



# *Lenten Vespers*

*March 12, 2025*

*7:00 p.m.*

*Mount Olive Lutheran Church  
Minneapolis, Minnesota*

# Love Does No Wrong to a Neighbor

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Jesus summed up all the law and the prophets as “Love God with all you have and are and love your neighbor as yourself.” This is the heart of the ethics of the other non-Gospel New Testament writers as well, for obvious reasons. Yet in our polarized and angry culture, divisions are the norm: hate speech, discrimination, open bigotry, targeting the vulnerable in multiple ways, this is our world.

We who are Christ, anointed in baptism as Christ ourselves, have no option but to go where Jesus goes, see “neighbor” as Jesus says God does, and love where and whom Jesus loves.

## *This week: All the vulnerable ones, all, are your care*

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If there is any consistency to God’s way of seeing the world and the people of the world, it is that the Triune God sees all as beloved, worthy, blessed. So those in need, whether people on the margins that Deuteronomy lifts up or people facing deep bodily and spiritual needs, as Jesus’ parable describes, are the ones most central to God’s care. And therefore central to ours.

*Copies of today’s Wednesday noon sermon are on the table with the service folders tonight, and on the church website at [www.mountolivechurch.org](http://www.mountolivechurch.org) and select “Sermons” from the list at the bottom of the page.*



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

3045 Chicago Avenue South • Minneapolis, MN 55407 + Phone: (612) 827-5919

*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

Interim Organist – Robert Farlee

Vicar – Natalie Wussler

Interim Choir Director – Andrew Stoebig

Administrative Assistant – Cha Posz

Sexton – Jose Morocho

Coordinator Neighborhood Ministry – Jim Bargmann

# Lenten Vespers

Wednesday, March 12, 2025 + 7:00 p.m.

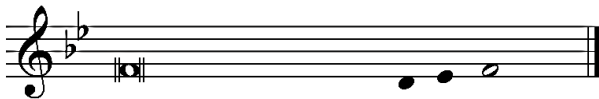
## ✝ Opening

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Service of Light

*(Please stand at the sound of the bell)*

Dialog



- L** Behold, now is the accept- | able time;
- C** **now is the day | of salvation.**
- L** Turn us again, O God of | our salvation,
- C** **that the light of your face may | shine on us.**
- L** May your justice shine | like the sun;
- C** **and may the poor be | lifted up.**

Hymn of Light: “O Gracious Light”

HYMN 231

Thanksgiving for Light

page 310

## ✝ Psalmody

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Psalm 141

*(seated)*

“Let My Prayer Rise Before You as Incense”

page 312

*Group One – Pulpit side*

*Group Two – Lectern side*

Psalm Prayer

Psalm 68:4-10

*The verses are sung by all using the following tone:*



Psalm Prayer

Hymn

“Touch That Soothes and Heals”

ACS HYMN 939

## ✝ Word

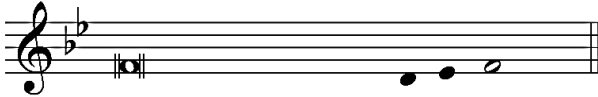
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Readings: Deuteronomy 24:14-15, 17-22; Matthew 25:31-40

(seated)

*A brief silence follows each reading.*

Dialog



☐ Long ago God spoke . . . | by the prophets.

☑ **but now in these last days God has spoken to us | by the Son.**

Gospel Canticle

(standing)

“My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness”

HYMN 251

Prayers and Lord’s Prayer

(kneeling) page 318

Blessing

(standing) page 319

Hymn

“The Day You Gave Us, Lord, Has Ended”

HYMN 569

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### **Participants**

Leader: Vicar Natalie Wussler

Interim Organist: Robert Farlee

Sacristan: Jim Bargmann

Usher: Brad Nelson

Livestream: Dan Hellerich