



The Olive Branch

Loving Christ in Worship, Fellowship, Education and Service

April 2026

GOD'S BLESSED ASSURANCE

Our human sinfulness alienates us from God our Creator, but the wonderful and amazing Good News is that Jesus Christ grants us everlasting salvation from our self-imposed alienation and condemnation, giving us reconciliation and eternal life with God. This is our blessed assurance in Christ! Thanks be to God!

This blessed assurance of God's grace through Jesus Christ is not a broad and uncertain appeal to some sort of generic mercy of God. Rather, through the sacrificial death and redemptive resurrection of Jesus our Lord, we have a specific and certain atonement with God. What good news indeed! What amazing grace this is!

Fully acknowledging and confessing that we are sinners who have alienated ourselves from God, we believe and trust that Jesus Christ died for our sins and was raised for our redemption. Therefore, by the power of his Holy Spirit, we profess him as our Savior who gives us renewal of life here and heavenly life hereafter. So, in thanksgiving and praise for Christ's gospel of salvation and eternal life, I would like to simply bless you with the following Bible quotations...

ROMANS 10:9-13

For if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

SECOND CORINTHIANS 4:16-17

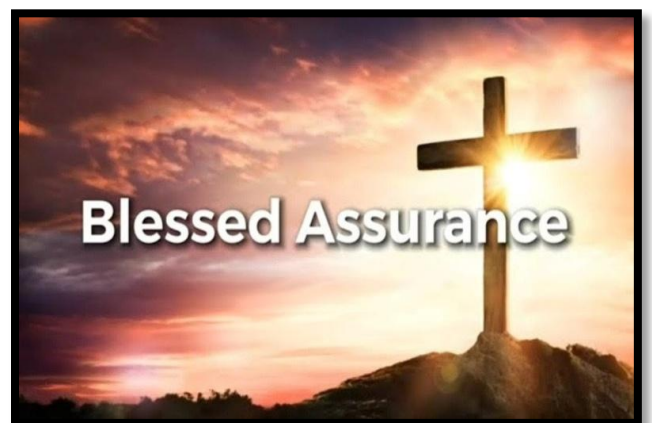
So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary

affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure.

My dear brothers and sisters, this life is so brief, and, compared to a heavenly eternity with God, this life is really a fleeting bubble in a stream or a flash of lightning in a cloud. So, in response to the baptismal grace (Rom. 6:3-5) and the gift of faith (1 Cor. 12:3b) we have received through Jesus Christ our Savior, we seek to live our present mortal life in light of these immortal gifts of Christ, looking forward to the ultimate fulfillment of God's Kingdom at the great Second Advent of Jesus Christ. With that in mind, I conclude this brief article with the words of the timeless hymn, *Blessed Assurance*...

*Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.*

Happy Easter & Blessed Eastertide!!! *Pastor Tim*



Pam's Pearls of Prayer

Scripture of the Month: John 11:25

"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,'"

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Thought for the Month

A Blessed Easter to all! This is the time of year for retrospection. We remember Jesus' triumphant entrance on Palm Sunday along with all the solemnity of Holy Week. And of course, we remember finally His resurrection and ascension to God our Father. Jesus spoke these words in John 11 to a mourning Martha following the death of her brother Lazarus four days earlier. After these words, Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead.

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Prayer for the Month

Dear Lord, we are reminded of the sacrifice Jesus made for us by dying on the cross. This was not done because of anything we had done, but because of Your amazing grace. Help us to stay on the path that You have designed for us. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Mt. Olive Preschool Update

Happy March,

This has been our silliest month yet! We kicked off the month celebrating Dr. Seuss birthday. We celebrated each day by Wearing hats (Cat in the Hat), Wearing Silly Socks (Fox in Socks), Dressing silly (Wacky Wednesday), Eating Green Eggs and Ham (Green Eggs and Ham) and wearing Red and Blue (One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish) It was so fun to read the silly rhymes and stories that Dr. Seuss came up with. The next week We had our Community Helper week. We learned about all the jobs people do in our neighborhood to help like Firefighters, Dentists, Veterinarians, Police Officers, Teachers, Garbage Truck drivers. And the kids told us what they wanted to be when they grow up. Sounds like we will have a bright future with lots of Doctors! The next week was St. Patricks Day. We dressed in green, and made Leprechaun lookers. While we looked in the yard for a Leprechaun and found a pot of Gold!!!!!! One of our parents brought in a traditional Irish meal of Corned beef, carrots, potatoes and Irish Soda bread it was very yummy and we are so grateful for her generosity. The final week of March was our Spring Break. It was nice to take some time to rest and spend special time with our family.

We hope you had a great Month and we can't wait for all the springtime activities April has to offer.

Blessings

Mrs. Ashley, Mrs. Amanda, Mrs. Robyn, Mrs. Kameny

Community Luncheon

The March luncheon was as exciting as the one in February. We were regaled with music from P3 Theatre, an ensemble group founded by John Peterson, Jane Peterson's son. The program highlighted several Oscar winning songs as well as some that were nominated for best song. We look forward to a different program from them in May.



New Members Welcomed

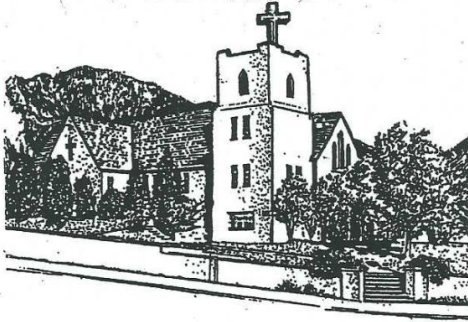
On Sunday, March 22, we welcomed two new members, Cindy Bell and Margaret Chambers, to our Mt. Olive family. We are so happy that you have joined us and look forward to getting to know you better!



**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism!
Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world!**

**FROM: MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH
3561 FOOTHILL BLVD.
LA CRESCENTA, CA 91214**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



TO:

DATED MATERIAL – DO NOT HOLD

BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

2 – Key Kurtz	16 – Nicholas Singleton
4 – Rita Kubela	25 – Margaret Chambers
6 – Oliver Puttler	26 – Matthew Kubela
9 – Evan Plummer	27 – Pam Holden
9 – Margaret Keays	29 – Larry Vogelsang

ANNIVERSARIES THIS MONTH

Cheryl & Andy Turner	No. 20
Yuki & Jim Tagawa	No. 48

SOME MEETINGS & EVENTS THIS MONTH

2 – Maundy Thursday Service	7:30 pm
3 – Good Friday Service	7:30 pm
4 – Saturday Easter Vigil Service	7:30 pm
8 – Community Luncheon	12:00 pm
11 – Cribbage Group	2:30 pm
13 – Threads of Hope	9:00 am
19 – Food Donation Sunday	9:30 am
21 – Church Council	7:00 pm
25 – Breakfast Bible Study at Panera	8:30 am



An Easter Poem

BECAUSE OF HIM

Because of Christ, we know a love
that fills the earth and sky—
a selfless and redeeming love
the world cannot deny.

Because of Him, what's wrong on earth
will, one day, be made right.

His path is ours to understand:
the Way, the Truth, the Light.

He is the hope in faithful hearts,
the glow in love-lit eyes.

Our Savior is God's gift to us.

In Him, our spirits rise.

He sacrificed His life to
satisfy our deepest need.

By Him, all wounds are bound, each
weary soul lifted and freed.

Forever cleansed and grateful,
we draw comfort from His grace,
surrender tears and sorrow to
the One who took our place.

Gladly, He laid His body down
to raise our bodies up.

He sank beneath all men and chose
to drink the bitter cup.

On Easter, we remember what
He bought, and what He paid.
Because of Him, mankind can live
unblemished, unafraid.

His blessings are eternal ones.

His promises are real.

What promise will we offer Him?

What will our lives reveal?

----- Susan Noyes Anderson