



# The Nativity of Our Lord

## Christmas Day

December 25, 2023 + 10:00 a.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!

**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 Day

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On this Christmas morning the people of God gather to celebrate the birth of the Word made flesh, Christ Jesus our Savior. John’s Gospel tells of the Word that dwells among us, full of grace and truth: the light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot understand it. It is in the liturgy that we encounter the Word made flesh—in the people of God gathered together as the body of Christ, and in the meal around the holy table. We go forth to be bearers of light as we proclaim this good news to all the ends of the earth.



### **Mount Olive Lutheran Church (ELCA)**

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*Musical, Liturgical, Welcoming + A Reconciling in Christ Congregation*

Email: [welcome@mountolivechurch.org](mailto:welcome@mountolivechurch.org) + Website: [www.mountolivechurch.org](http://www.mountolivechurch.org)

### **Staff**

Pastor – Joseph Crippen

Cantor - David Cherwien

Vicar – Lauren Mildahl

Administrative Assistant – Cha Posz

Coordinator of Neighborhood Ministries – Jim Bargmann

# The Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25, 2023 † 10:00 a.m.

## The Entrance Liturgy

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PRELUDE          Movement 1 from *Concerto for Two Trumpets*          Antonio Vivaldi

AT THE PROCESSION          (*standing to face the cross as it is carried into the nave*)

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

HYMN 295

*Stanzas 1, 2, 3 – All*

*Stanza 4 – Organ*

*Stanza 5 – All*

### THE 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.**

### GLORIA

“Gloria”

Joseph Haydn

*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.  
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you.*

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

☞ Let us pray. All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

☛ **Amen.**

# The Liturgy of the Word

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FIRST READING: Isaiah 52:7-10 (seated)

Response: **☩ Thanks be to God.**

CAROL

“Joy to the World” (*paraphrase of the appointed Psalm, 98*) HYMN 267

SECOND READING: Hebrews 1:1-4

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

“Let Our Gladness Have No End” HYMN 291

*Stanzas 1 and 2 are sung before the reading.*

*Stanzas 3 and 4 are sung following the reading.*

HOLY GOSPEL: John 1:1-14

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

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

*Please remain standing until the invocation has been pronounced.*

SERMON

**Made Known**

*Following the sermon a brief silence is kept.*

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Peace Came to Earth” (standing) 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*

NICENE CREED

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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

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## AT THE OFFERING

(seated)

### “A Cradle Song”

David Hurd

*Sweet dreams form a shade o'er my lovely infant's head:  
Sweet dreams of pleasant streams by happy, silent moony beams.*

*Sleep, happy child, all creation slept and smiled;  
Sleep, happy sleep, while o'er thee thy mother weep.*

*Sweet babe, in thy face holy image can I trace.  
Sweet babe, once like thee, thy Maker lay and wept for me.*

*Wept for me, for thee, for all, when he was an infant small.  
Thou his image ever see, heavenly face that smiles on thee.*

*Smiles on thee, on me, on all, who became an infant small.  
Infant smiles are his own smiles; heaven and earth to peace beguiles.* – William Blake

## OFFERTORY

(standing)

### “In the Bleak Midwinter”

HYMN 294

## 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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, God of pow'r and  
might, Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!  
*Choir only:*  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the LORD,  
*All:*  
ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Based on *ADESTE FIDELES*, by David Cherwien. ©2023. Used by permission.

Eucharistic Prayer (attributed to Hippolytus, 3<sup>rd</sup> c.)

Response: **☩ Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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“Our Father in heaven...” (chanted by all on a single tone)

## 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

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

HYMN 288

“Away in a Manger”

HYMNS 277, 278

*Stanza 1 – HYMN 278, All in unison*

*Stanza 2 – HYMN 277, All in harmony*

*Stanza 3 – HYMN 278, All in unison*

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

HYMN 290

*Refrain – All*

*Verses – All, in harmony (slower)*

COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*(standing)*

Response to each: **C Amen.**

## *The Liturgy of Sending*

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### 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**

### DISMISSAL

**A** Glory to God in the highest, **C And peace to God’s people on earth!**

**A** Go in peace. Share the good news! **C Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Movement 3 from *Concerto for Two Trumpets*

Antonio Vivaldi

## WORSHIP LEADERS

<b>Presiding Minister &amp; Preacher</b>	Pastor Joseph Crippen
<b>Organist</b>	Cantor David Cherwien
<b>Sacristan</b>	Al Bipes
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Lora Dundek
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	Vicar Lauren Mildahl
<b>Crucifer</b>	Paul Odlaug
<b>Trumpets</b>	Laura Thelander & Arthur Murray
<b>Lector</b>	Peggy Hoeft
<b>Acolytes</b>	Nicholas Johnson, Consuelo Crosby, Tim Pipkorn
<b>Ushers</b>	George Ferguson & Brian Jacobs, David Anderson
<b>Bell Tree</b>	Eric Zander
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Jan Harbaugh, Bonnie McLellan

### *Christmas and Epiphany Worship at Mount Olive*

**The First Sunday of Christmas: December 31, 2023**

Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m. (note time!)

**The Name of Jesus: Monday, January 1, 2024**

Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.

**The Epiphany of Our Lord: Saturday, January 6, 2024**

Holy Eucharist at 7:00 p.m.

**The Baptism of Our Lord: Sunday, January 7, 2024**

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