

The Name of Jesus

January 1, 2021 + Mount Olive Lutheran Church



Focus on the Season: The Name of Jesus

Eight days after his birth, Jesus was circumcised and named, in accordance with Jewish law. His name, “God saves,” is a sign not only of his ministry but of God’s plan in Christ to bring life to the world. From the beginning, by virtue of our baptism, we are also Christ, and also part of God’s hope for the world. Today we pray that even now is the “fullness of time” where God’s grace in Christ flows through us into this world.

Keep this document open on the screen, to aid in your worship today. The links are embedded in this pdf, so you don’t have to return to the email. You can also print these pages and use the links in the email.



Centering and Gathering

Light your candle. [Start the video by clicking here](#); it will continue through the Postlude.

PRELUDE: “Das alte Jahr vergangen ist,” BWV 614 J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
Recorded on December 19, 2020.

HYMN: ELW 288, “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”
Sung at Mount Olive on Christmas Day, 2017.

Word

GREETING

- ☞ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- ☞ **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE: ELW 289, “Angels We Have Heard on High”
Sung at Mount Olive on Christmas Day, 2019.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal Father, you gave your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be a sign of our salvation. Plant in every heart the love of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

FIRST READING: Numbers 6:22-27; reader – Art Halbardier, lector

²²The LORD spoke to Moses, saying: ²³Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them, ²⁴The LORD bless you and keep you;

²⁵ the LORD make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;

²⁶ the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

²⁷So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

PSALMODY: ELW 416, “At the Name of Jesus”

Sung at Mount Olive on the Reign of Christ, year B, November 22, 2015.

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:5-11; reader – Paul Odlaug, assisting minister

Paul writes: ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW 490, “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” stanzas 1 and 2

Sung at Mount Olive on the Reign of Christ, year C, November 24, 2019.

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 2:15-21

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

²¹ After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW 490, “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” stanzas 3 and 4

Sung at Mount Olive on the Reign of Christ, year C, November 24, 2019.

SERMON

Good News, Great Joy

Pastor Joseph Crippen

Silence for reflection.

HYMN: ELW 285, “Peace Came to Earth”

Sung at Mount Olive on Christmas Day, 2017.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

*Our Assisting Minister for today, Paul Odlaug, has prepared intercessory prayers for us to pray this morning. As our prayers rise up from all over the metro area and beyond, once more we are joined together in Christ. (Our weekly prayer list is on the last page.) Response: **Hear our prayer.***

PEACE *Please greet one another with Christ’s peace.*

OFFERING

There are ways to continue to give of your gifts to our shared work at Mount Olive during this time apart. *The Olive Branch* has suggested ways both electronic and by mail. See:

<https://www.mountolivechurch.org/resources/olive-branch-newsletter/>

HYMN AT THE OFFERING: ELW 296, “What Child Is This”

Sung at Mount Olive on Christmas Day, 2016.

Sending

LORD'S PRAYER *Pray the Lord's Prayer together.*

BLESSING *Response: **Amen***

HYMN: ELW 440, "In Peace and Joy I Now Depart"

Sung at Mount Olive on the Second Sunday of Christmas, year A, January 5, 2020.

DISMISSAL *The assisting minister leads the dismissal.*

☞ Go in peace. Share the Good News!

☞ **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE: "In dir ist Freude," BWV 615

J. S. Bach

Recorded on December 19, 2020.

