



The Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 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 red hymnal in the lower outside corners of the pages.
- *HYMN*: Numbers marked “HYMN ...” are in the back of the 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: *The Third Sunday of Advent, year A*

Joyful expectation marks today’s worship. Isaiah announces that the desert shall rejoice and blossom. Jesus reveals that in God’s reign the blind see, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear. We wait with patience for Christ’s coming, even as we rejoice at Christ’s presence among us this day: in Word and Supper, in the Church and in our homes, in silent reflection and in works of justice and love.

The Third Sunday of Advent, year A

December 14, 2025 ✝ 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.

Entrance Liturgy

PRELUDE: “Reflections on ‘E’en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come” Paul O. Manz

ENTRANCE HYMN *Standing to face the cross as it is carried into the nave.*
“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry” HYMN 249

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.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

☞ Gathered under the wings of God’s mercy, let us confess our sin as we prepare for the coming of Christ.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

☞ Lord Jesus, you are God’s Coming One, who brings healing and resurrection and Gospel. Forgive the ways we take offense at your grace and deny your incarnation among us.

Sung first by the minister, then repeated by all.



☞ Christ Jesus, you are the Mighty One of God who does great things for those cast down. Forgive our blindness and inaction toward your children in need.



- ☐ Lord Jesus, you are the Oasis in the desert, the Water of Life for all people. Forgive our selfish grasp of your abundance, which brings suffering to our neighbors.



- ☐ Almighty God ✠ have mercy on you, forgive your sins, and bring you to life, now and forever.
- ☑ **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ☐ Let us pray. Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- ☑ **Amen.**

Liturgy of the Word

FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:1-10

(seated)

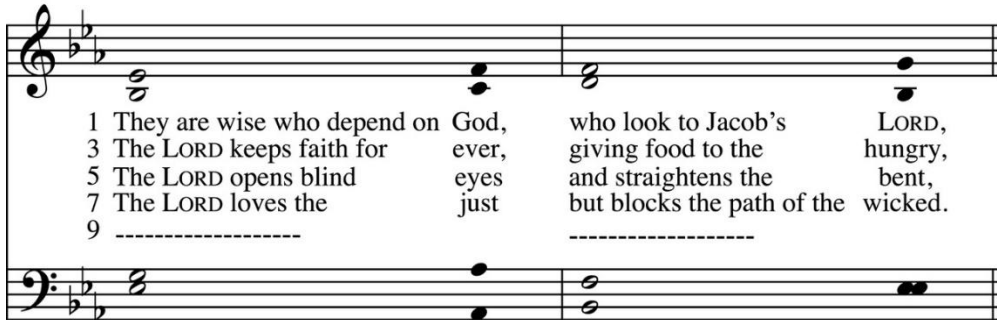
Response: ☑ **Thanks be to God.**

A brief silence follows the reading.

PSALMODY: Psalm 146:5-10

A brief silence follows the psalm.

Sung by all in harmony.




1 They are wise who depend on God, who look to Jacob's LORD,
3 The LORD keeps faith for ever, giving food to the hungry,
5 The LORD opens blind eyes and straightens the bent,
7 The LORD loves the just but blocks the path of the wicked.
9 -----



2 creator of heaven and earth, maker of the teeming sea.
4 justice to the poor, freedom to captives.
6 comforting widows and orphans, protecting the stranger.
8 Zion, praise the LORD! Your God reigns for ever, *to v. 10*
10 from generation to generation. Hallelu - - - jah!

SECOND READING: James 5:7-10

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(standing)



Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al - - - le - lu - ia.

Verse: I am sending my messenger before you,
who will prepare your way before you. - *Matt. 11:10*

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-11

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 **No Offense** (seated)

Silence follows the sermon

HYMN OF THE DAY (standing)
“Light Dawns on a Weary World” HYMN 726

(8:00) NICENE CREED page 104

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (kneeling)

Response:  **hear our prayer**

(10:45) *The Sacrament of Holy Baptism* page 227

✠ Kimberly, Daniela, and Yahir Nathan Morocho-Salazar ✠

Baptismal Acclamation: “You Belong to Christ” sung 3 times. HYMN 212

PEACE (standing)

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

Liturgy of the Eucharistic Meal

OFFERING

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.

(10:45) AT THE OFFERING (seated)
“Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding” Michael Burkhardt

Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding! “Christ is near,” we hear it say.
“Cast away the works of darkness, all you children of the day!”

Christ is coming! Prepare a royal path for him.
Open wide the chambers of your heart that he may enter in.

Wakened by the solemn warning, from earth’s bondage let us rise;
Christ, our sun, all sloth dispelling, shines upon the morning skies.

Honor, glory, might, and blessing, to the Father and the Son,
with the everlasting Spirit, while unending ages run!

- Latin, c. 5th-10th cent., tr. Edward Caswall; Michael Burkhardt

OFFERTORY

“Hark, the Glad Sound!”

(standing as the gifts are presented)

HYMN 239

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Response: **☩ Amen**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Sursum Corda (“Lift up your hearts”)

page 161

Sanctus “Holy, Holy, Holy”

page 162

Eucharistic Prayer

P Holy and gracious God . . . until he comes.

☩ Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P With this bread and cup . . . Justice and peace to all.

☩ Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P Send your Holy Spirit . . . and the whole creation.

☩ Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P Join our prayers . . . now and forever.

☩ Amen

Lord’s Prayer *sung by all*

page 163

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 164

(10:45) “All Earth Is Hopeful”

HYMN 266

(10:45) “Prepare the Way”

Anders Öhrwall

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!

Let every hill and valley a level way appear.

Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.

O blest is Christ who came in God’s most holy name.

He brings God's rule, O Zion; Christ comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.
O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace,
and tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow rejoicing, their adoration voicing.
O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.

- Frans Michael Franzén (1772–1847); tr. Augustus Nelson (1863–1949);
adapt: Charles P. Price (1920–1999), alt.

“Wait for the Lord”

HYMN 262

TABLE BLESSING

(standing)

Response: **☩ Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Response: **☩ Amen.**

Sending Liturgy

SENDING OF COMMUNION

The Sacrament of our Lord's Body and Blood may be sent to those unable to be present at our celebration.

☩ We send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that our brothers and sisters may also share in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

☩ We who are many are one body in Christ, sharing one bread, one cup.

BLESSING

Response: **☩ Amen.**

DISMISSAL

☩ Go in peace to love and serve as Christ.

☩ Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE:

“Prepare the Royal Highway”

Charles Ore

WORSHIP LEADERS

Presiding Minister & Preacher

*** Organist**

Sacristan

Assisting Minister

Eucharistic Minister

Communion Ministers

Livestream / Audio Mix

(10:45) Choirs

Pastor Joseph Crippen

Timothy Strand

Gretchen Campbell-Johnson

Vicar Erik Nelson

Jim Bargmann

Al Bipes, Larry Duncan

Greg Murphy / Ken Schulz

Mount Olive Cantorei, Andrew Stoebig, director

Youth Choir, Rebekah Schulz, director

8:00

Acolytes

Kat Campbell Johnson

Larry Duncan

Lectors

Adam Krueger

Ushers

Alan & Kathy Wicks

Altar Guild

Cynthia Prosek

Bob Christenson & Beth Gaede

Coffee Hosts

Scandinavian Coffee Hour – All are invited!

10:45

Nicholas Johnson, John Meyer

John Gidmark

Jerry Duncan, David Engen,

Carol Martinson

Mary Crippen

** Cantor Schwandt is performing in a concert in Appleton, Wisconsin today.*

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

Presiding Minister

Preacher

Organist

Sacristan

Assisting Minister

Communion Ministers

Livestream / Audio Mix

(10:45) Choir

Pastor Joseph Crippen

Vicar Erik Nelson

Cantor Daniel Schwandt

Lora Dundek

Mark Pipkorn

Andrew Andersen, Judy & Walt Hinck, Rob Ruff

Reid Peterson / Ken Schulz

Mount Olive Cantorei

8:00

Acolytes

Al Bipes, Jan Harbaugh

Lectors

Cynthia Prosek

Ushers

Lynn & Rob Ruff

Altar Guild

Lynn Ruff

Coffee Hosts

Hosts needed!

10:45

Consuelo Crosby, Tim Pipkorn

Amy Thompson

Irene Campbell, Allen Heggen,

Melissa Stone

Candy Husemoller

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; 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; Berndt Gustafson, father of Bjorn Gustafson; Jack Pogge and Joy McDonald Coltvett, friends of Jan Harbaugh; Mark Holtzen, Tom Cedal, Chuck Dull and Brian Johnson, cousin and friends of Carolyn & George Heider; Barb Heintz, mother of Andy Heintz; 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; Robert Hausman, Elijah Pettis; Christiane Reichel, Steve Horsfield, friends of Mount Olive.
- **For those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries this week:** James E. Berka, Kevin Vilchis Vazquez, Reid Peterson, James P. Berka, and Timothy Lindholm.
- **In hospice care:** Robert Rimbo, former Mount Olive vicar and ELCA bishop.
- **At the death of:** Binta Mina, classmate of Sedona Crosby.
- **We remember the saints who have gone before us:**

December 14: *St. John of the Cross, renewer of the church, died 1591* - John was a member of the Carmelite monastic order, and worked to reform it. His writings reflect a deep interest in mystical thought and meditation.

December 20: *Katharina von Bora Luther, renewer of the church, died 1552* - Born to an impoverished nobleman, Katie eventually took vows as a nun, but around age twenty-four she and several other nuns who were influenced by the writings of Martin Luther left the convent. Six children were born to Katie and Martin.

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT OLIVE

Sunday, December 14 – *Third Sunday of Advent, year A; St. John of the Cross, renewer of the church*

GIFTS THAT GIVE SALE

- 8:00 am** ***Holy Eucharist***, followed by Scandinavian Coffee Hour
9:30 am Godly Play / Adult Forum / Youth Discussion
10:45 am ***Holy Eucharist, with the Sacrament of Holy Baptism***, followed by
 Scandinavian Coffee Hour
12:30 pm Y1 Confirmation

Monday, December 15

- 5:30 pm** Family Music Time (online only)
6:30 pm Recorder group
7:00 pm Monday Night WAVE (N.A. group)

Tuesday, December 16

- Noon Bible Study
6:00 pm Neighborhood Ministry Committee meeting
6:30 pm Feminine Divine group

Wednesday, December 17

- 10:00 am** Staff meeting
5:30 pm Children's Choir supper
6:00 pm Children's Choir rehearsals
7:00 pm ***Advent Vespers***
7:35 pm Cantorei rehearsal

Thursday, December 18

- 9:30 am** ***Morning Prayer***
7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, December 19

- 7:00 pm** Recovery Group

Saturday, December 20 – *Katharina von Bora Luther, renewer of the church*

Sunday, December 21 – *Fourth Sunday of Advent, year A*

- 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
12:30 pm Y4 Confirmation

*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by
Peter Tressel & Randy Werner, in celebration of their anniversary.*

*Baptized at the late liturgy today are Kimberly, Daniela, and Yahir
Morocho-Salazar, children of Maria Salazar and Jose Morocho.*

Their sponsors are Nestor Morocho and Jaquelina Sinchi.

Welcome, Kimberly, Daniela, and Yahir!

*There is No Adult Forum today. All are invited to enjoy the Scandinavian coffee hour.
Next Sunday, we will participate in a service project for Simpson Housing.*

Acknowledgements: Psalm tone by Jerome Webster Meachen, © 1956. Psalm 146 text from *Liturgical Psalter*, © 1994 International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved. Kyrie is from Mass XI (*Orbis factor*). Music of the liturgy from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* Setting Five is adapted from traditional plainsong and the Swedish *Mässbok*, 1942 by Regina H. Fryxell, including: Gospel Acclamation, based on the Sanctus from Mass VIII (*De angelis*); Sanctus based on Mass XV (*Dominator Deus*); and Agnus Dei from Mass XVII. "Prepare the way" text © 1982 Hope Publishing Company.



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Musical, Liturgical, Welcoming + A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

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Staff

Pastor – Joseph Crippen

Cantor – Daniel Schwandt

Vicar – Erik Nelson

Administrative Assistant – Cha Posz

Sexton – Jose Morocho

Coordinator of Neighborhood Ministry – Jim Bargmann

