



The First Sunday of Christmas

December 28, 2025 † 8:00 & 10:45 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 (ELCA) and a Reconciling in Christ congregation. It is a community in and of the city where all are welcome in every aspect of congregational life. We believe that the liturgy 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.

Following the Liturgy

- *Page*: Numbers marked “page ...” are in the front of the cranberry red hymnal in the lower outside corners of the pages.
- *HYMN*: Numbers marked “HYMN ...” are in the back of the cranberry red hymnal in the upper outside corners of the pages.
- *Psalms* are numbered as hymns 1–150.
- *Hymns numbered 901–1100*, marked “ACS HYMN ...,” are in the purple hymnal supplement, *All Creation Sings*.

Accessibility

- An *elevator* is located at the north entry. Turn right as you exit the nave.
- A large *unisex restroom* is located on the lower level (across the hall from the elevator).
- *Primary restrooms* are located on the main floor near the elevator.
- *Additional parking* is available on Sunday mornings behind the Career Force center at the corner of Chicago Ave. and Lake St.
- *Hearing Assistance*
 - *T-coil* is provided in our nave and other large gathering areas.
 - *Small headsets* are also available. Please ask an usher if you need assistance.

Focus on the Season: First Sunday of Christmas

On this, the fourth day of Christmas, our Gospel today confronts us with the death of innocent children at the hands of Herod, a direct outcome of the birth of the Son of God into a dark world. The birth of Jesus does not remove evil from our world, but Christ’s light, seen fully in his death and resurrection, gives us hope as we walk with all the “holy innocents” of past generations and today who have suffered unjustly.

The First Sunday of Christmas

December 28, 2025 + 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.

The Entrance Liturgy

PRELUDE: Two Preludes on “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

John Leavitt and Johannes Brahms

ENTRANCE HYMN

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

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

HYMN 275

THE GREETING

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

KYRIE

page 138

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

page 139

“Glory to God”

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

FIRST READING: Isaiah 63:7-9

(seated)

*Response: **C** Thanks be to God. A brief silence follows the reading.*

PSALMODY: Psalm 148

A brief silence follows the psalm.

The verses are sung antiphonally by side, by double verse. Pulpit side begins.



SECOND READING: Hebrews 2:10-18

Response: ☐ Thanks be to God. A brief silence follows the reading.

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



Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Christ is born!

*Verse: Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
and let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. (Col. 3:15, 16)*

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 2:13-23

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

Hush, and Listen

Following the sermon, a brief silence is kept.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

see page 11 of worship folder

NICENE CREED

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

OFFERING

(seated)

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Gifts may be placed in the offering plate or made online using the QR code on the back of this worship folder.

OFFERTORY

“Let All Together Praise Our God”

HYMN 287

Stanza 1 – All

Stanza 4 – Treble voices

Stanza 2 – All, in harmony

Stanzas 5, 6 – All

Stanza 3 – Low voices

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Response: **C** **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Sursum Corda

page 144

Sanctus

page 144

Eucharistic Prayer

- P** Holy God, Creator of all . . . the Lord’s death until he comes.
- C** **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**
- P** Remembering, therefore . . . will be restored in Christ.
- C** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**
- P** By your Holy Spirit . . . the light of Christ.
- C** **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**
- P** Through Christ all glory, . . . holy Church, both now and forever.
- C** **Amen**

Lord’s Prayer *Chanted by all.*

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“Our Father in heaven...”

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.

“Lamb of God”	page 146
“Where Shepherds Lately Knelt”	ACS HYMN 909
“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”	HYMN 272

After all have communed: (standing)

COMMUNION BLESSING

Response: **C** **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Response: **C** **Amen.**

The Sending Liturgy

BLESSING

Response: **C** **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

“Angels We Have Heard On High”

HYMN 289

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Share the Good News!

C **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE:

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

Wayne L. Wold

Acknowledgments Music of the liturgy from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship Setting Three* by Richard Hillert. Psalm tone 16 from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* © 2006. Gospel Acclamation adapted by Daniel Schwandt from *REGENT SQUARE* by Henry T. Smart.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Presiding Minister & Preacher	Pastor Joseph Crippen
* Organist	Robert Farlee
Sacristan	Jim Bargmann
Assisting Minister	Beth Gaede
Crucifer	Eric Zander
Communion Minister	Allen Dundek
Livestream / Audio Mix	Eric Manuel / David Molvik
	8:00
Acolytes	Jan Harbaugh, Robin Rayfield
Lectors	Kathy Wicks
Ushers	John Bjork, Stephanie Obadiaru
Altar Guild	TBD
Coffee Hosts	Hosts Needed!
	10:45
	David Bryce, Nicholas Johnson
	Sue Browender
	Carol Austermann, Elena Molbert.
	Robin Rayfield
	Bob Christenson & Beth Gaede
	Bonnie McLellan
	John & Lenore Pipkorn, Patry Holtmeier

* Cantor Schwandt is on vacation, returning to Mount Olive on New Year's Day.

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

Presiding Minister & Preacher	Pastor Joseph Crippen
Organist	Cantor Daniel Schwandt
Sacristan	Gretchen Campbell-Johnson
Assisting Minister	Kat Campbell Johnson
Crucifer	Jim Bargmann
Communion Minister	Art Halbardier, Rob Ruff
Livestream	Greg Murphy
Choir	Mount Olive Cantorei

	8:00
Acolytes	Larry Duncan, Jan Harbaugh
Lectors	Brian Jacobs
Ushers	Alan & Kathy Wicks
Altar Guild	Cynthia Prosek Joy Obadiaru
Coffee Hosts	Hosts Needed!
	10:45
	Elena Molbert, Tricia Van Ee
	Sarah Stoebig
	David Anderson, Irene Campbell,
	David Engen
	Mary Crippen
	Hosts Needed!

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

- **Please pray throughout the week for the following persons:** Keith Bartz; Dixie Berg; Krys Campbell-Bolz; Jan Gallagher; Tom Graves; Beth & Neil Hering; Mary Rose Kaliher; Leanna Kloempken; Bob Lee; Tim Lindholm; Jude Mostek; Gary Nack; Kandi Jo Nelson; Rhoda Nelson; Paul Nixdorf; Connie & Rod Olson; Jerry Ostlund; Russ Pearson; Robin Rayfield; Pariann Schenk; Rodney Schrank; Mark Spitzack; David & Shirley Tabis; John Wall; Grace Wiechman; Charlotte Erasmus, friend of Nancy Anderson; Joanne and Paul Solarski, mother and uncle of Emily Bird; Sheryl Greife, friend of Sabrina Bipes; Sara Brunette, daughter-in-law of CJ Brunette; Lela Frazier, Lawrence Walker, and Anne Walker, sister and friends of Irene Campbell; Theresa Ryser, relative of Kat & Gretchen Campbell-Johnson; David Gutierrez, father of Consuelo Crosby; Mary Bouska, friend of Mary Dodgson; Joe & Brenda Patnaude, friends of Tom Graves & Ginny Agresti; Jack Pogge and Joy McDonald Coltvet, friends of Jan Harbaugh; Mark Holtzen, Tom Cedal, Chuck Dull and Brian Johnson, cousin and friends of Carolyn & George Heider; the Klapushynski family (of Ukraine), friends of Jim & Judy Johnson; Bonnie Beisell, friend of Dave & Mary Rose Kaliher; Mike Ruchie, brother of Kathy Kruger; Ann Richards, friend of Carol Martinson; Harriet Marty, step-mother of John & Connie Marty; Jan McCuen, mother of Matt McCuen; Stan & Darlene Nelson, parents of Brad Nelson; Helen Feil, grandmother of Vicar Erik Nelson; Sandy Bryant, Daniel Nelson, and Martha Johnson, daughter, son, and sister of Rhoda Nelson and sister, brother, and aunt of Sherry Nelson; Chris McCune-Zierath, friend of Lisa Nordeen; Nancy Pranke, and Linda Penas, sister-in-law and sister of Dwight Penas & Kathy Thurston; Olive Oelfke, great-granddaughter of George & Marlys Oelfke, Jolie Melana Meshbesher and Kit Delfino, friends of Robin Rayfield; Aric Sorenson, former member of Mount Olive; Trish Ryan, mother in law of Erika Thurston Ryan; Miranda Alvis, niece of Tim Sneer; David Duran, friend of Kevin Vazquez; Eileen Weiss and Jim Weiss, mother-in-law and brother-in-law of John Wall; Wendell; Lynda, friend of Eric Zander; Elijah Pettis; Steve Horsfield, friends of Mount Olive.
- **For those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries this week:** Janet Crosby, Joyce Larson, Louise Lystig Fritchie, Elizabeth Hering, Nathan Bargmann, Matthew Anderson, Tamara Anderson, Shawn Bixler, David Bonk, Julie Erlandson, Jack Kruger, JoAnn Norheim, Paul Schadewald, Jason Schlude, Paul Sundquist, Daniel Wade, Robert Wick, Gregory Murphy, and Russell Pearson.
- **In hospice care:** Robert Rimbo, former Mount Olive vicar and ELCA bishop; Christiane Reichel, friend from Leipzig.
- **At the death of:** David Marcander, brother-in-law of Ken Schulz.
- **We remember the saints who have gone before us:**
The commemorations are listed on page 10 of worship folder.

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT OLIVE

Sunday, December 28 – First Sunday of Christmas, year A; The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

8:00 am **Holy Eucharist**, followed by coffee and conversation

9:30 am Godly Play / Adult Forum / Youth Discussion

10:45 am **Holy Eucharist, with the Sacrament of Holy Baptism**, followed by coffee and conversation

Monday, December 29

7:00 pm Monday Night WAVE (N.A. group)

Tuesday, December 30

Noon Bible Study (WILL be meeting this day)

Wednesday, December 31

Thursday, January 1, 2026 – The Name of Jesus

10:00 am **Holy Eucharist for The Name of Jesus**

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, January 2 – Johann Konrad Wilhelm Loehe, renewer of the church

7:00 pm Recovery Group

Sunday, January 4 – Second Sunday of Christmas, year ABC

8:00 am **Holy Eucharist**, followed by coffee and conversation

No Education Hour this day

10:45 am **Holy Eucharist**, followed by coffee and conversation

Today's Adult Forum

There is no Forum, no Godly Play, and no Youth Discussion today.

Education hour resumes on Sunday, January 11.

The Commemorations

December 28: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs - This day commemorates the young children killed by Herod in Bethlehem in his jealous attempt to murder the baby Jesus, a sobering reminder of the evil that led Christ to be born for our salvation.

January 1: Name of Jesus - By Jewish law, every baby boy was circumcised and named on the eighth day of life, so on the eighth day of Christmas the church celebrates this event in Jesus' life. The keeping of the covenant as well as Jesus' name are signs of God's salvation given to us through him.

January 2: Johann Konrad Wilhelm Loehe, renewer of the church, died 1872 - Loehe was a pastor in nineteenth-century Germany. Loehe's chief concern was that a congregation find its life in the holy communion, and from that source evangelism and social ministries would flow. He sent pastors to North America, Australia, New Guinea, Brazil, and Ukraine.

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Stanza 1 – All

Stanza 2 – Treble voices

Stanza 3 – All, in harmony

Stanza 4 – Low voices

Stanza 5 – All

1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
 3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suf - fered long;
 4 And you, be -neath life's crush-ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
 5 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,

from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
 and still their heav'n-ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.
 be -neath the heav'n-ly hymn have rolled two thou - sand years of wrong;
 who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:
 when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,

"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king."
 A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - ring wing,
 and war - ring hu - man-kind hears not the tid - ings which they bring;
 look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;
 when peace shall ov - er all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,

The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
 and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
 oh, hush the noise and cease your strife and hear the an - gels sing!
 oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!
 and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–1876, alt.

Music: NOEL, English melody; arr. Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842–1900

The Celebration Continues

The Name of Jesus: Thursday, January 1, 2026

Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.

Second Sunday of Christmas: January 4, 2026

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

The Epiphany of Our Lord: Tuesday, January 6, 2026

Holy Eucharist at 7:00 p.m.

The Baptism of Our Lord: Sunday, January 11, 2026

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



Mount Olive Lutheran Church (ELCA)

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Phone: (612) 827-5919

Musical, Liturgical, Welcoming + A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

Email: welcome@mountolivechurch.org

Website: www.mountolivechurch.org

Staff

Pastor – Joseph Crippen

Vicar – Erik Nelson

Sexton – Jose Morocho

Coordinator of Neighborhood Ministry – Jim Bargmann

Cantor – Daniel Schwandt

Administrative Assistant – Cha Posz

