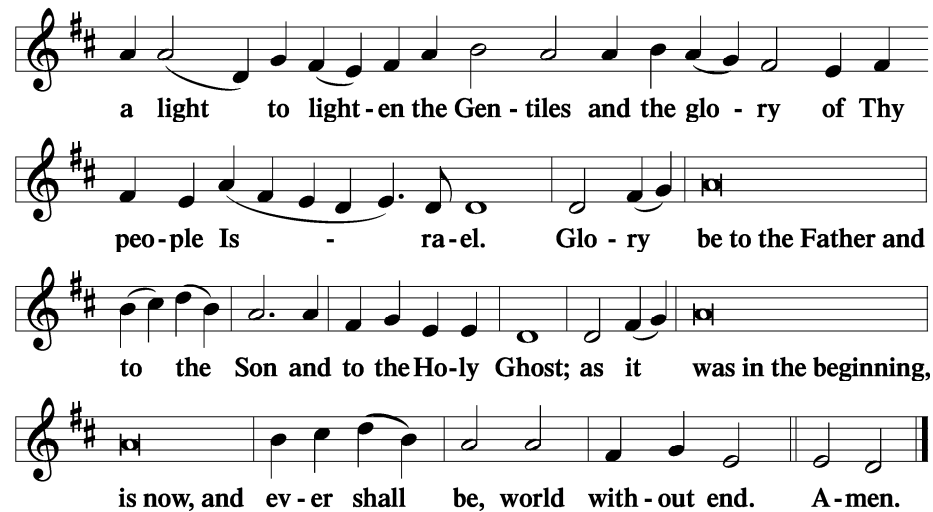
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

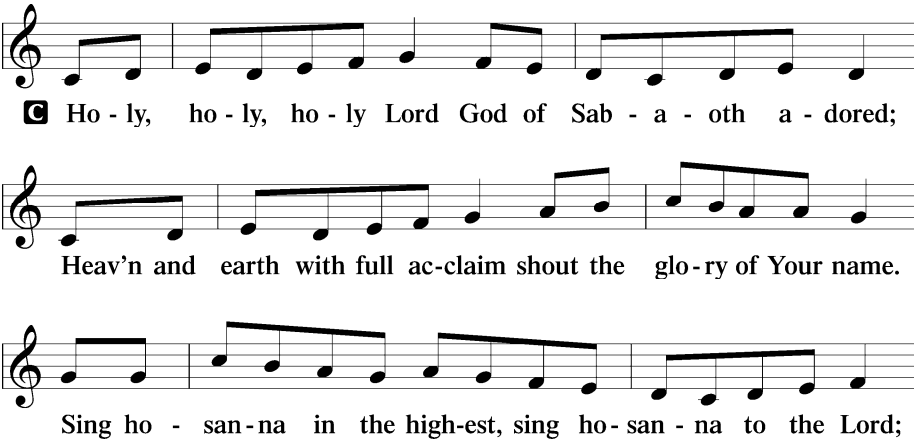
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)" for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✝ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✝ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

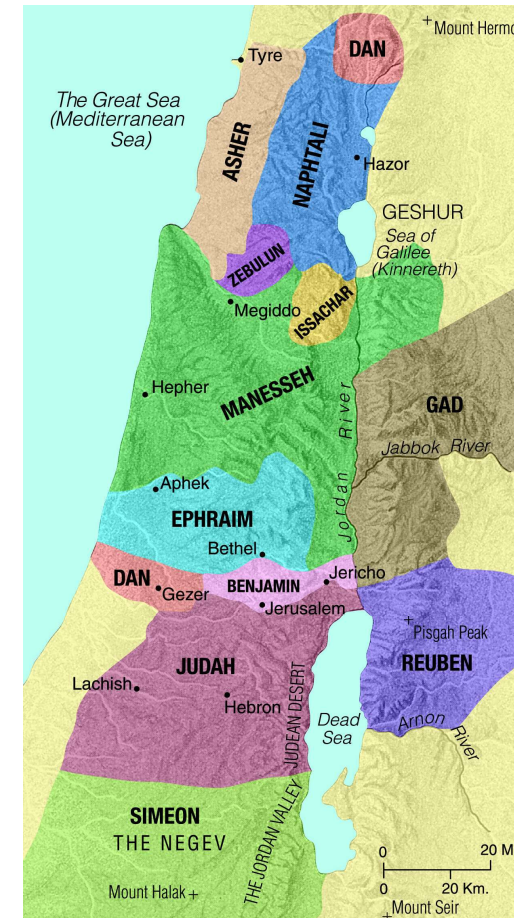
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

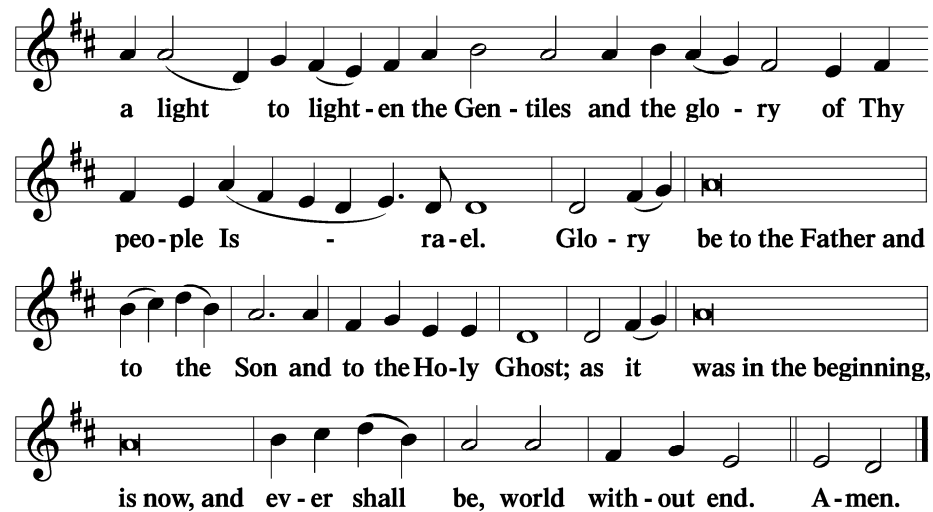
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

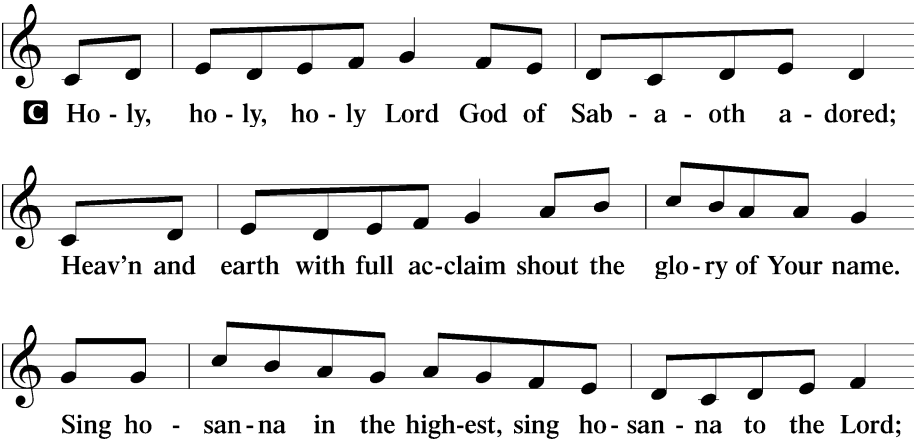
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✙ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✝ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✝ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

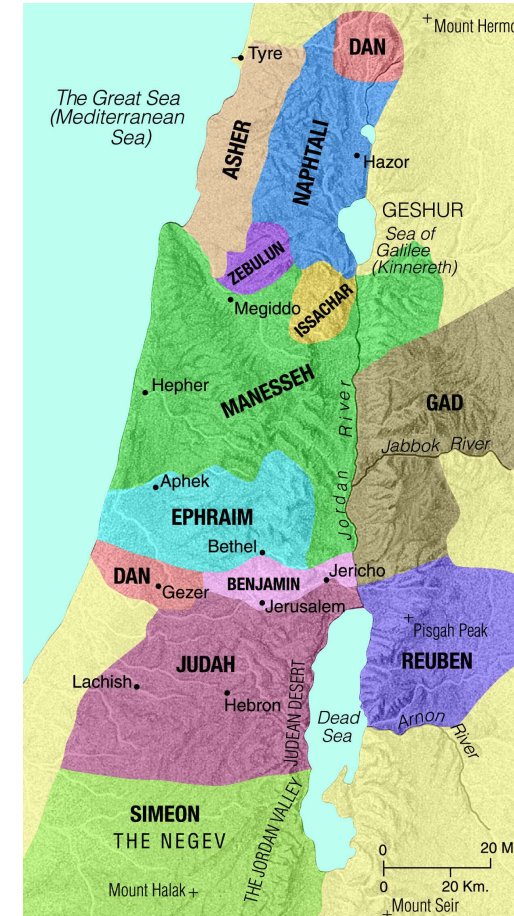
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

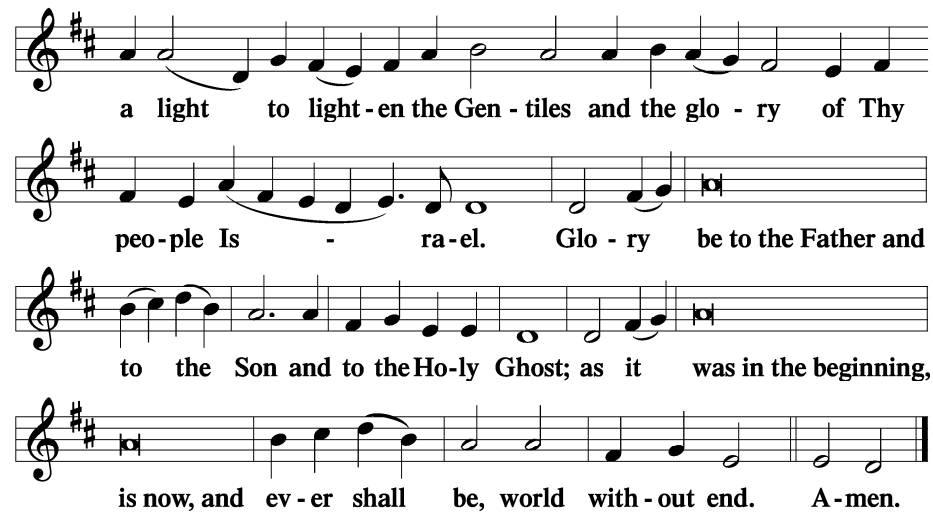
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

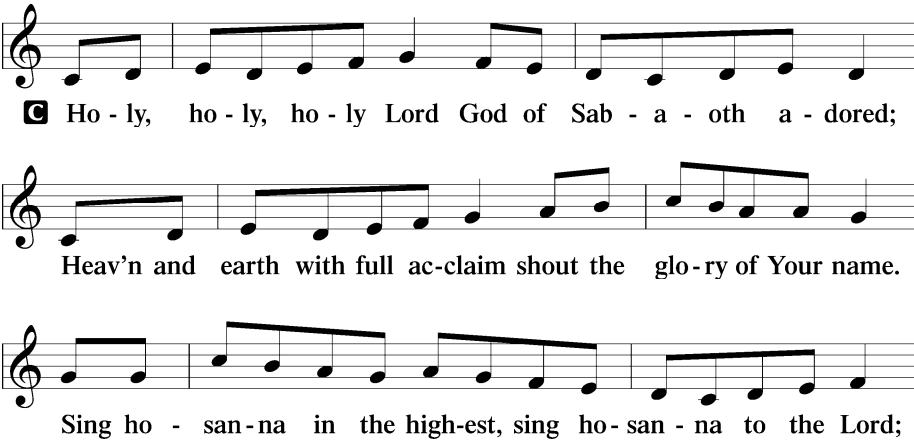
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

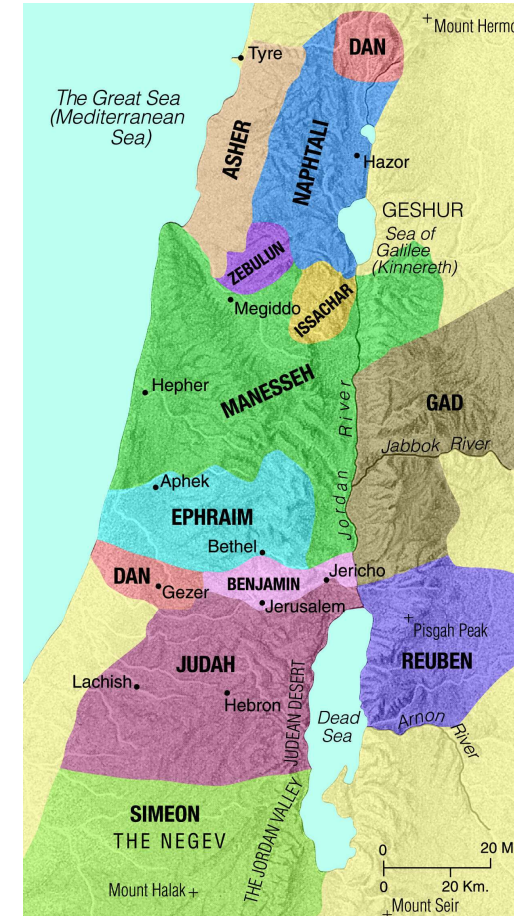
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

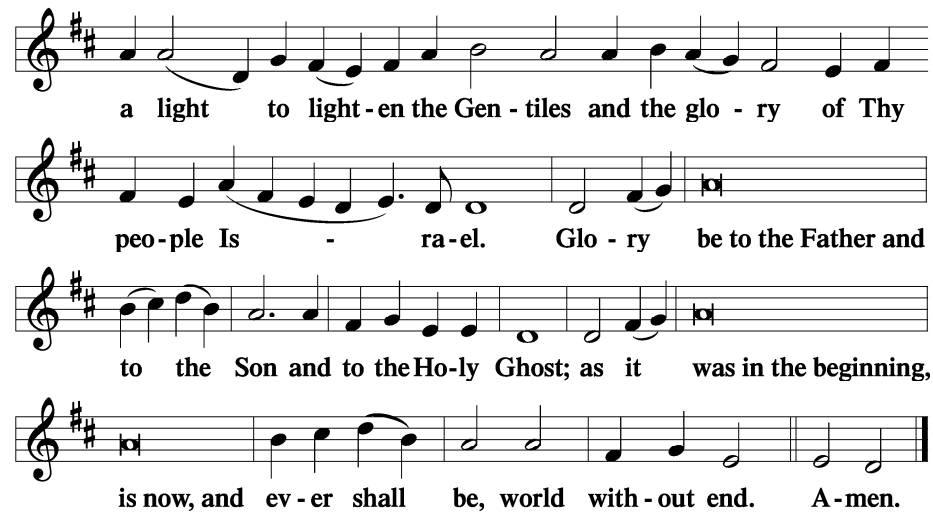
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

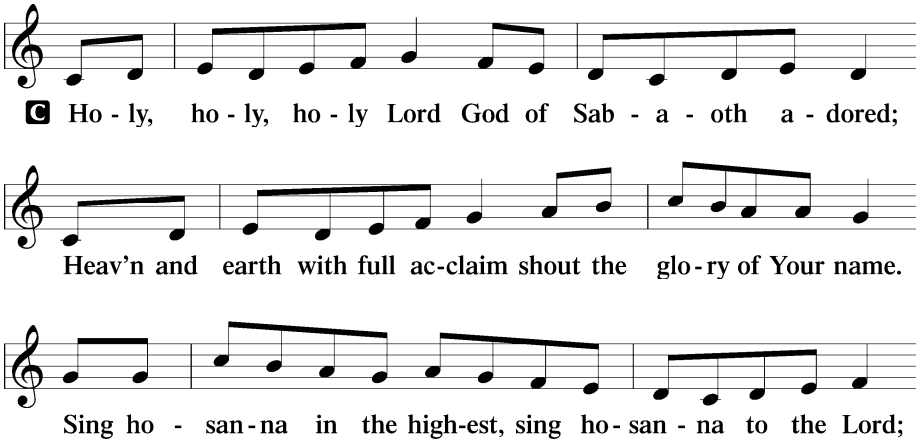
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

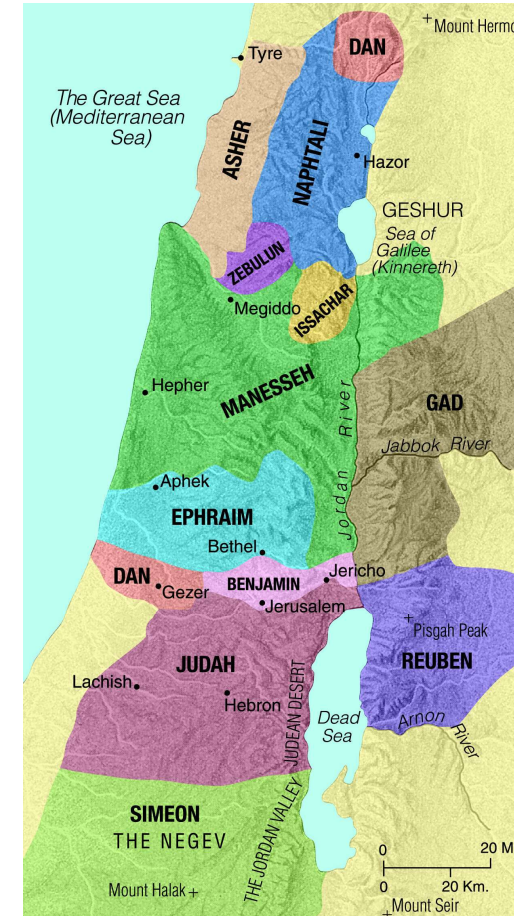
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

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

- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
C Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
P Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

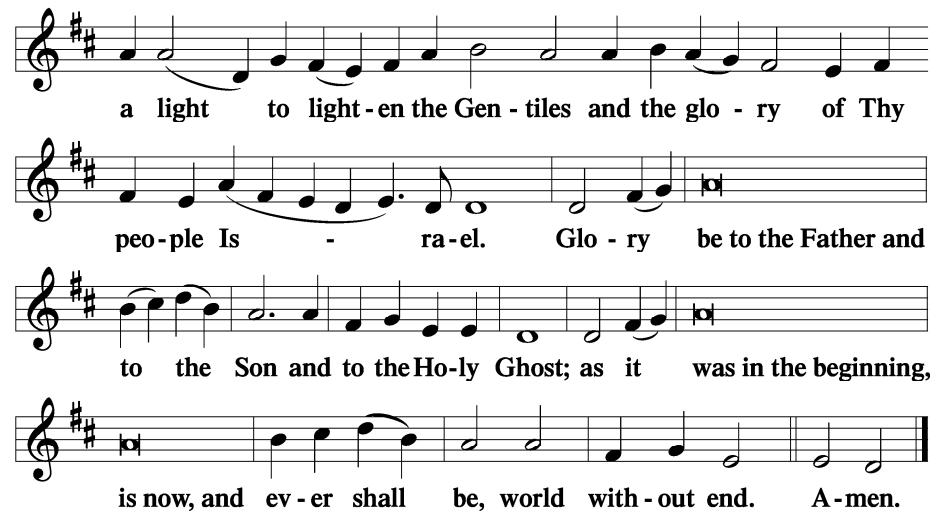
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

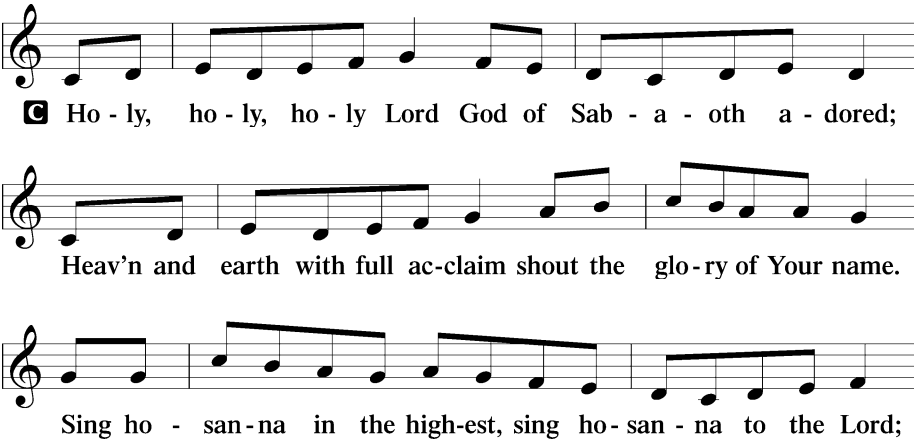
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55) for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

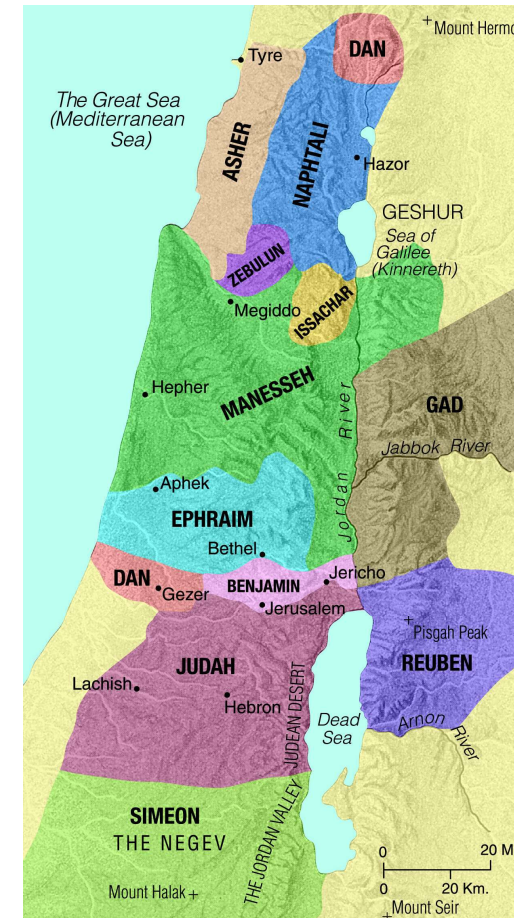
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

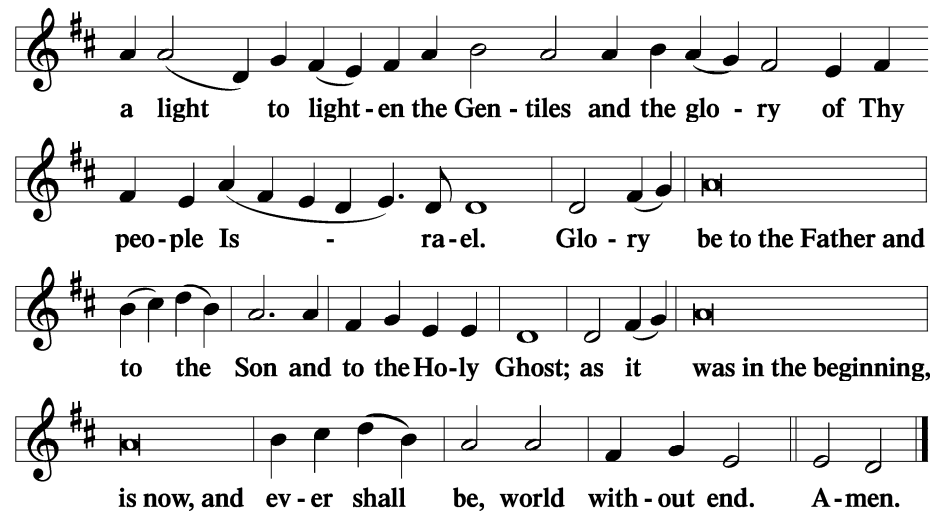
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
 and the staff for his shoulder,
 the rod of his oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
 Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

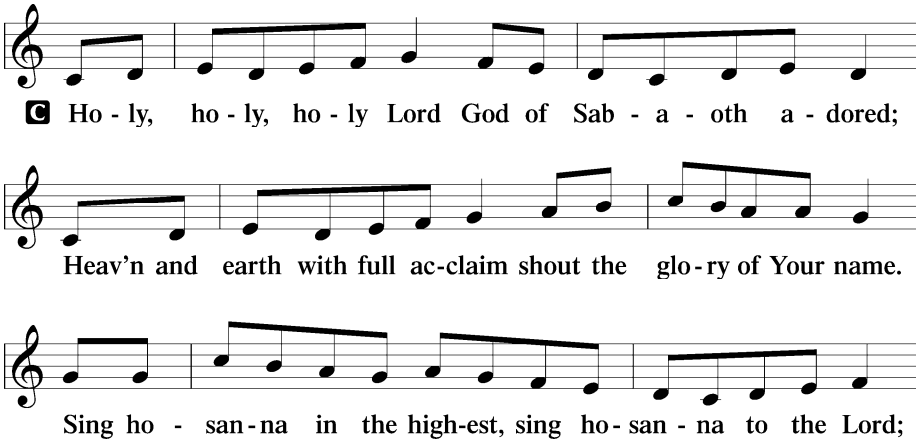
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

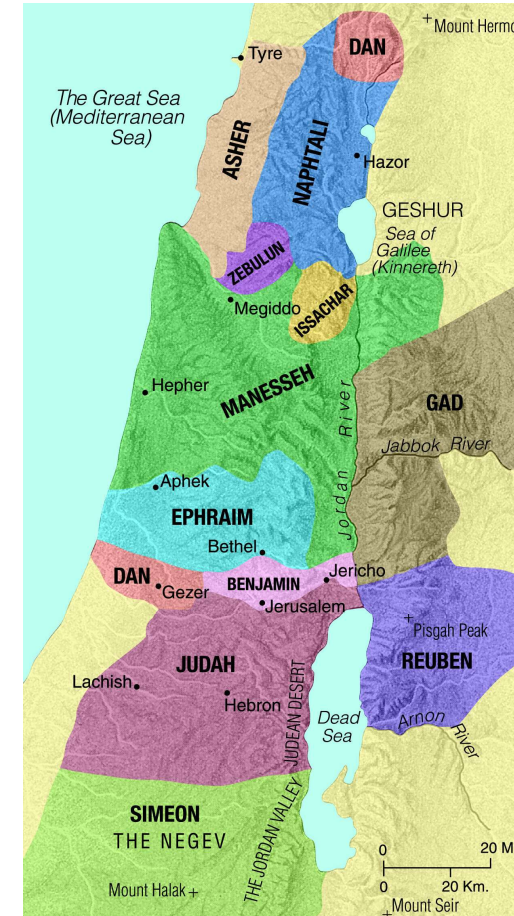
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

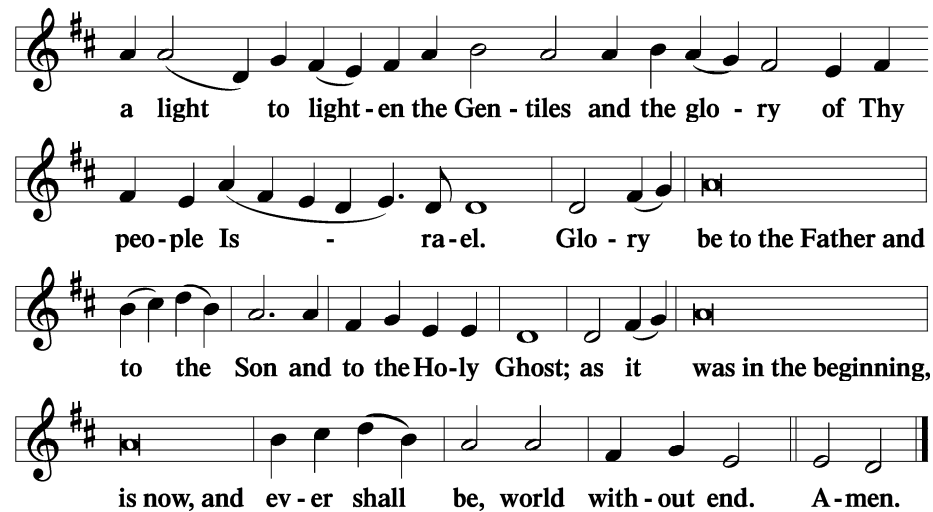
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

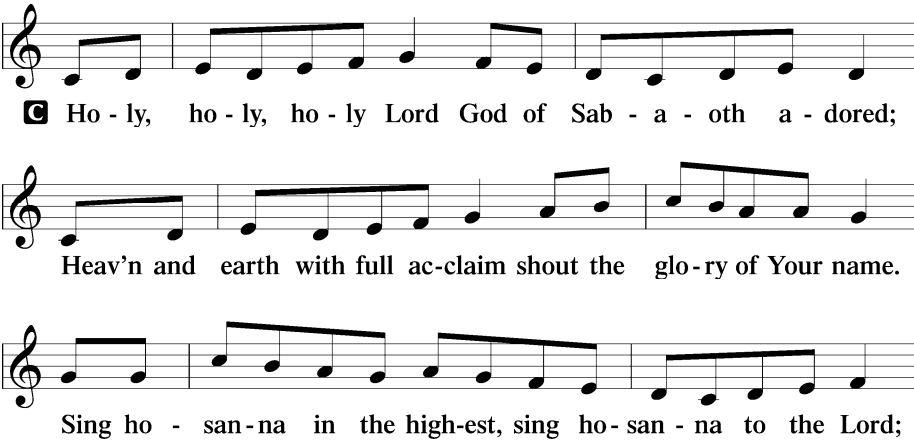
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

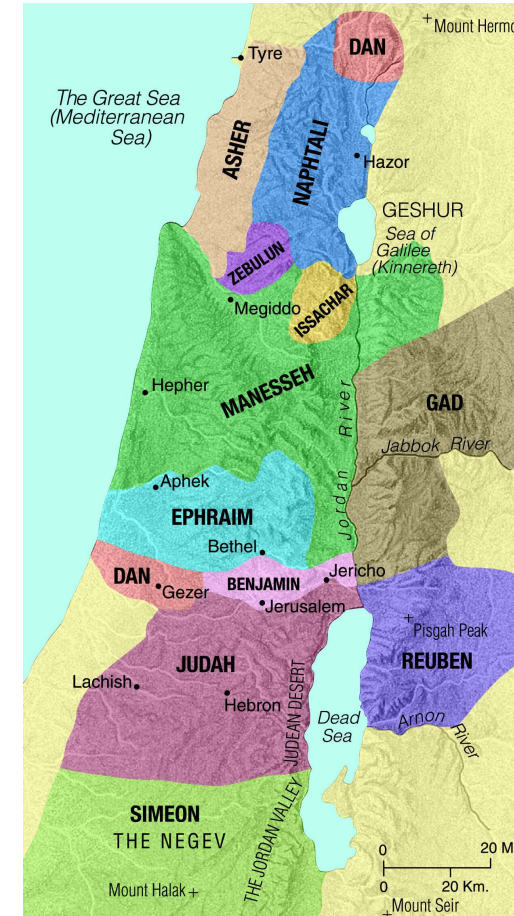
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

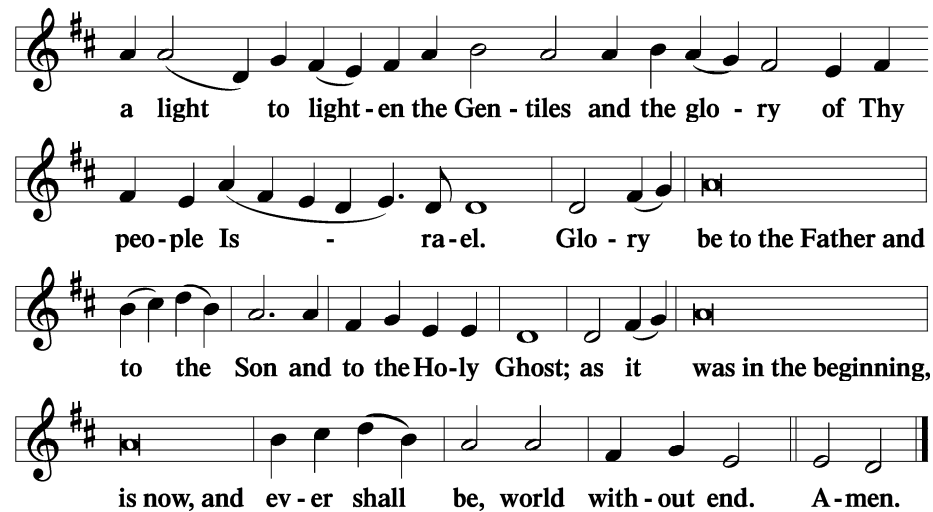
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

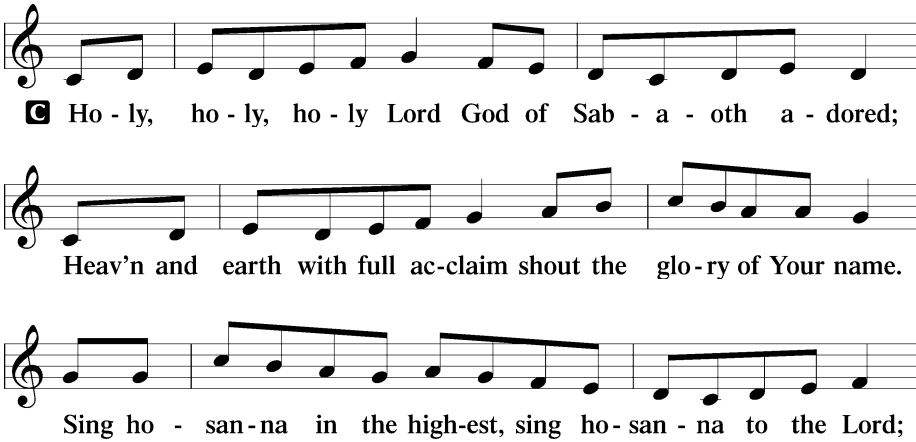
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✙ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

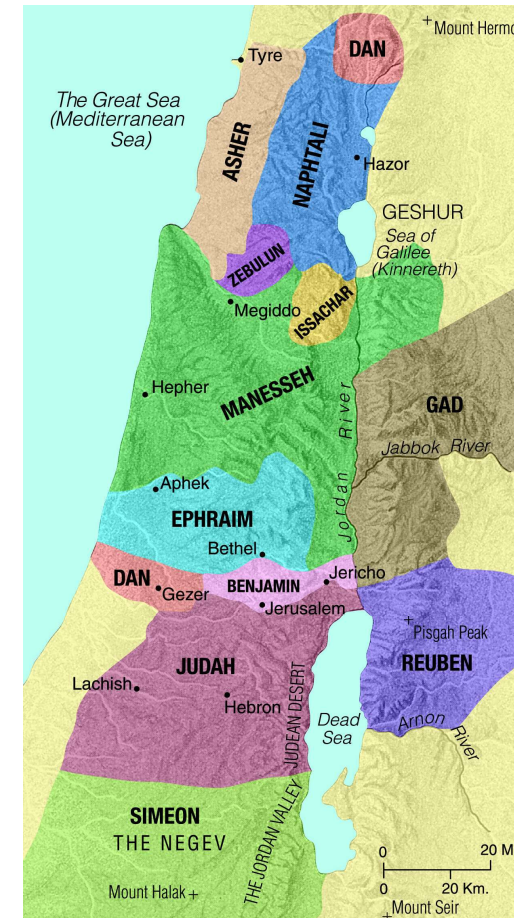
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

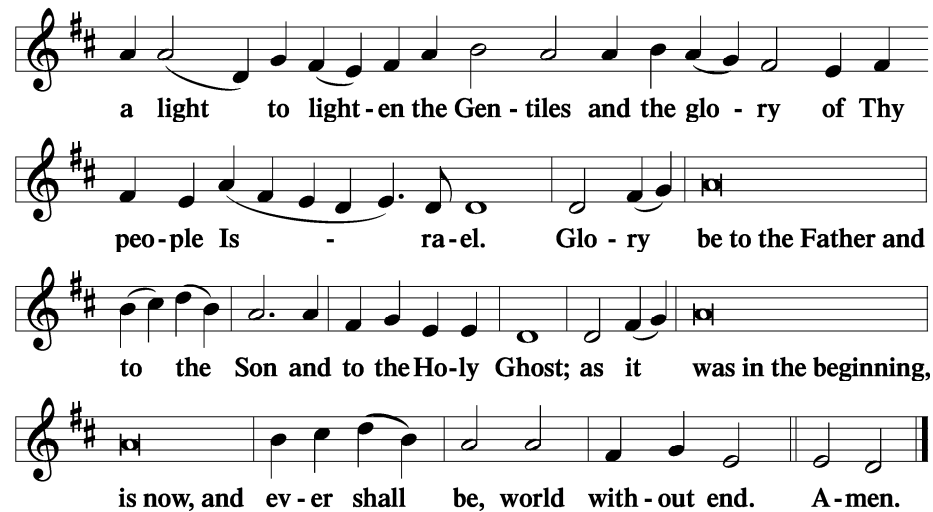
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

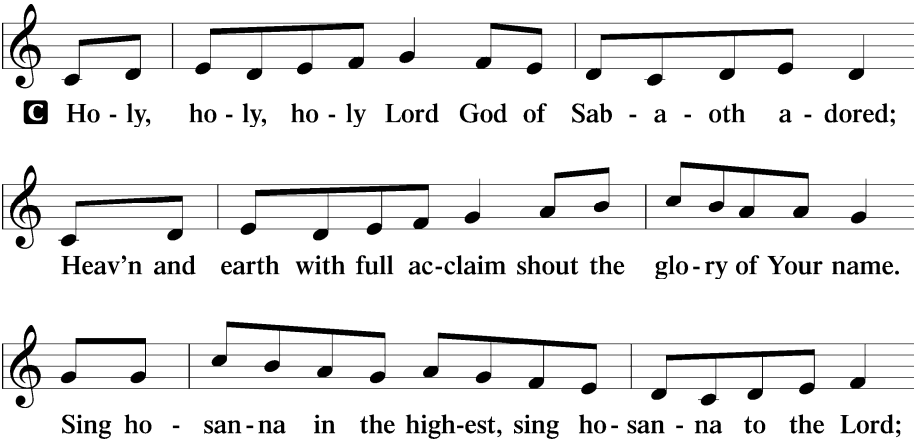
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

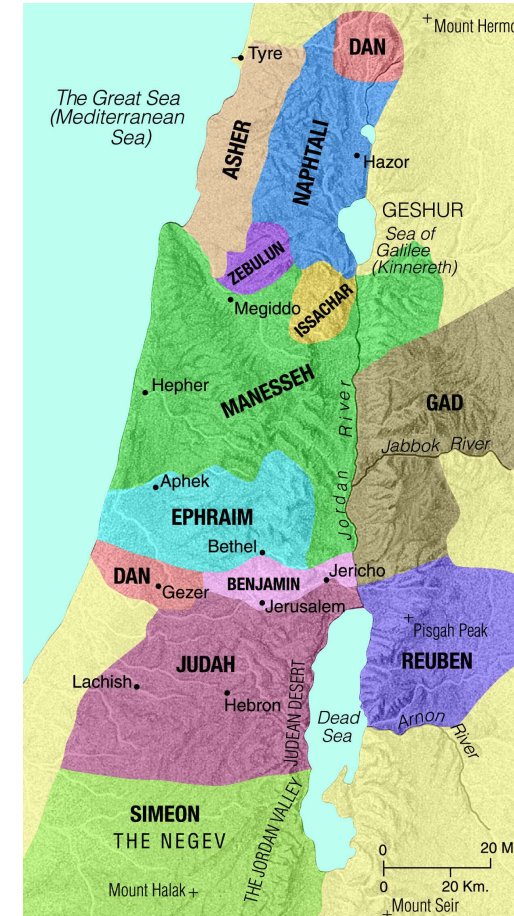
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

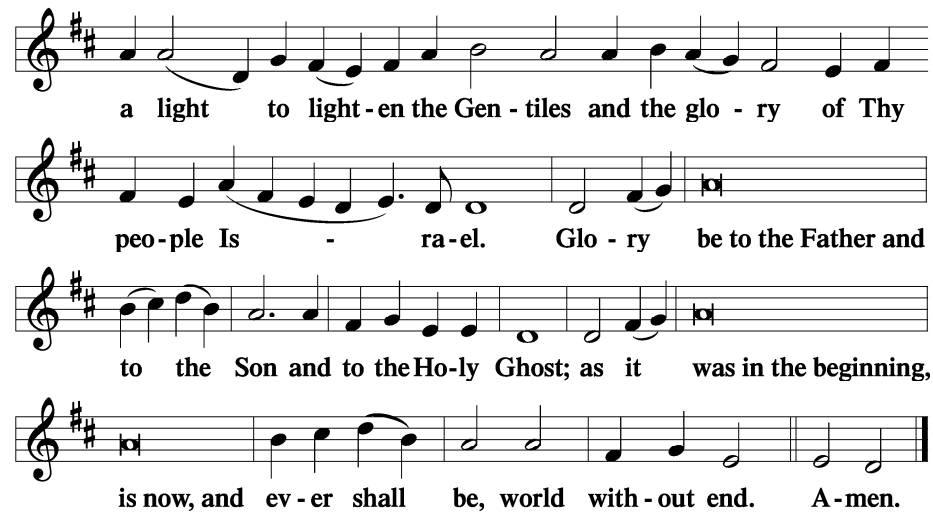
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

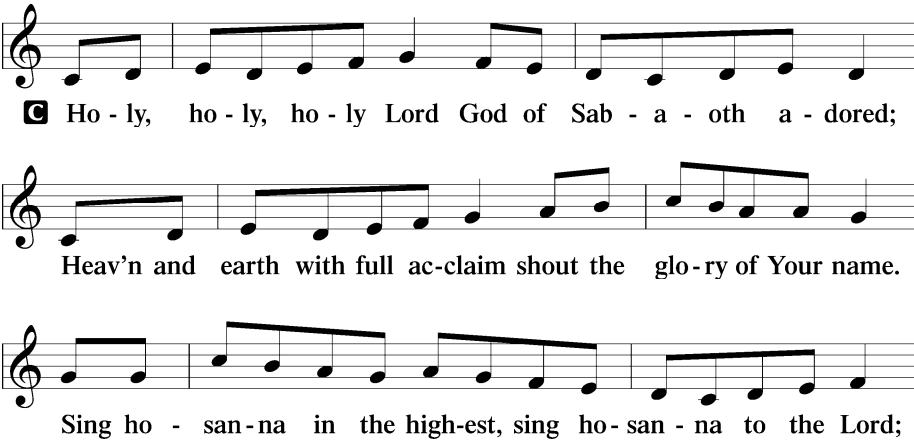
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)" for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✝ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✝ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

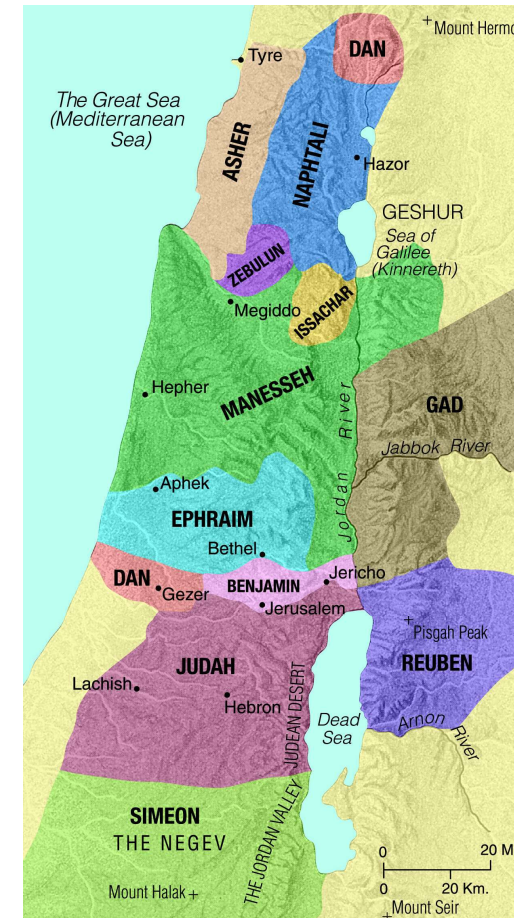
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

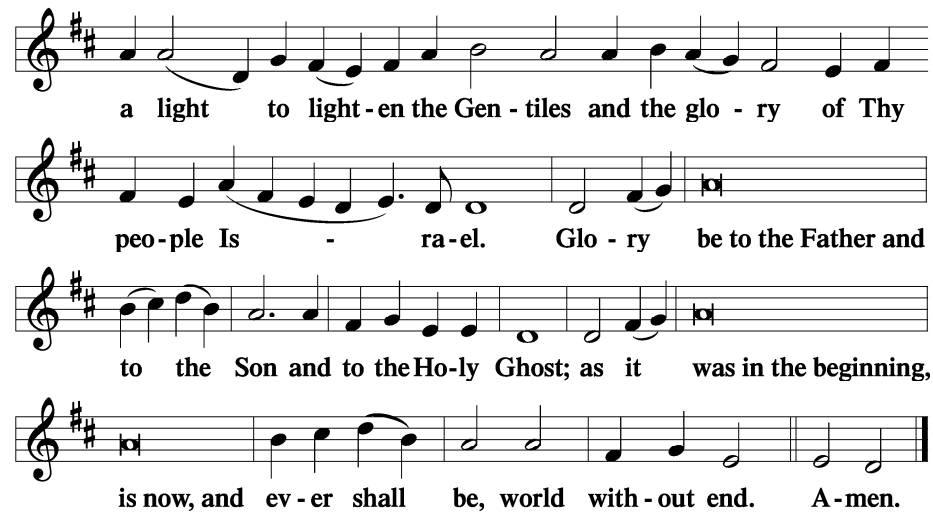
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers; *
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

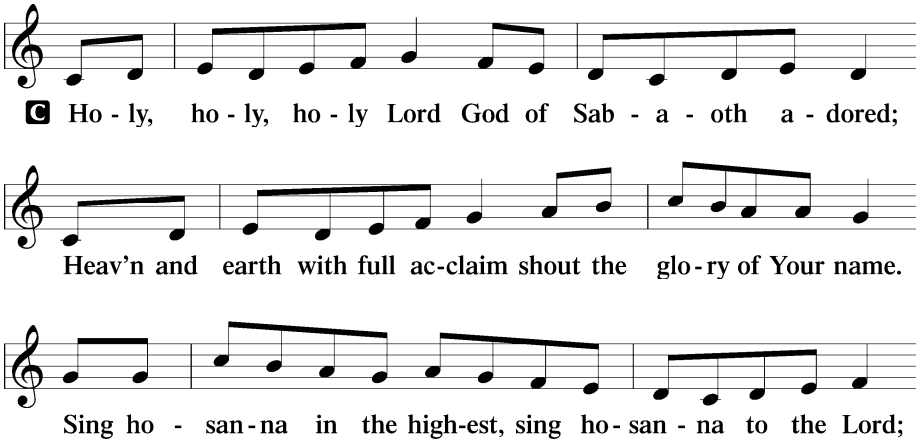
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

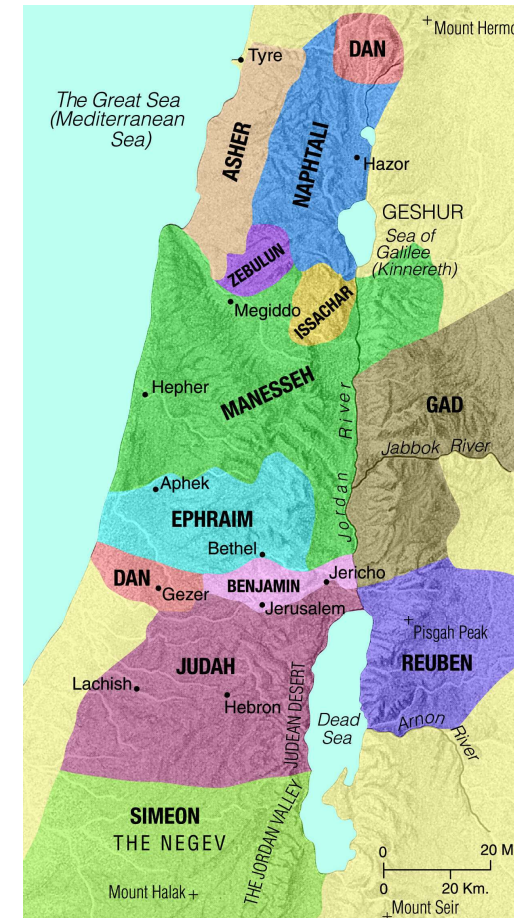
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

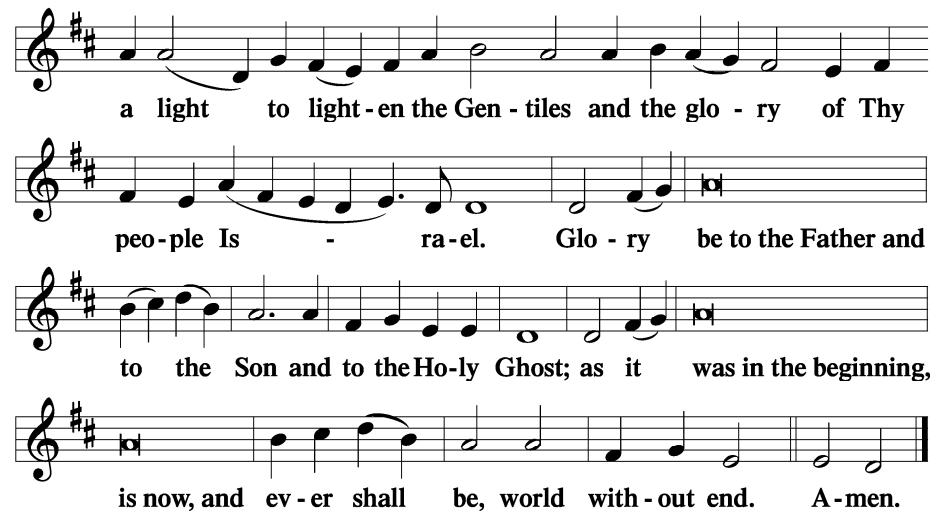
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
 and the staff for his shoulder,
 the rod of his oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
 Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

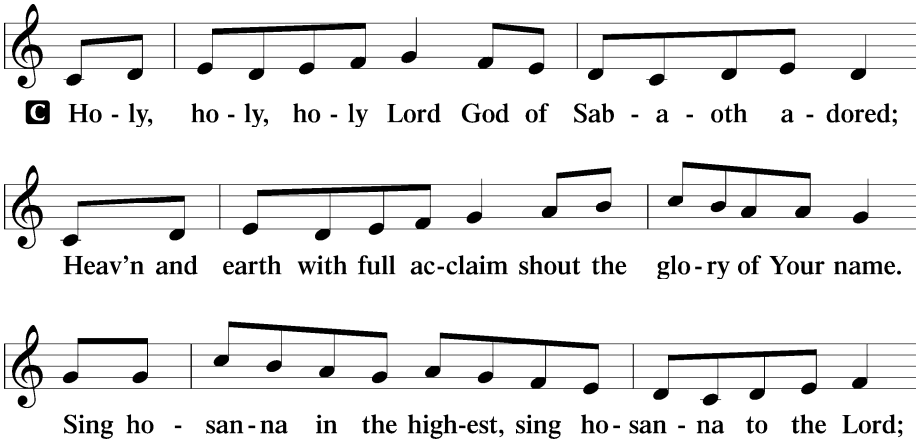
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

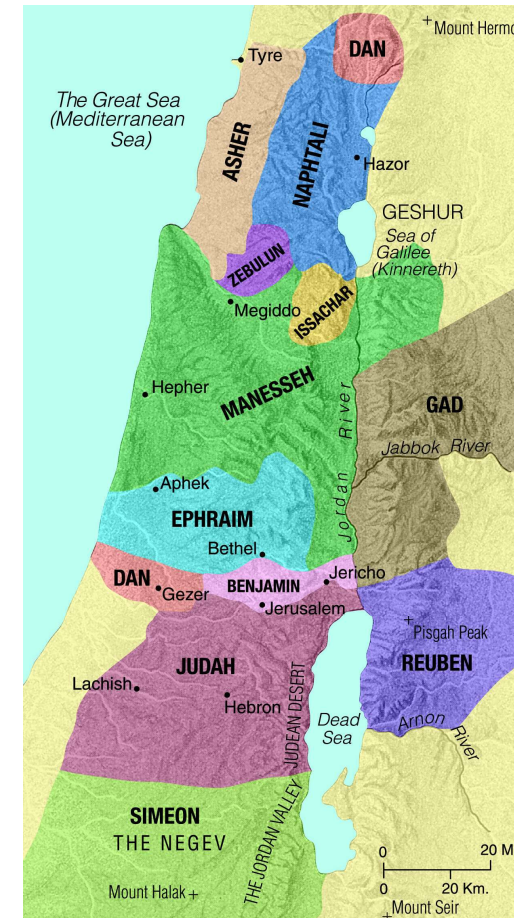
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

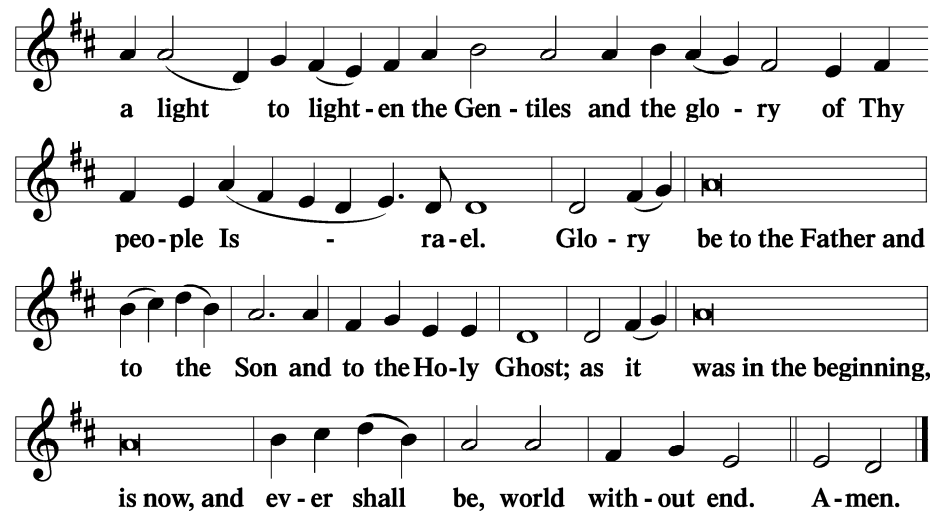
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
 and the staff for his shoulder,
 the rod of his oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
 Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

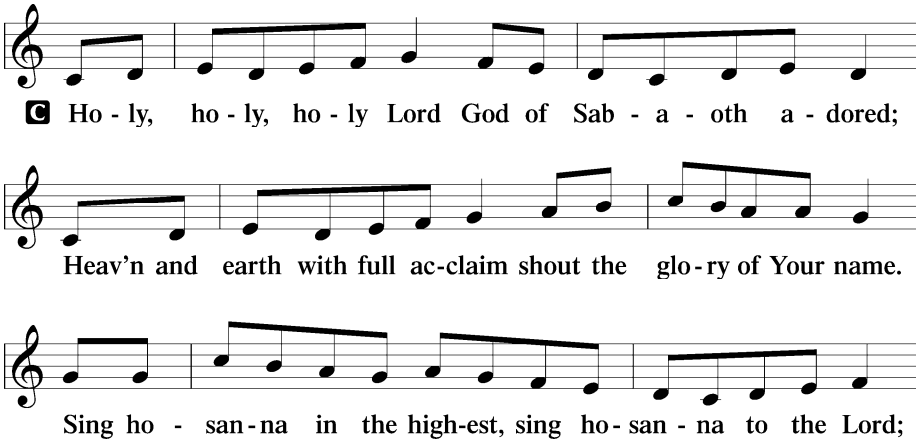
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

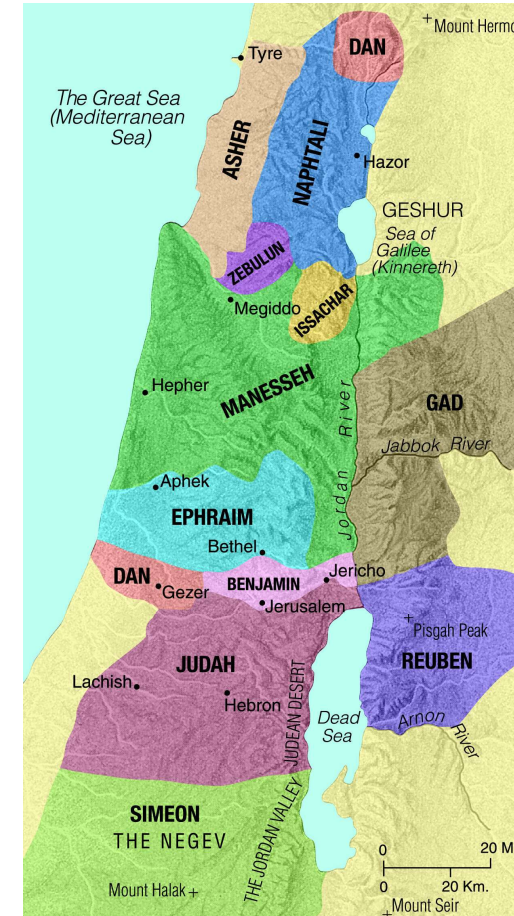
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

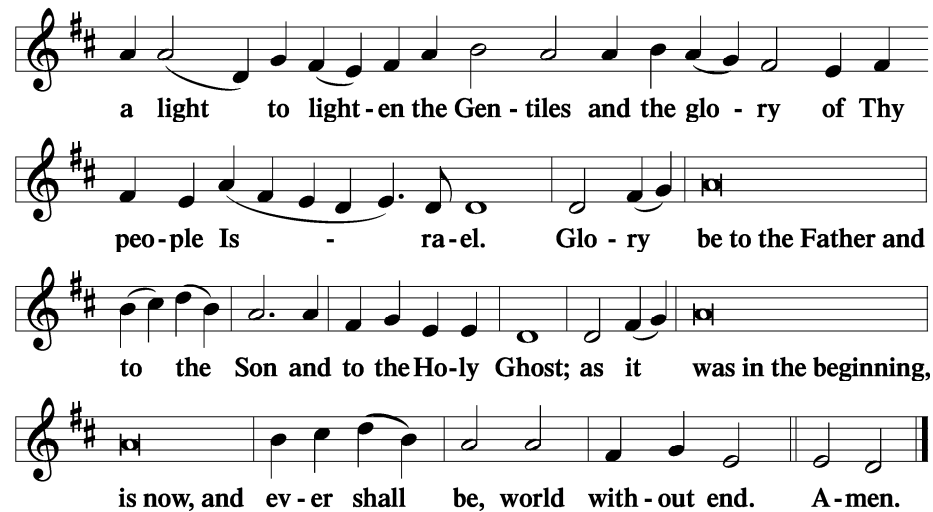
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

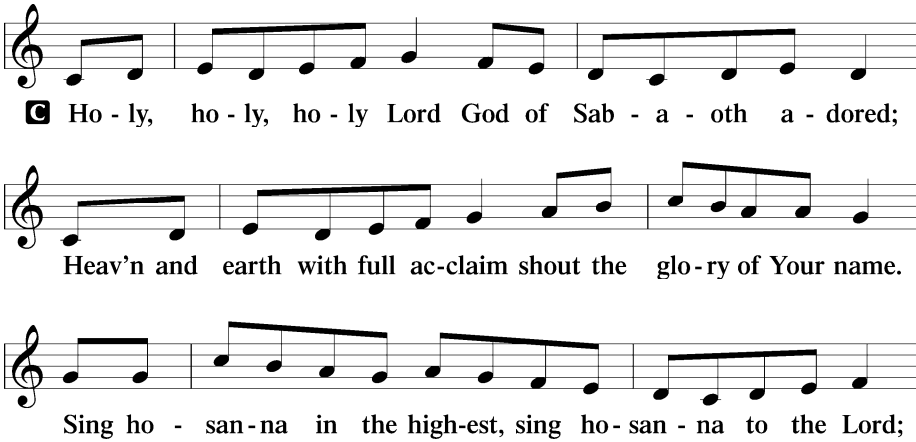
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

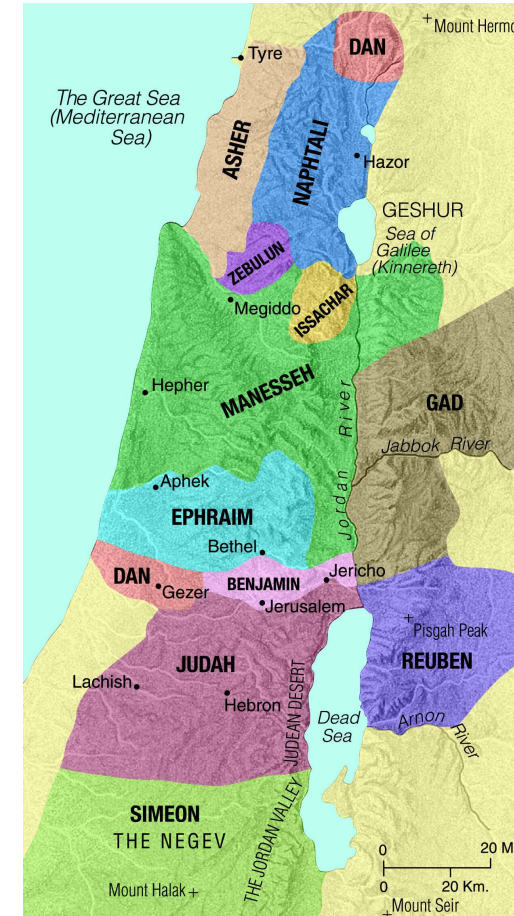
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about

a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204

C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

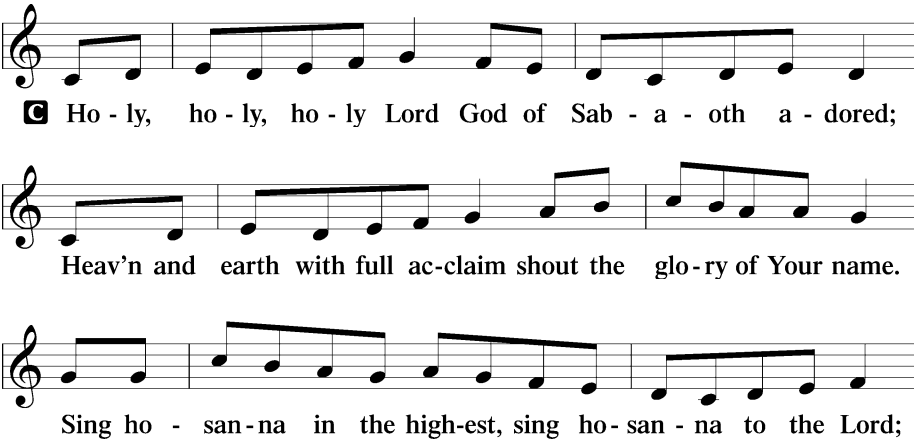
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

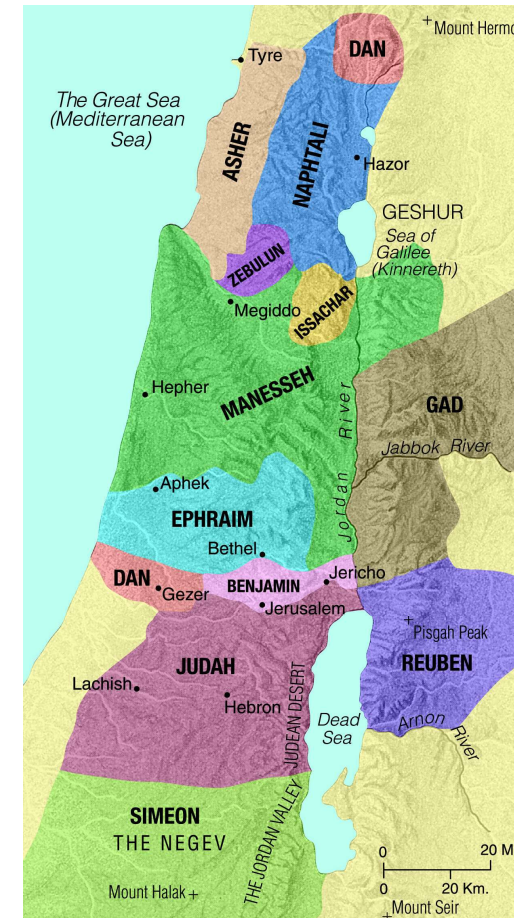
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about

a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204

C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

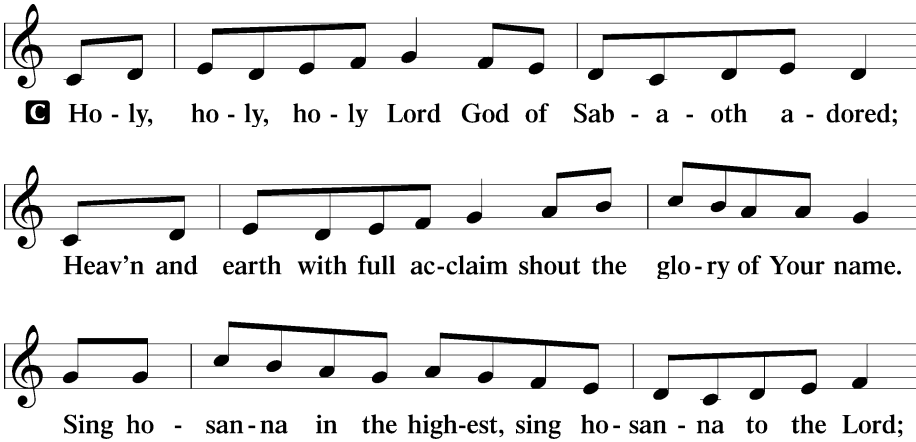
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✙ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)" for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

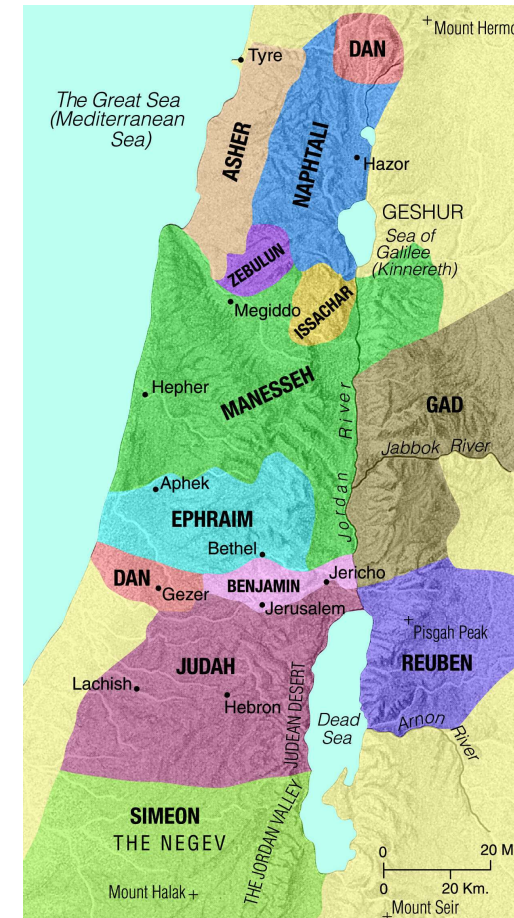
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

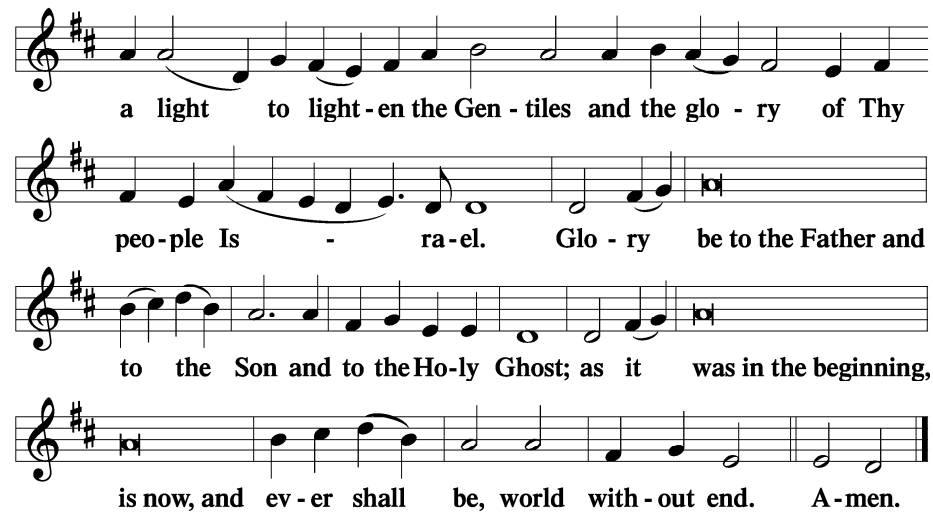
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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 Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2026 Concordia Publishing House.

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

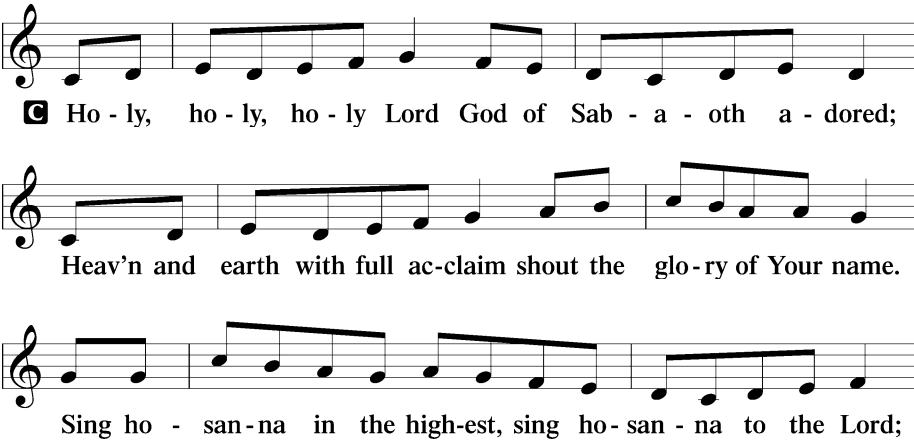
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✙ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192

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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

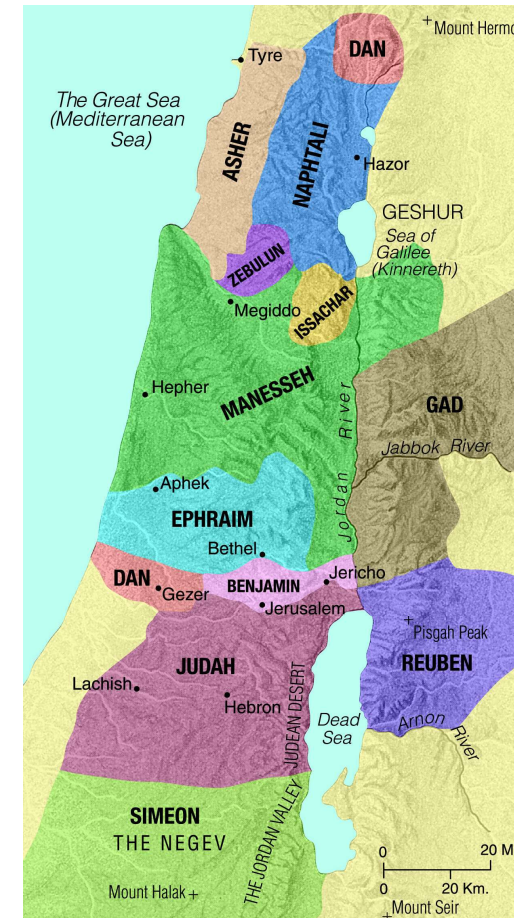
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

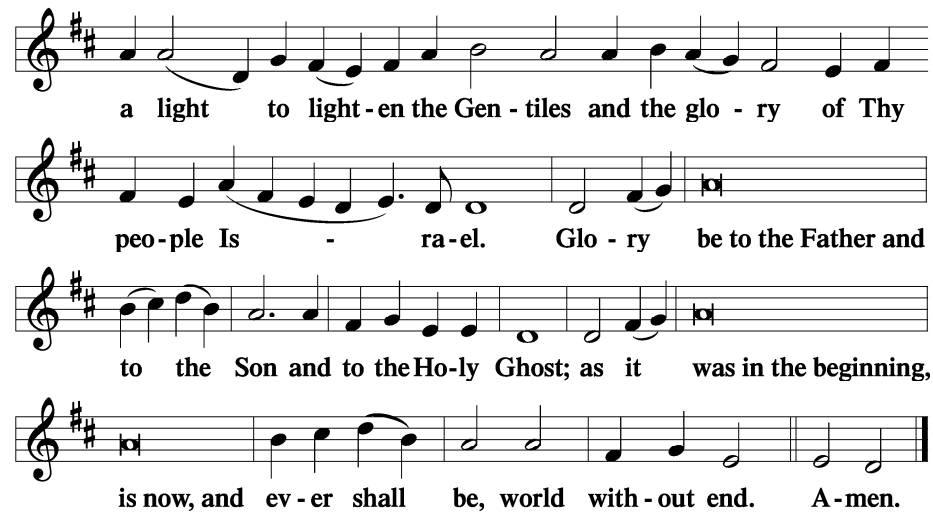
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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 Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2026 Concordia Publishing House.

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness

have seen a great light;

those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,

on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

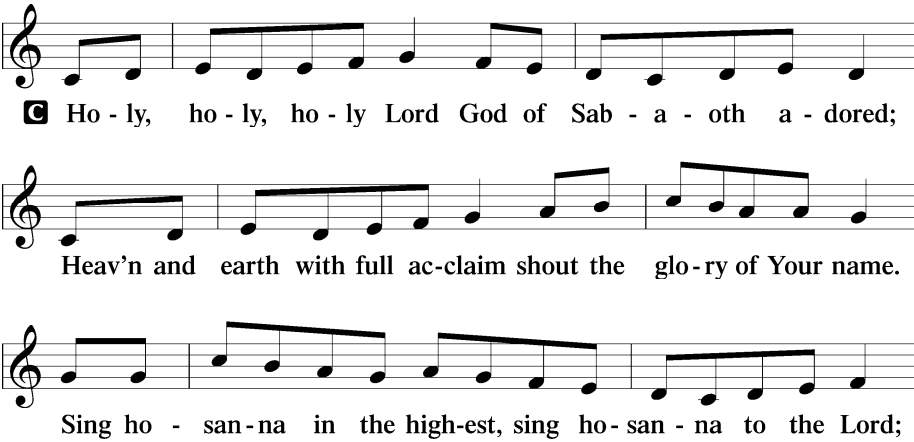
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)" for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

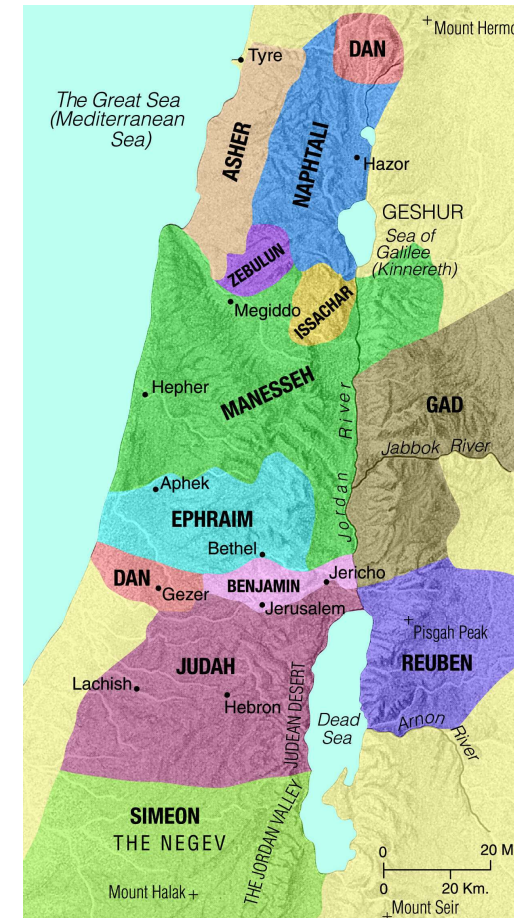
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about

a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204

C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people.

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

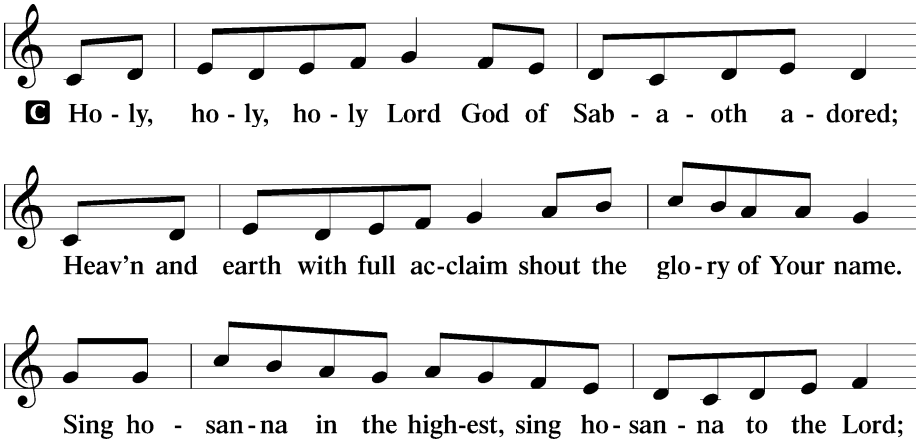
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192

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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

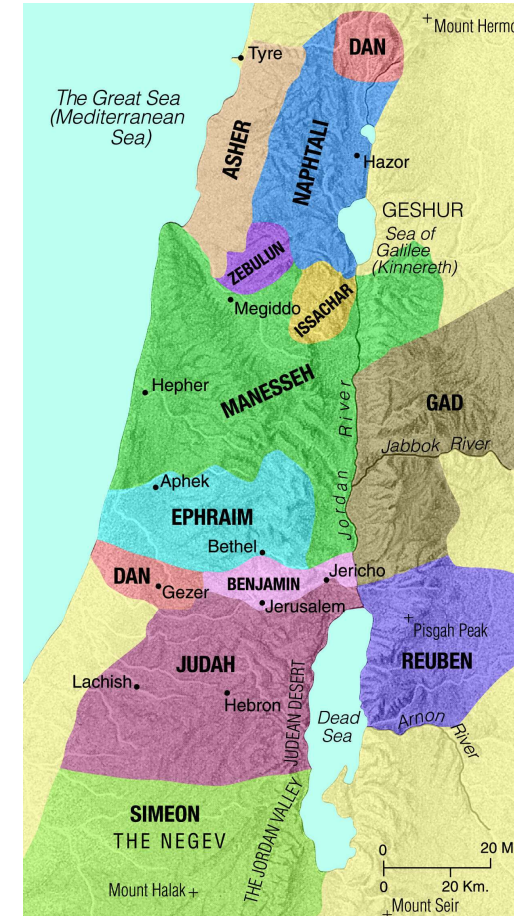
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about

a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204

C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

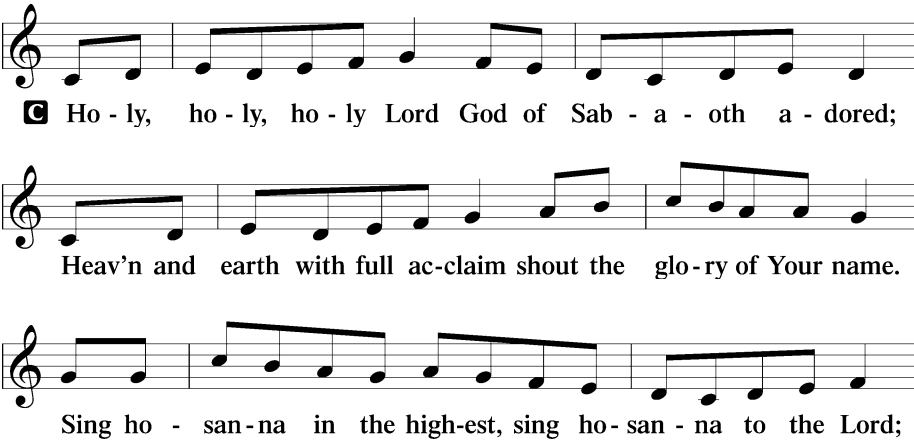
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

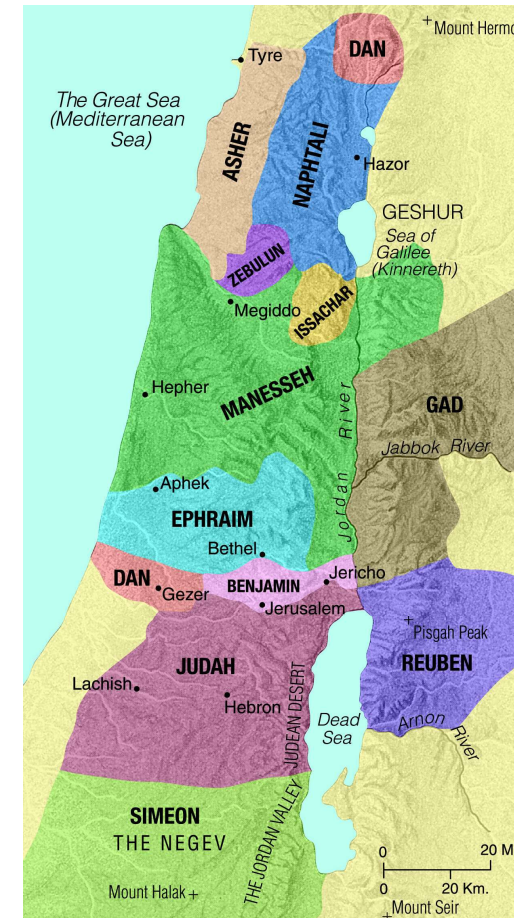
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

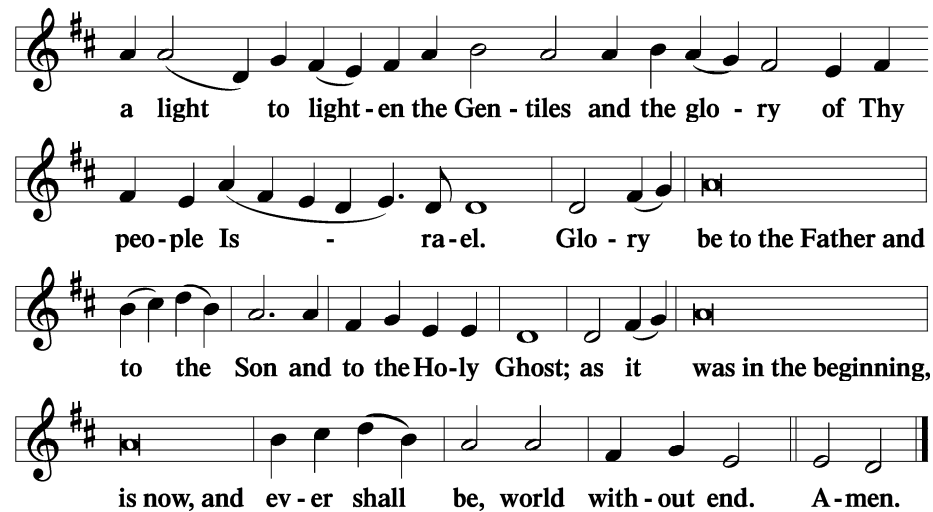
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

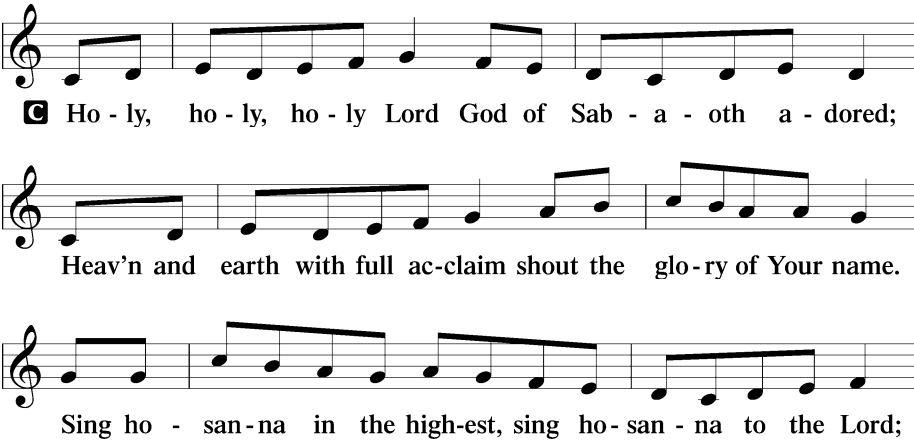
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)" for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

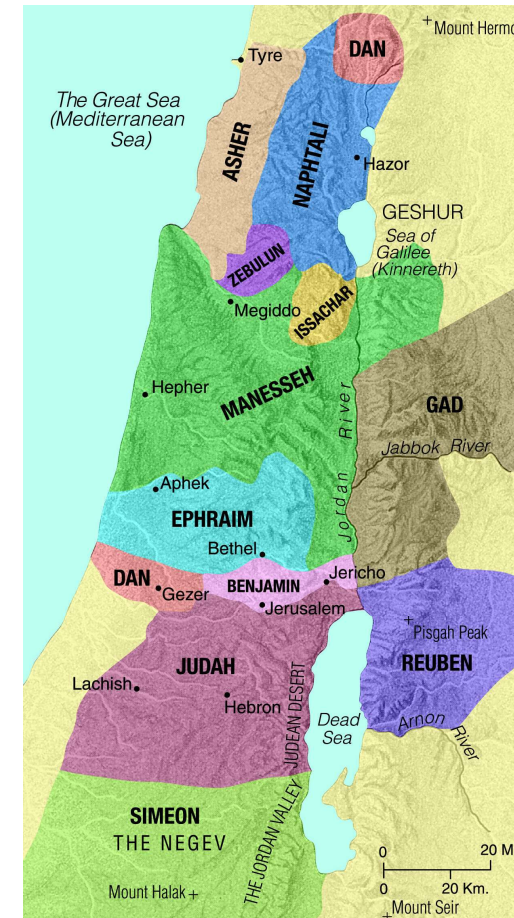
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

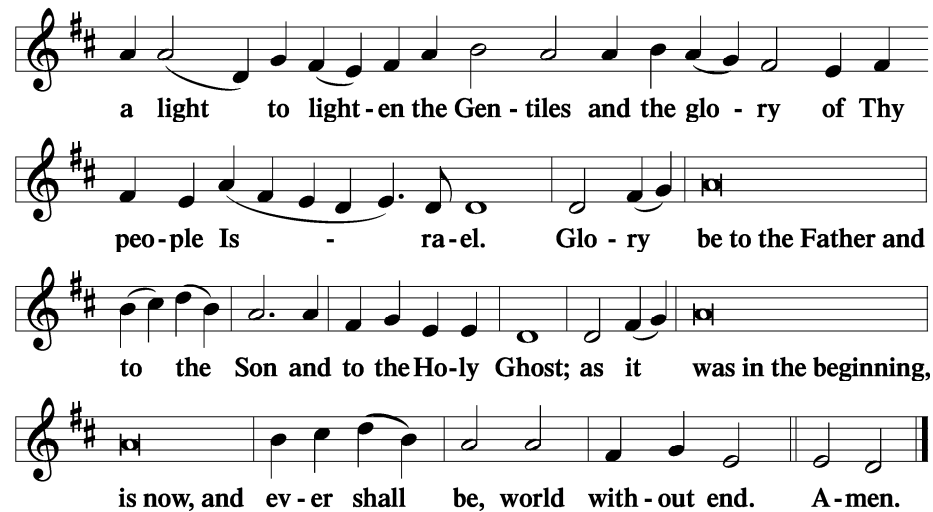
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

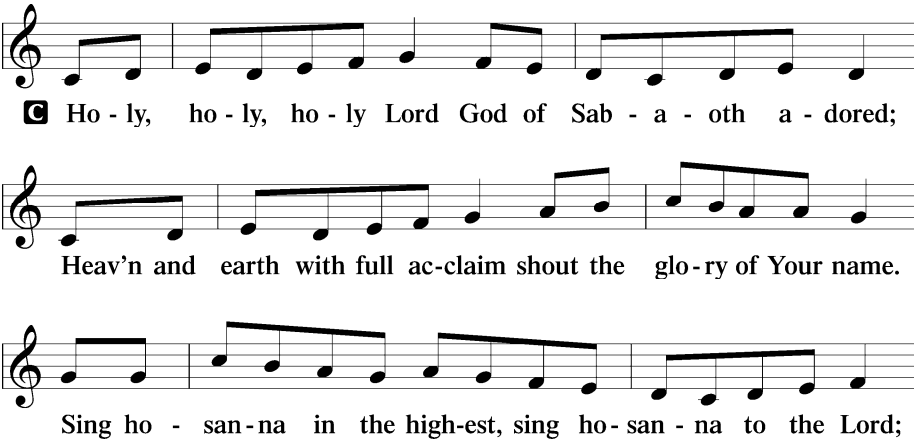
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55) for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

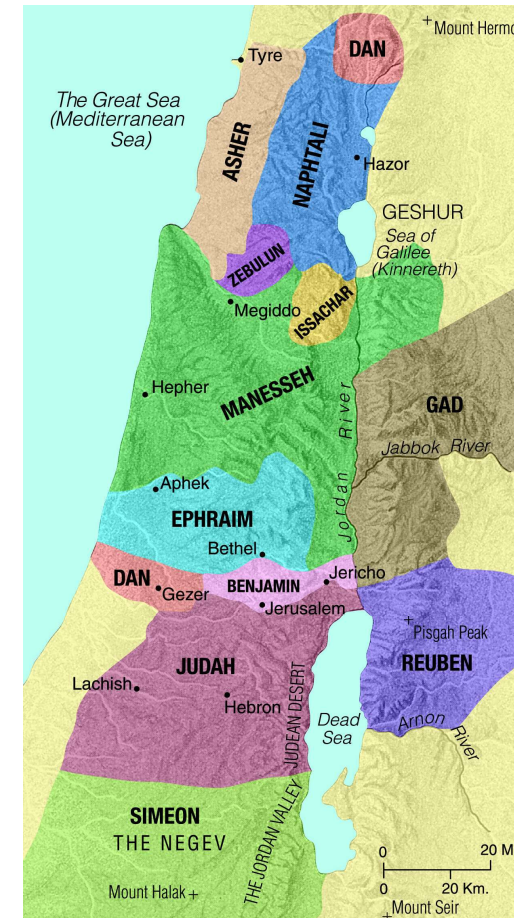
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about

a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204

C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

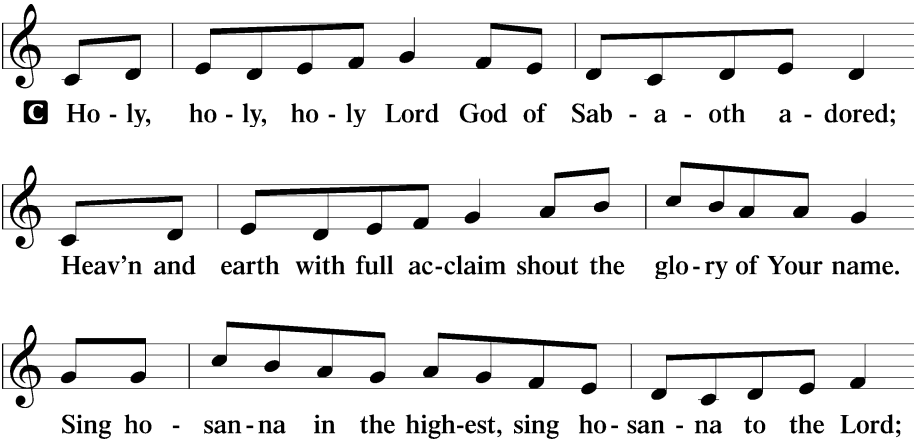
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✙ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

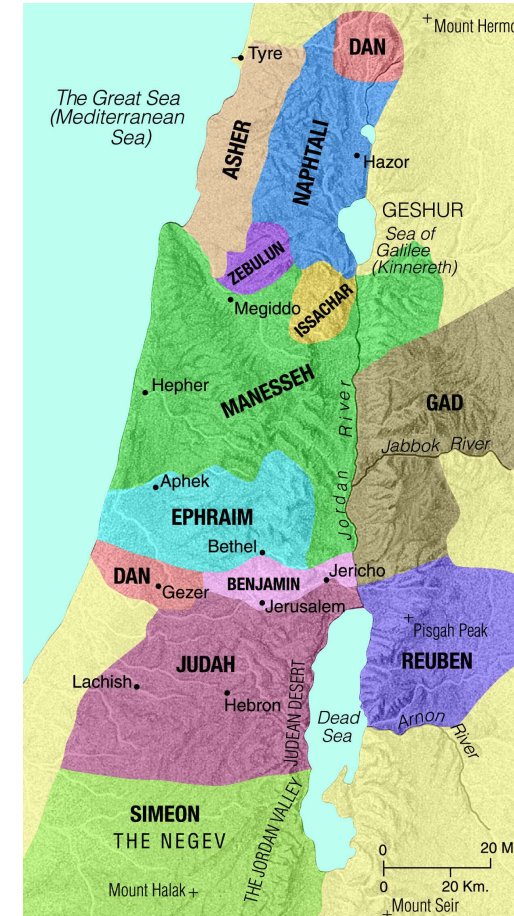
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

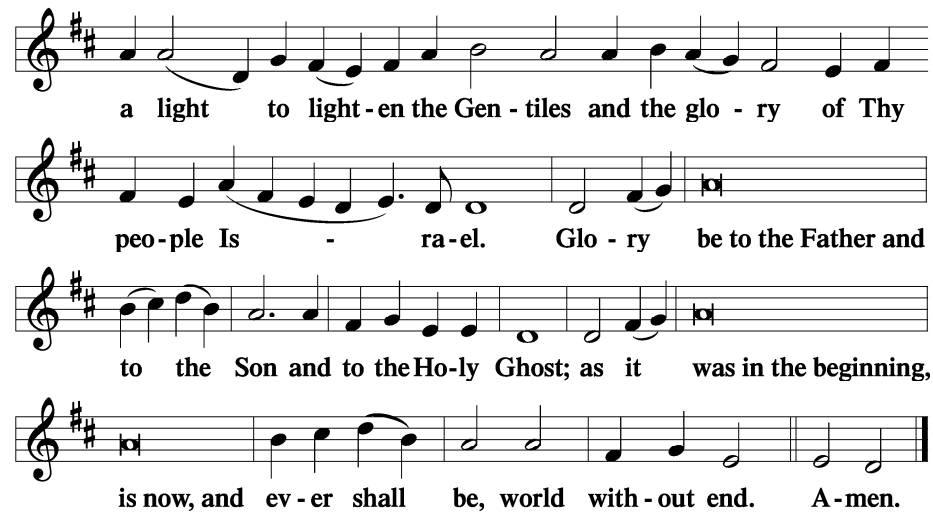
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

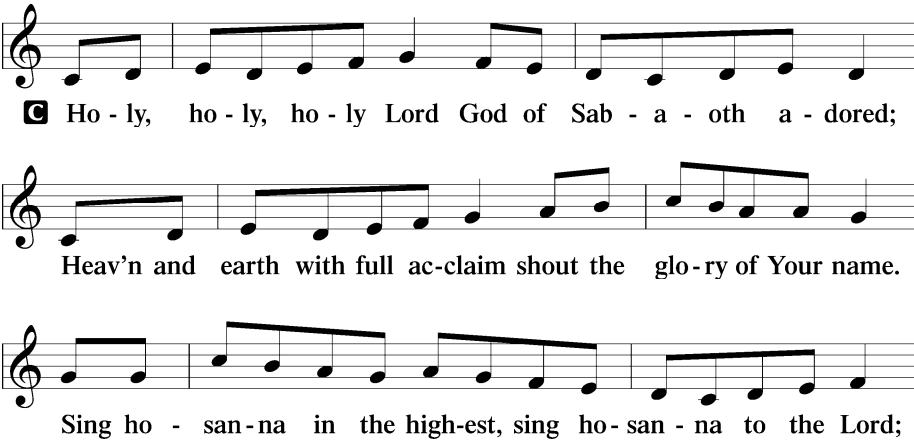
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✙ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55) for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

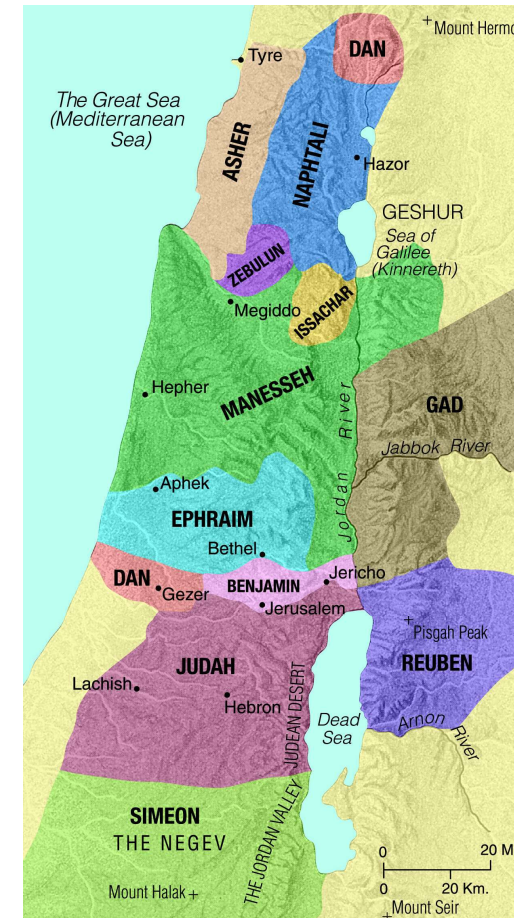
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

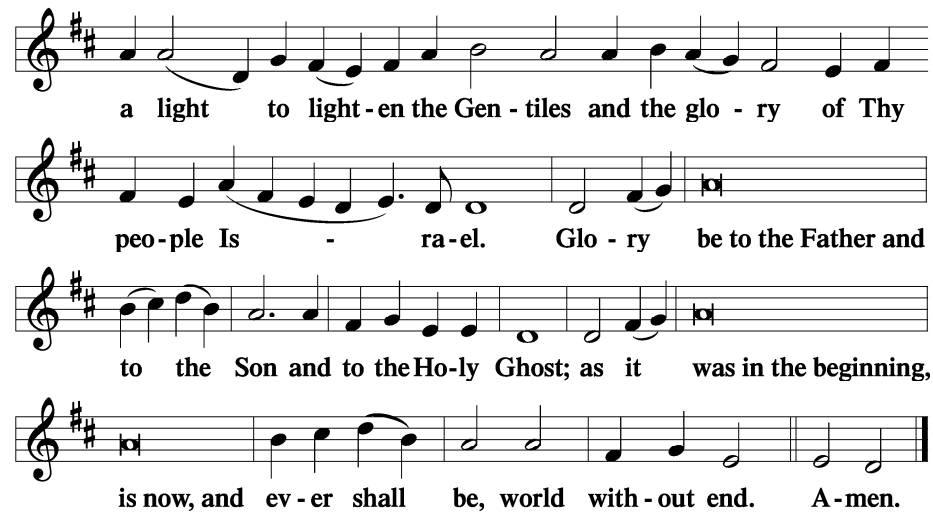
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
 and the staff for his shoulder,
 the rod of his oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

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

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

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

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
 Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

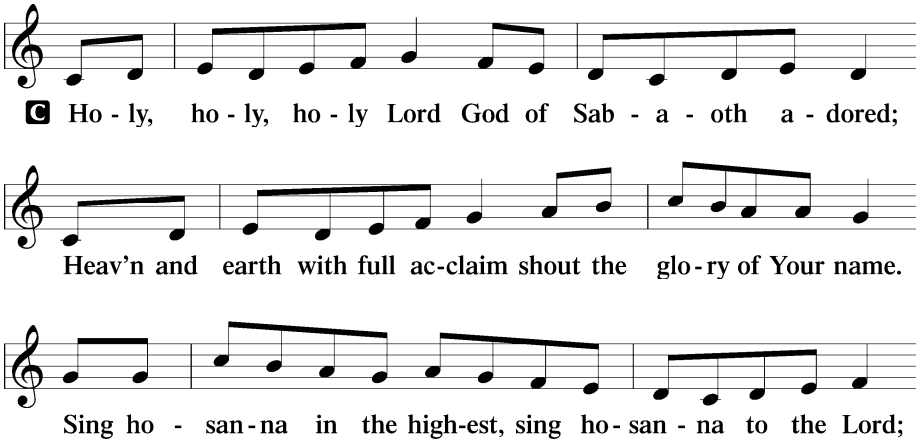
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✙ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

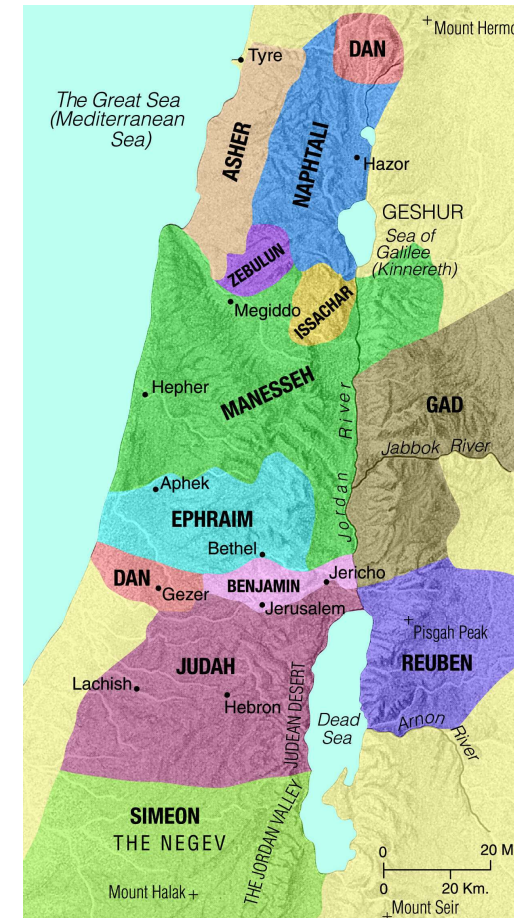
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

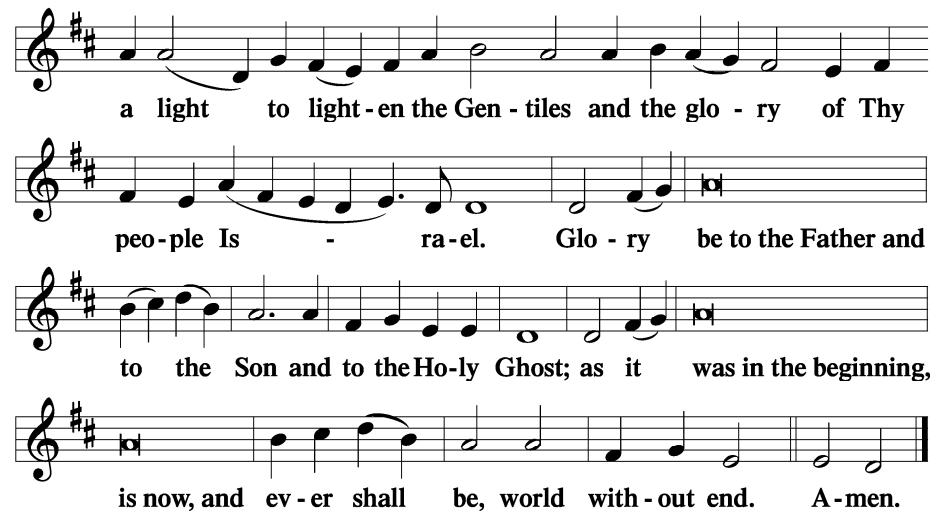
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
 and the staff for his shoulder,
 the rod of his oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

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

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

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

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
 Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

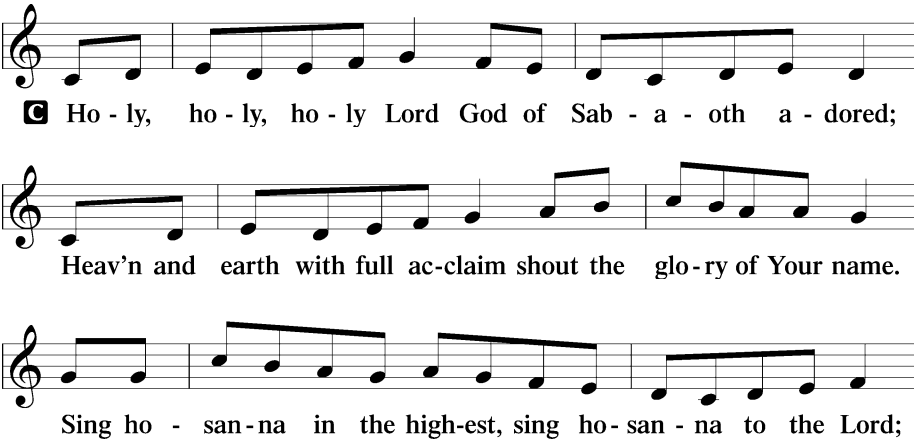
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✙ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)" for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

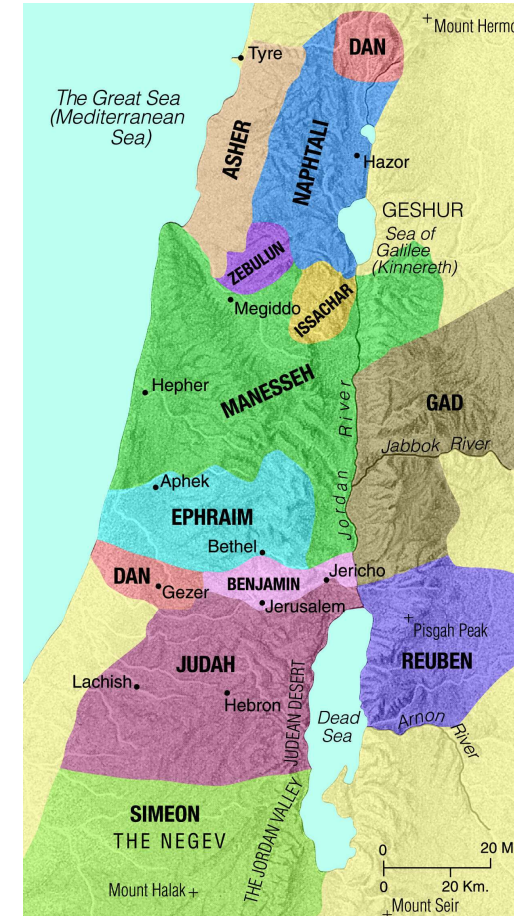
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about

a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204

C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
 and the staff for his shoulder,
 the rod of his oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
 Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

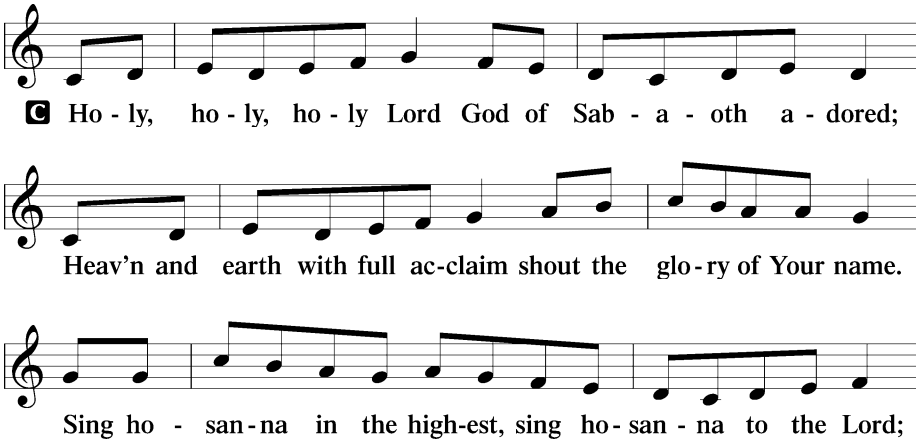
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

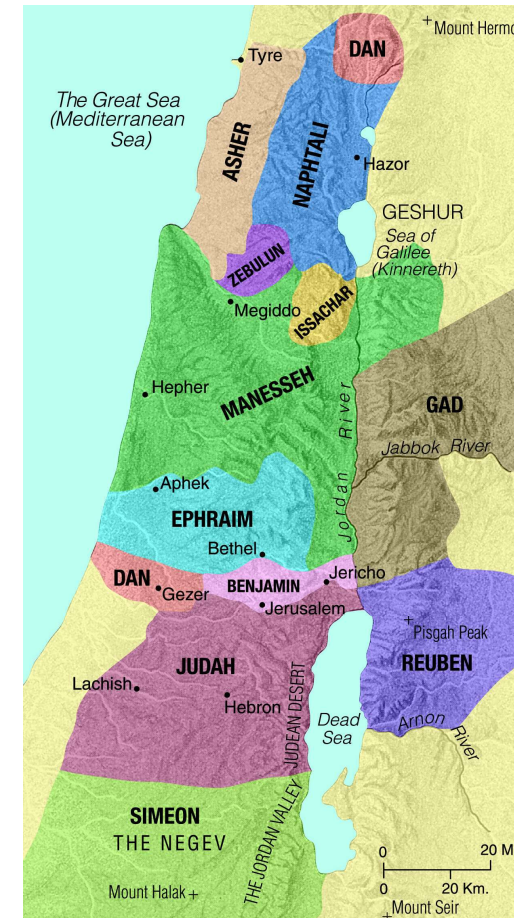
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

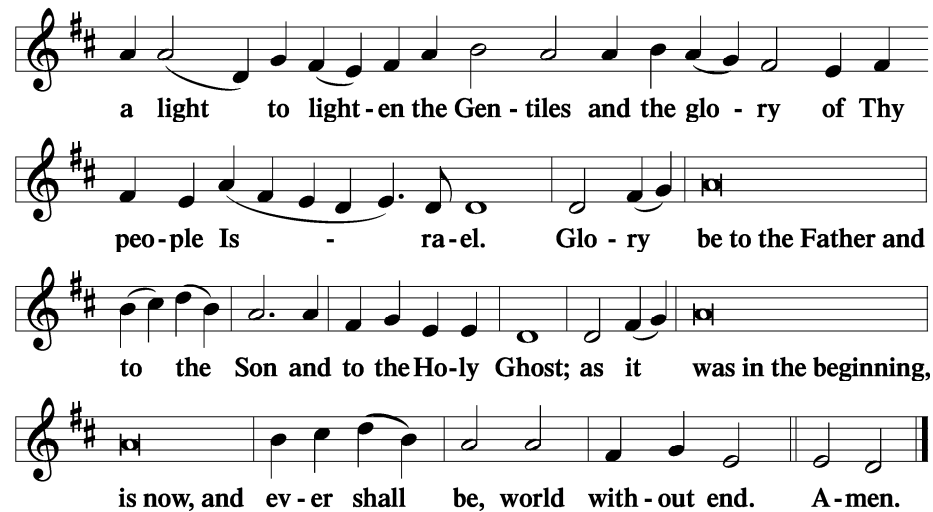
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers; *
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

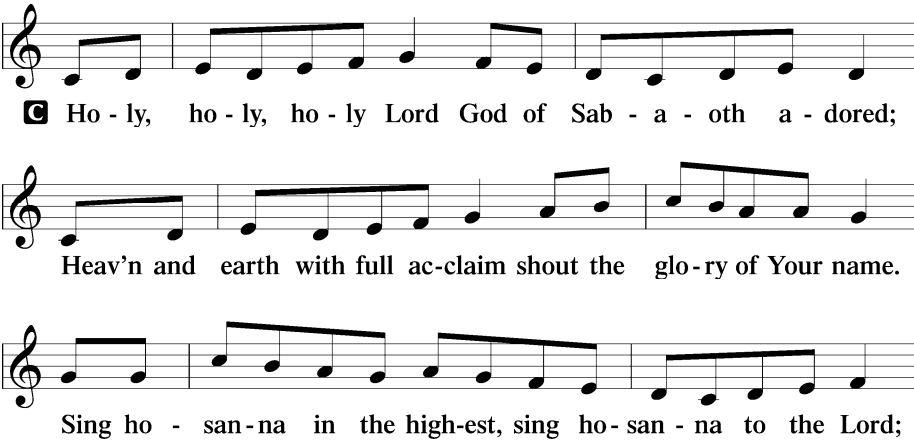
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)" for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

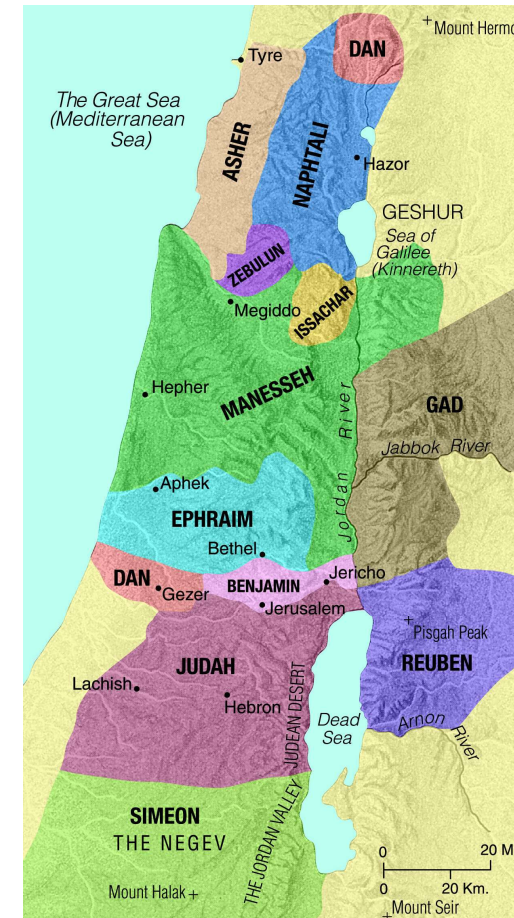
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

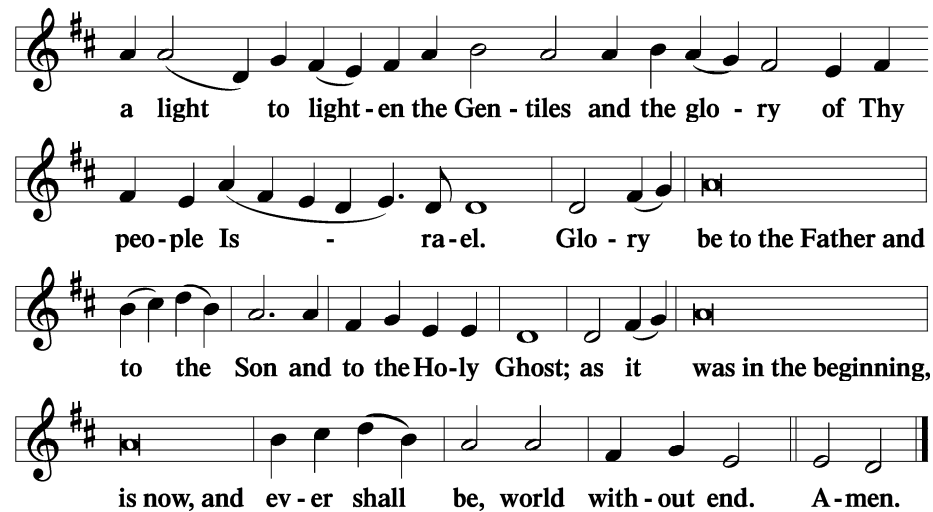
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

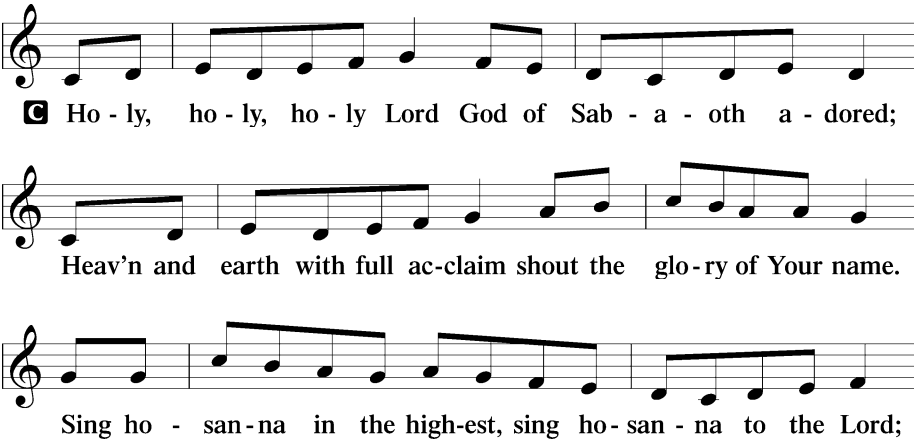
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

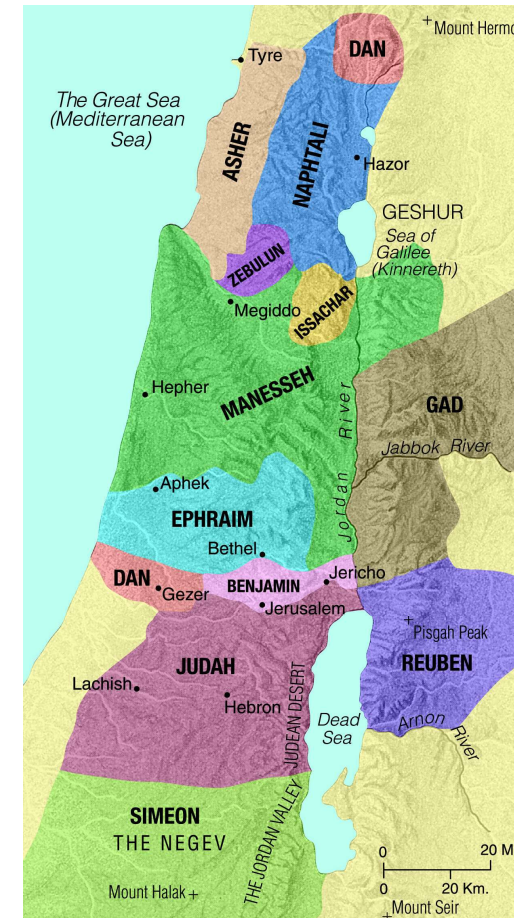
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about

a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204

C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
 and the staff for his shoulder,
 the rod of his oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
 Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

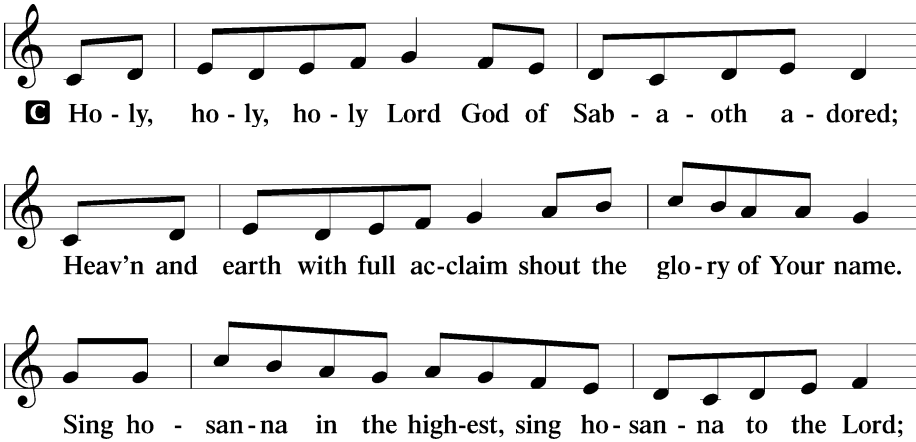
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

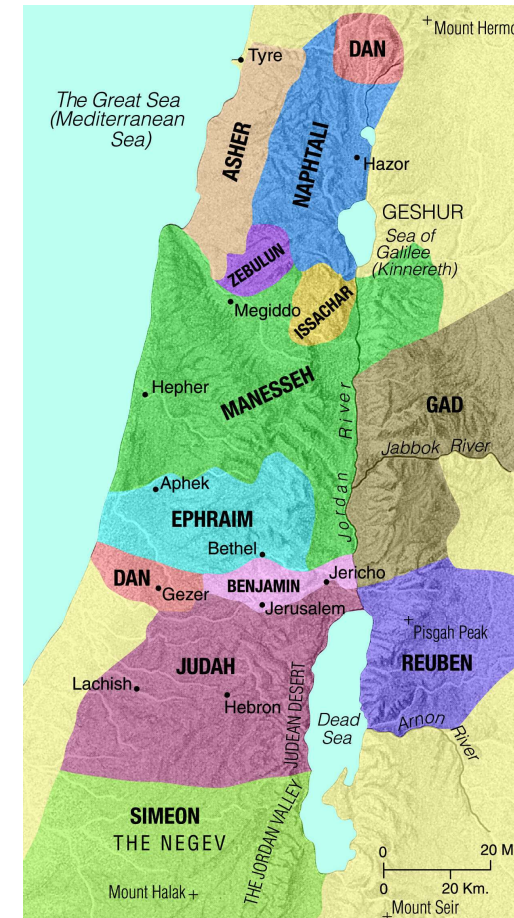
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about

a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204

C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
 and the staff for his shoulder,
 the rod of his oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
 Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

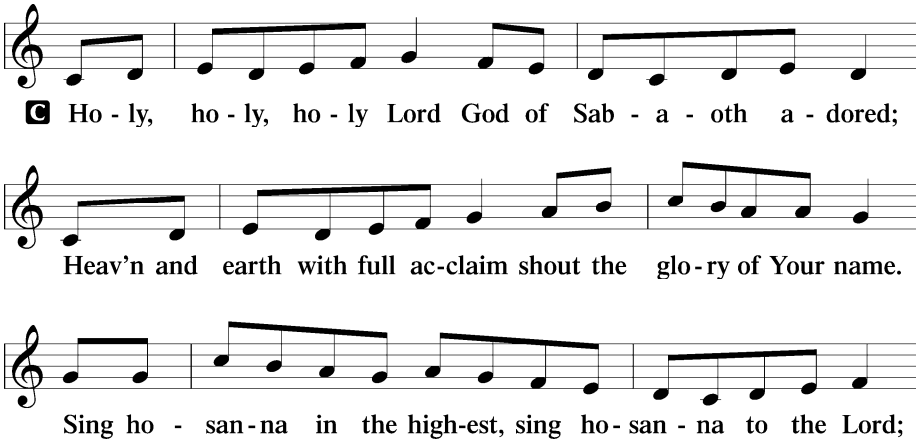
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)" for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

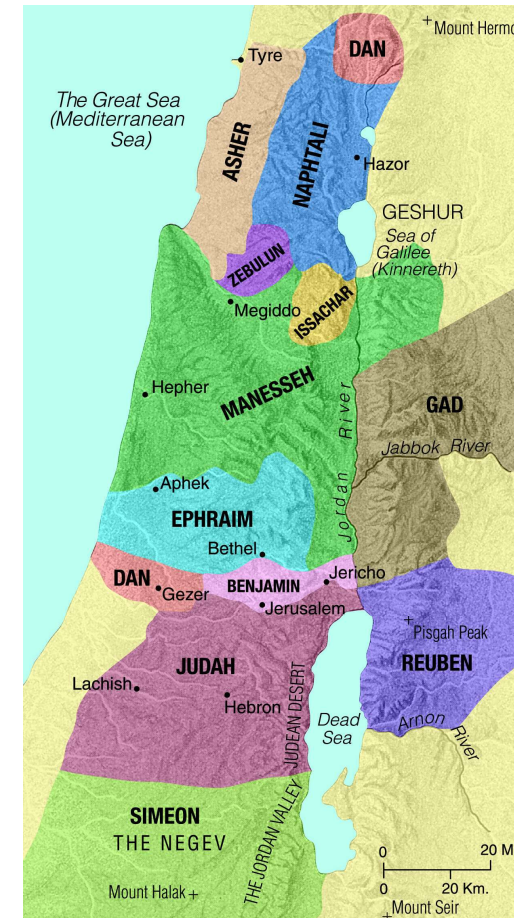
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

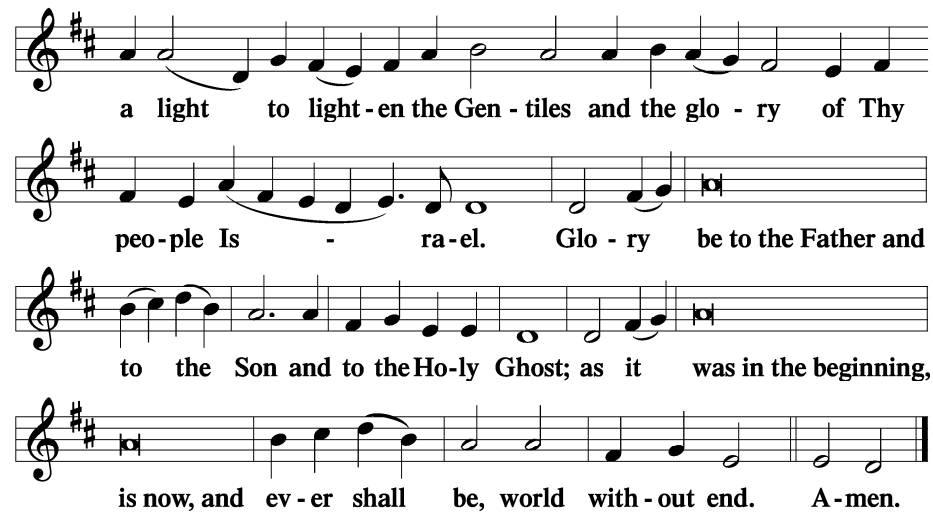
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers; *
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
 and the staff for his shoulder,
 the rod of his oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
 Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

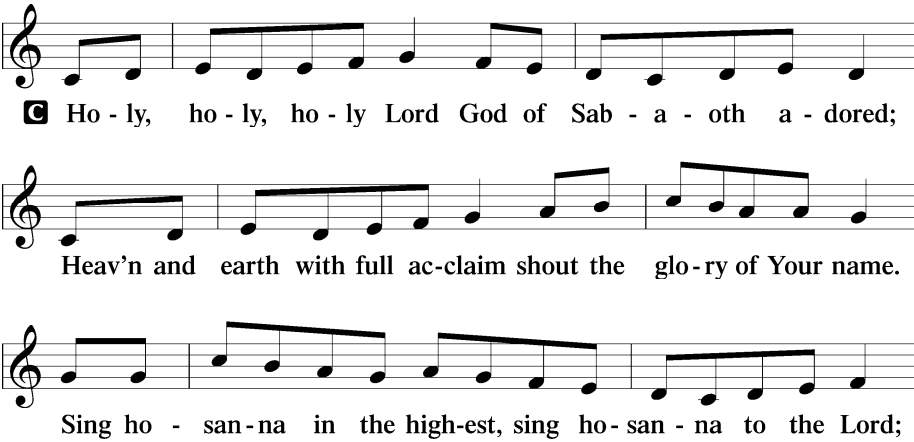
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55) for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

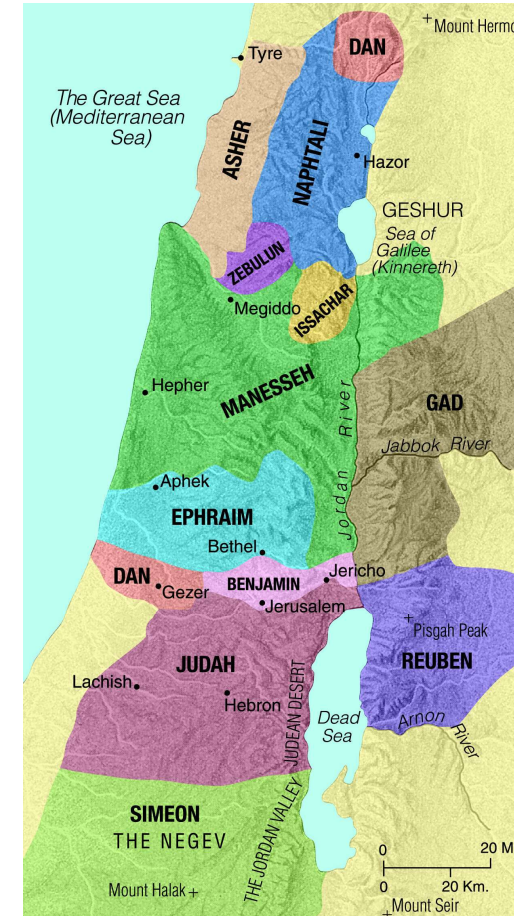
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

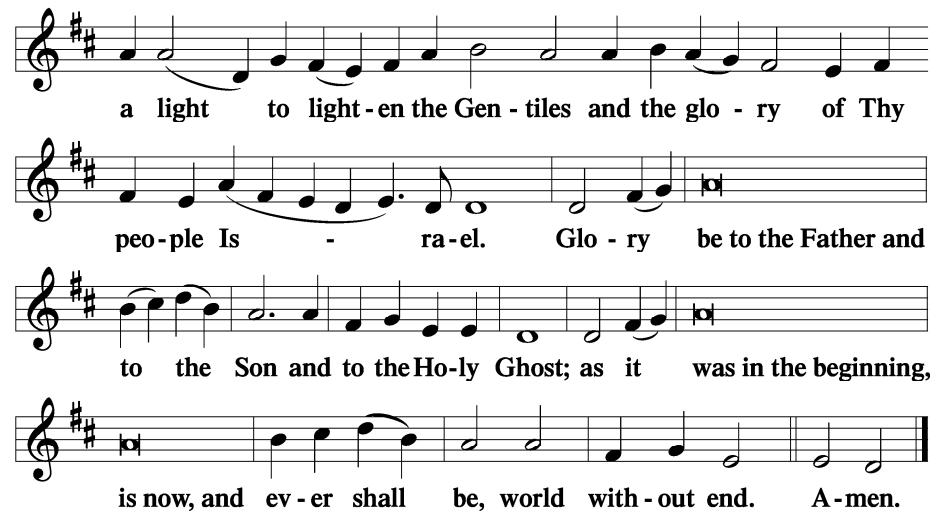
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

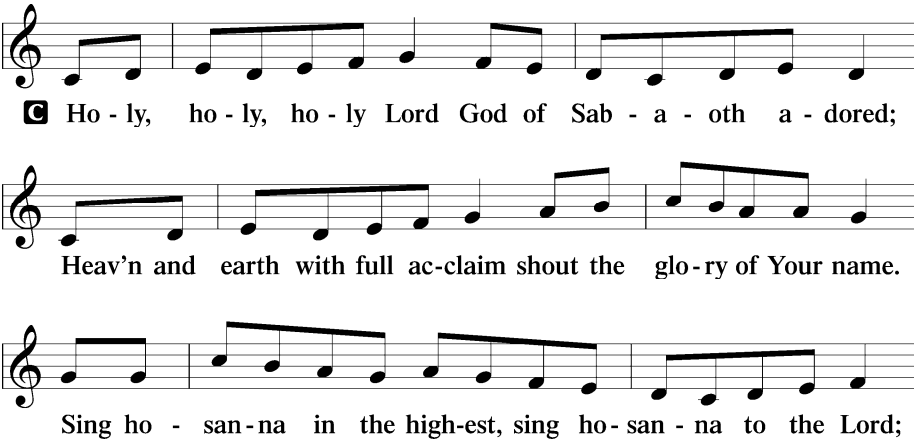
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.

Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✠ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

CONTRIBUTE

A Special Thank You from Mount Olive and Karen Fontaine

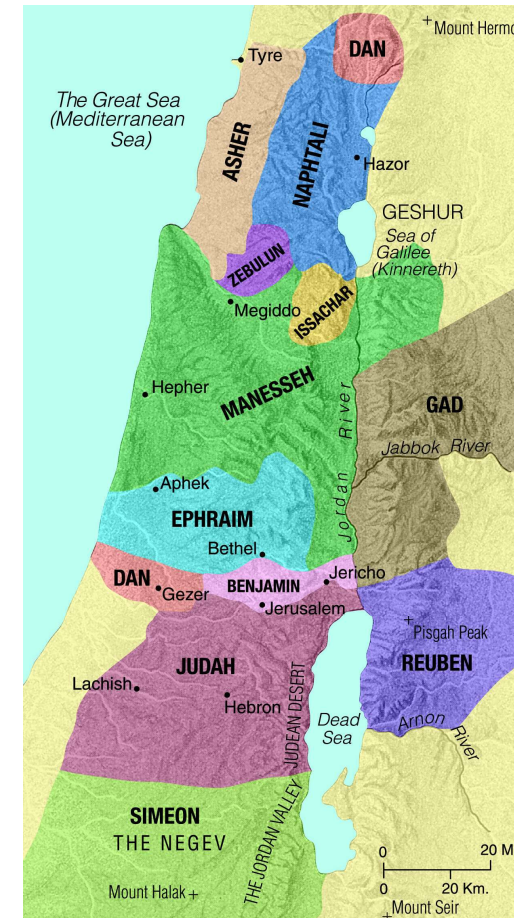
Thank you to all who contributed beautiful pointsettias to adorn our altar for our Christmas Services.

Many Thanks to John, Norma and the Vang Children for setting up and taking down our Christmas tree in the sanctuary and Norman, Heather, and Fred for putting up and taking down the nativity display outside.

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.

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 25, 2026



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



Mt. Olive
Lutheran
Church

320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

Ordinary Discipleship

As We Gather

The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

PREPARATION

Opening Hymn: LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

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 up coming 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.

LWML

LWML is in the final three months of collecting Mites for the 2024-2026 Mission Grants. Grants 1-14 have now been paid. Grants 15 through 18 need to be paid by March 31, 2026. Grant #15 is “1 in Every One” new CNH Missions & Ministries \$8,500 CNH District Mission Agency in Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal. The Mission goal deadline is March 31, 2026! For LWML to achieve the mission goals by March 31, 2026, it is important to contribute coins, bills, and checks to your Mite Boxes and return to the Mighty Mite box in the narthex. Your offerings and prayers bring the love and hope of Jesus to those in need. Our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting LWML grants. Please ask Lana Sullivan or Karen Fontaine-Benedict if you have any questions.

LWML will be meeting quarterly, and our next LWML meeting will be March 19th at 11:15 am in the sanctuary classroom.

estate planning from Green Valley Mortuary. This hopes to be very informative. 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 and this would be a good time to come check it out! Call Norma Ceccardi at 530-401-8055 if you have any questions.

An Invitation from Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran congregation will be showing our thanks to Pastor Jim Pevy for his three years of service with a farewell dinner at 924 San Juan Road, Sacramento CA 95834 on Saturday, January 31, 2026 beginning at 4:00 P.M. We are inviting the Sacramento area church members to come and celebrate his new call to the dual parishes at Benicia Lutheran Church of Benicia and Trinity Lutheran Church of Vacaville.

CULTIVATE

Ladies Bible Study

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 on February 21 from 4-6 at Faith Lutheran Fair Oaks.

Bible Study Group

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.

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
- P** The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .
C on them a light has dawned.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

- P** Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.
- C** Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.
- P** Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

P Now, let us follow Him!
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

Psalm 22:27–31; antiphon: v. 22



I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.
For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.
All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one
who could not keep him- | self alive.
Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;
they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

Serving Him this Week

Worship Leader	Pastor Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Mount Olive Worship Group
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew Donnelly, Heather Hoffman, Karla Schroeder , Andrew Burnette
Ushers	Bill and Karla Schroeder
Altar Guild	Terri Busch

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.mountolivefolsom.com.

Sunday School

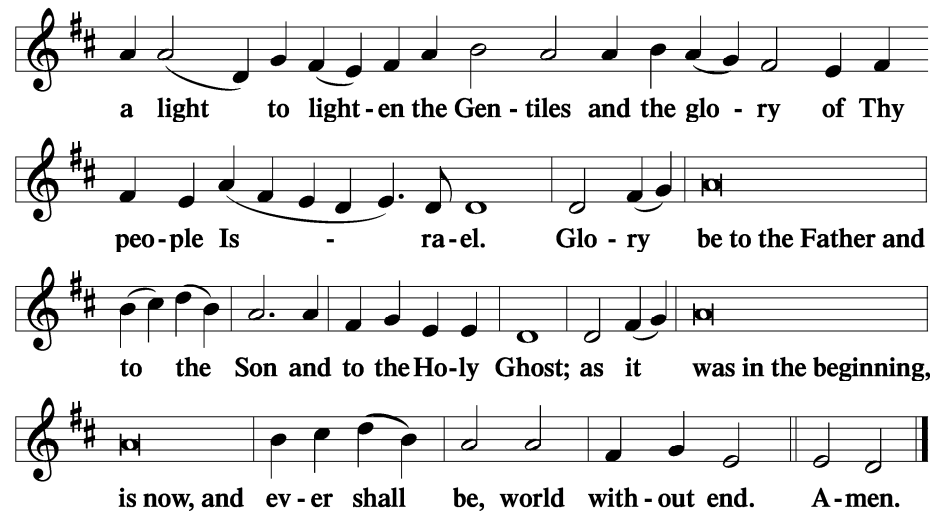
We offer Sunday School classes for children ages K through 5th grade. Lessons are during the 10am Sunday worship service, located in the back of the Sanctuary directly following the Children's Message. Children will be returned in time to participate in Communion with their families. Families of Preschoolers 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 February 19th at noon. In February, we will be having a special guest come speak to about



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.

Closing Hymns: LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments
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is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
 in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Isaiah 9:1–4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Children’s Sermon

Verse

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia.

C From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

P Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12–25

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with

Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: LSB 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon: “Figuring God Out: God’s Ministry” -Pastor Daniel Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed

Preface

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

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

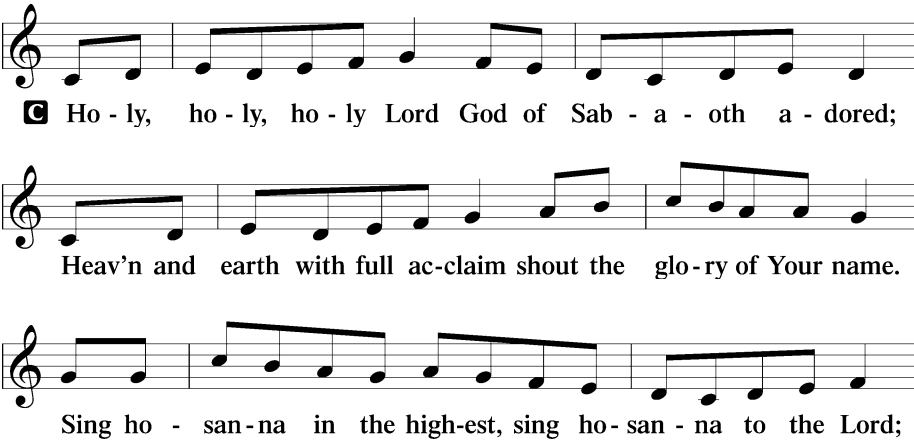
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho- san - na to the Lord;

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Rite of Confirmation and Receiving New Members: Taylor Sturgeon, Rachel Sturgeon, Isaac and Meena Wallin, and Todd Weber

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles:
“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord’s bidding. Jesus said, “Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered*

Offertory

LSB 192



C 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.

SACRAMENT

Grace upon grace. Having received God’s grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son’s body and blood which is true food and true drink (John 6:55)” for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. It is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it (Luther’s Large Catechism). ”

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord’s Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what’s meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus came teaching, preaching, and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. Continue to come to us and especially to all who suffer any need, injury, disease, or fear, [*especially . . .*]. Grant the healing of body, mind, and spirit with faith in Your never-ending help and kindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As You blessed the land of Zebulun, Naphtali, and Galilee of the Gentiles, so grant Your blessing on our nation, that those in positions of leadership and community service may work for the health, peace, and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering all who have followed You in faith whom You have called to Yourself through the grave and gate of death, give us endurance and strength to abide in the fellowship of Your church all our days, that we may enter the glorious fullness of Your eternal kingdom. 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.

C Amen.

Offering

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.

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord’s Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P *[Name]*, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✝ everlasting.

R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, the following collect is prayed.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ’s Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord’s Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make

satisfaction for sin but Christ alone. Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Peace ✝ be with you.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 4:16–17, 19

P “The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.”

Lord of light and life, we thank You for opening our eyes to see the light of Your mercy and salvation, our ears to hear Your call, our hearts to receive the faith that saves, and our minds to acknowledge Your glory. Cast Your light of grace through our lives, that many in our dark world may turn in repentance and joy to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Holy Spirit, give us faith to turn and follow You each day. Direct, guide, and rule our hearts that we may reflect Your love and forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Jesus says, “Follow Me.” Help us, O God, to leave the cares of our lives in this world to pursue the life You give us anchored in Your Word and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,