



The Nativity of Our Lord

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2022
10:00 p.m.

Mount Olive Lutheran
Church
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Welcome to Worship at Mount Olive!

Mount Olive is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. It is a community in and of the city where all are welcome in every aspect of congregational life. We believe that worship is central to our life together, that our weekly gathering around Word and Sacrament strengthens us for our work as people of God in this and in every place.

An elevator to the lower and street levels can be found at the northwest corner of the education wing. Restrooms are located on the main floor and lower level. Turn right as you exit the narthex, then turn left. Restrooms are at the end of the hall, next to the elevator. Please ask an usher if you need assistance!

A time of refreshment and conversation follows each Sunday morning liturgy. All are cordially invited.

Mount Olive is equipped with a hearing assist loop. If you use a hearing aid equipped with a T-Coil, switch your device to T-Coil to access. If your aid does not have that option, small headsets are available. Ask an usher for assistance.

Helps for following the liturgy: Numbers marked with the word “page...” in small case are in the front portion of the hymnal at the bottom left and right corners of the page. Numbers marked with the word “HYMN...” in caps are in the back portion of the hymnal in the upper left and right corners of the page. Note that the psalms are numbered as hymns 1-150.

Focus on the Season: Nativity of Our Lord, Christmas Eve

On this holy night we join with Christians throughout the world to celebrate the great mystery of our faith: God comes to us in human flesh, as one of us. In the middle of our broken, night-filled world we proclaim that the Prince of Peace is born among us. God comes to us in human flesh—in Christ’s body and blood—so that we may be bearers of divine light to all the world.

The Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 24, 2022 ✝ 10:00 p.m.

Choral Prelude

(seated)

“Once in Royal David’s City”

Henry J. Gauntlett

*Once in royal David’s city stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.*

*He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor and meek and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.*

*And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav’n above;*

And he leads his children on to the place where he is gone. – Cecil Frances Alexander

From Messiah

George Friderick Handel

Recitative and Aria for Bass

*For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people;
but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee.
And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.
The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light;
and they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.*

Chorus: “For Unto Us a Child is Born”

*For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given,
and the government shall be upon His shoulder;
and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor,
the Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.*

Pastoral Symphony

Recitative for Soprano

There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

*And lo! the angel of the Lord came upon them,
and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid.*

*And the angel said unto them, “Fear not; for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy,
which shall be to all people;
for unto you is born this day in the City of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.”*

*And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host,
praising God and saying:*

Chorus: “Glory to God”

Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, goodwill towards men.

Aria for Soprano

*Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem!
Behold, thy King cometh unto thee; He is the righteous Savior,
and He shall speak peace unto the heathen.*

“A Christmas Carol”

Charles Ives

*Little Star of Bethlehem! Do we see thee now?
Do we see thee shining o'er the tall trees?
Little Child of Bethlehem! Do we hear thee in our hearts?
Hear the angels singing: “Peace on earth good will to all! Noel!”*

*O'er the cradle of a King, hear the angels sing:
In excelsis Gloria, Gloria!
From his Father's home on high, Lo! for us he came to die;
Hear the angels sing: “Venite adoremus Dominum.”*

“In Dulci Jubilo” Mvt. I Sung in Latin and German

Georg Philipp Telemann

*In sweet rejoicing, now sing and be glad!
Our hearts' joy lies in the manger;
And it shines like the sun in the mother's lap.
You are the Alpha and Omega!*

“How Far Is It to Bethlehem?”

D. Cherwien

*How far is it to Bethlehem? Not very far.
Shall we find the stable room lit by a star?
 Can we see the little Child? Is He within?
 If we lift the wooden latch may we go in?
May we stroke the creatures there: ox, ass, or sheep?
May we peep like them and see Jesus asleep?
 If we touch His tiny hand will He awake?
 Will He know we've come so far just for His sake?
Great kings have precious gifts and we have naught.
Little smiles and little tears are all we brought.
 For all weary children Mary must weep,
 Here, on His bed of straw sleep, children, sleep.
God in His mother's arms, babes in the byre,
Sleep, as they sleep who find their heart's desire.*

The Entrance Liturgy

Please stand at the sound of the bell and face the cross as it is carried into the nave.

PROCLAMATION OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

AT THE PROCESSION

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

HYMN 283

Stanza 2 may be sung in harmony. The refrain is sung in English.

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

G **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus’ presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G **Amen**

The Liturgy of the Word

HYMN “Break Forth, O Beauteous, Heavenly Light”

(Sung by all in harmony)

Break forth, O beau-teous heav'n-ly light, and ush-er in the morn-ing; ye

shep-herds, shrink not with af-fright, but hear the an-gel's warn-ing. This

child, now weak in in-fanc-y, our con-fi-dence and joy shall be, the

pow'r of Sa-tan break-ing, our peace e-ter-nal mak-ing.

Tune: *Brieh an, o schönes Morgenlicht*. Setting by J.S. Bach.
Text: Johann Rist, 1641, trans. by John Troutbeck, ca. 1885.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

(seated)

Response: **☩ Thanks be to God.**

CAROL: “Love Has Come”

HYMN 292

SECOND READING: Titus 2:11-14

Response: **☩ Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN

(standing to face the cross as it is carried into the assembly)

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

HYMN 270

Stanzas 1 and 2 are sung before the reading.

Stanza 3 is sung following the reading.

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-20

Response after the announcement: **☩ Glory to you, O Lord.**

Response after the conclusion: **☩ Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please remain standing until the invocation is pronounced.

SERMON

“Who Could Be the Same?”

Pastor Crippen

Following the sermon, a brief silence is kept.

HYMN OF THE DAY

(standing)

“Peace Came to Earth”

HYMN 285

Stanza 1 – All

Stanza 2 – Low voices; All at “Who could but sigh ...”

Stanza 3 – Treble voices; All at “Who could but see...”

Stanza 4 – All

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page 104

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

(kneeling)

Response: **☩ hear our prayer.**

PEACE

(standing)

You are invited to share God’s peace with those around you.

The Liturgy of the Eucharistic Meal

AT THE OFFERING

“Nativity Carol”

(seated)

John Rutter

*Born in a stable so bare, born so long ago,
Born 'neath light of star, he who loved us so.*

*Refrain: Far away, silent he lay, born today, your homage pay,
For Christ is born for aye, born on Christmas Day*

*Cradled by mother so fair, tender her lullaby,
Over her son so dear, angel hosts fill the sky. Refrain*

*Love in that stable was born, into our hearts to flow,
Innocent dreaming babe, make me thy love to know. Refrain*

PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS

(standing as the gifts are brought forward)

“Your Little Ones, Dear Lord”

HYMN 286

Stanza 1 – All

Stanza 3 – High voices

Stanza 2 – Low voices

Stanza 4 – All

GREAT THANKSGIVING



P The Lord be with you. C And al-so 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 God thanks and praise.

Sanctus

“Holy, Holy, Holy Lord”

HYMN 192

Eucharistic Prayer *(attributed to Hippolytus, 3rd c.)*

Response: **☩ Amen.**

Lord’s Prayer

page 163

“Our Father in heaven...” *(chanted by all)*

AT THE COMMUNION

(seated)

Receive the bread, and then the wine by drinking from the first cup or dipping the bread in the second cup.

The bread is gluten-free.

If you are unable to come forward, please alert an usher, and the ministers will bring the meal to you.

“Jesus, Lamb of God”

HYMN 199

“On Christmas Night”

HYMN 274

Stanza 1 – All

Stanza 3 – Low voices

Stanza 2 – High voices

Stanza 4 – All

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

HYMN 279

Stanza 1 – All

Stanza 2 – All, in harmony

Stanza 3 – High voices; All at “No ear may hear his coming ...”

Stanza 4 – All

After all have communed:

COMMUNION BLESSING

(standing)

Response: **☩ Amen.**

PROCESSION OF CANDLELIGHT

“Silent Night, Holy Night!”

HYMN 281

PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Response: **☩ Amen.**

The Sending Liturgy

SOLEMN BENEDICTION

P Coming to us as fully human, the Son of God scattered the shadows of this world, and filled the earth with God's beauty. The God of infinite goodness scatter the shadows of sin and brighten your hearts with holiness.

C Amen

P God sent angels to the shepherds to herald the great joy of our Savior's birth. God fill you with joy and make you heralds of the Gospel.

C Amen

P When God's Word took on human flesh, earth was joined to heaven. God give you peace and goodwill, and fellowship with the heavenly host.

C Amen

P The blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever.

C Amen

HYMN AT THE RETIRING PROCESSION

"Joy to the World"

HYMN 267

Stanzas 2 and 3 may be sung in harmony.

DISMISSAL

A The light shines in the darkness,

C and the darkness has not overcome it.

A Go in peace. Share the good news!

C Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

"In Dulci Jubilo"

J.S. Bach

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister & Preacher	Pastor Joseph Crippen
Organist	Cantor David Cherwien
Assisting Minister	Vicar Mollie Hamre
Sacristan	Brad Nelson
Eucharistic Minister	Kandi Jo Nelson
Lector	Andrew Andersen
Acolytes	David Bryce, Steve Manuel, Katie Krueger & Matt McCuen
Ushers	Brian Jacobs & George Ferguson, Andrew Andersen, Jerry Duncan
Altar Guild	Bonnie McLellan, Mary Crippen
Choir	Mount Olive Cantorei
Soloists	Tricia Van Ee, Chandler Molbert
String Ensemble	Marc Levine and Jim Bertsch, violins Emily Hagen, viola Jane Cords-O'Hara, 'cello Mark Kausch, bass

Christmas and Epiphany Worship at Mount Olive

Christmas Day: Sunday, December 25, 2022

Festival Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.

The Name of Jesus: Sunday, January 1, 2023

Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.

The Epiphany of Our Lord: Friday, January 6, 2023

Holy Eucharist at 7:00 p.m.

The Baptism of Our Lord: Sunday, January 8, 2023

Holy Eucharist at 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.



Mount Olive Lutheran Church (ELCA)

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Musical, Liturgical, Welcoming + A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

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Staff

Pastor – Joseph Crippen

Cantor - David Cherwien

Vicar – Mollie Hamre

Administrative Assistant – Cha Posz

Sexton – Jose Morocho

Coordinator of Neighborhood Ministry – Jim Bargmann