



The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 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 Fourth Sunday of Advent, year A

In Word and Sacrament we are not only reminded of God’s promises, we also encounter the very presence of Jesus Christ. The liturgy of Advent, following the witness of Scripture, names Jesus Emmanuel, “God with us.” God comes to us in ordinary ways, offering extraordinary gifts: new life in Baptism, gracious words to guide us on life’s path, welcome food for the journey of faith. God is with us now!

The Fourth Sunday of Advent, year A

December 21, 2025 + 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.

Entrance Liturgy

PRELUDE: "Savior of the Nations, Come," BWV 659 J. S. Bach

ENTRANCE HYMN *Standing to face the cross as it is carried into the nave.*

“Savior of the Nations, Come” HYMN 263

Stanza 1 – All

Stanza 5 – Treble voices

Stanza 2 – Low voices

Stanza 6 – All

Stanzas 3, 4 – All, in harmony

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.**

CONFESS AND FORGIVENESS

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

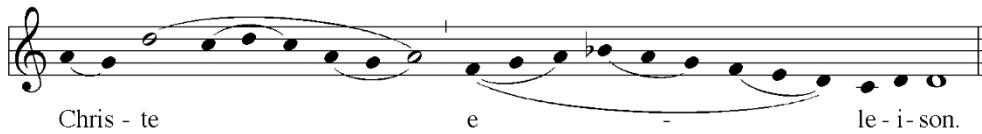
Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

¶ Lord Jesus, you are the Savior conceived among us by your Holy Spirit. Forgive our distrust and disbelief of the working of the Spirit in your world.

Sung first by the minister, then repeated by all.

A musical score in G clef, common time, featuring a single melodic line. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes, primarily on the A, B, and C lines of the treble clef staff. The lyrics 'Ky - ri - e' are written below the staff, with a vertical bar above the first 'r'. The melody continues with 'e' and a dash, followed by 'le - i- son.' with a melodic line extending from the previous notes.

¶ Christ Jesus, you are the blessed Child of Mary's own body. Forgive the ways we ignore the needs of children and all the vulnerable.



¶ Lord Jesus, you are God-with-us. Forgive our blindness to your incarnation amongst our neighbors and the creation.



¶ 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 your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

¶ Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

FIRST READING: Isaiah 7:10-16

(seated)

Response: ¶ **Thanks be to God.**

A brief silence follows the reading.

PSALMODY: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Psalm on page 12 of worship folder

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: The virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel. - *Matthew 1:23*

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18-25

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

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

Please remain standing until the invocation is pronounced.

SERMON

Don't Be Afraid

(seated)

Silence follows the sermon

HYMN OF THE DAY

(standing)

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

hymn on page 13 of worship folder

(8:00) NICENE CREED

page 104

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

(kneeling)

Response: C hear our prayer

(10:45) The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

page 227

† Elena Sofia Vazquez Manning †

Baptismal Acclamation: “You Belong to Christ” *sung twice*

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.

AT THE OFFERING

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (VENI EMMANUEL)

(seated)

Flor Peeters

OFFERTORY

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
Stanzas 1 – 4

(standing as the gifts are presented)

HYMN 257

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Response: **C** **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.
- C** **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**
- P** With this bread and cup . . . Justice and peace to all.
- C** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**
- P** Send your Holy Spirit . . . and the whole creation.
- C** **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**
- P** Join our prayers . . . now and forever.
- C** **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) “My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord”

HYMN 573

(10:45) “Bogoroditse Devo,” from *All-Night Vigil*, op. 34, no. 6

Sergei Rachmaninoff

Bogoroditse Devo, raduysia
Blagodatnaya Mariye,
Hospod s'Toboyu
Blagoslovenna Ti v'zhenah.
i Blagosloven Plod chreva Tvoyego
yako Spasa rodila yesi dash nashih.

Rejoice, virgin, God-bearer
Mary, full of grace,
the Lord be with you.
Blessed are you among women
and blessed is the Fruit of your Womb
for you have borne the Savior of our souls.

— Luke 1:28, 42

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

HYMN 257

Stanzas 5 – 8

TABLE BLESSING

Response: **C Amen.**

(standing)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Response: **C 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.

- P** 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.
- C** **We who are many are one body in Christ, sharing one bread, one cup.**

BLESSING

Response: **C Amen.**

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace to love and serve as Christ. **C** **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE:

“Savior of the Nations, Come,” BWV 661

J. S. Bach

WORSHIP LEADERS

Presiding Minister & Preacher	Pastor Joseph Crippen
Organist	Cantor Daniel Schwandt
Sacristan	Lora Dundek
Assisting Minister	Mark Pipkorn
Eucharistic Minister	Al Bipes
Communion Ministers	Andrew Andersen, Judy & Walt Hinck, Rob Ruff
Livestream / Audio Mix	Reid Peterson / Ken Schulz
(10:45) Choir	Mount Olive Cantorei

8:00

Acolytes	Larry Duncan, Jan Harbaugh
Lectors	Cynthia Prosek
Ushers	Lynn & Rob Ruff
Altar Guild	Lynn Ruff

10:45

Consuelo Crosby, Tim Pipkorn
Amy Thompson
Irene Campbell, Allen Heggen,
Melissa Stone
Candy Husemoller

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

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
(10:45) Choir	Mount Olive Cantorei

8:00

Acolytes	Jan Harbaugh, Robin Rayfield
Lectors	Kathy Wicks
Ushers	John Bjork, Stephanie Obadiaru

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

Altar Guild	TBD
Coffee Hosts	Hosts Needed!

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

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; 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; Steve Horsfield, friends of Mount Olive.
- **For those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries this week:** Allen Dundek, JoEllen Kloehn, and Lynda Pearson.
- **In hospice care:** Robert Rimbo, former Mount Olive vicar and ELCA bishop; Christiane Reichel, friend from Leipzig.
- **At the death of:** Berndt Gustafson, father of Bjorn Gustafson.
- **We remember the saints who have gone before us:**
The commemorations are listed on page 14 of worship folder.

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT OLIVE

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

Monday, December 22

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

Tuesday, December 23

Noon Bible Study

Wednesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

4:00 pm **Christmas Eve Eucharist**
9:30 pm Choral Prelude
1000 pm **Christmas Eve Eucharist**

Thursday, December 25 – Christmas Day

10:00 am **Christmas Day Eucharist**
7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, December 26

Church offices closed
7:00 pm Recovery Group

Saturday, December 27

Sunday, December 28 – First Sunday of Christmas, year A

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

Acknowledgments: “Come, thou long-expected Jesus” stanza 3 © 1989 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission under OneLicense.net A-704058. Psalm tone by Daniel Schwandt, © 2025. Psalm 80 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.

*Baptized at the late liturgy today is Elena Sofia Vazquez Manning,
child of Elizabeth Manning and Kevin Vazquez.*

*Her sponsors are Nathan Bennington Campbell, Nicholas Bennington Campbell,
Howard Vazquez Vilchis, and William Vazques Vilchis.*

Welcome, Elena!

Today's Adult Forum

*Today the Forum attendees and church youth will be packing
welcome baskets for Simpson Housing.*

There is no Forum next week or January 4, 2026.

Adult Forum resumes on Sunday, January 11, 2026.

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

1	Hear us, Shepherd of Israel, leader of Joseph's	flock.
3	Restore to us, God, the light of your	presence,
5	For bread you feed us	tears,
7	Restore to us, God of might, the light of your	presence,
18	We have not turned from	you.

From your throne on the cherubim
and we shall be saved.
we drink them by the barrel.
and we shall be saved.
Give us life again and we will invoke your name.

2 shine out for Ephraim, for Benjamin, and Ma - nasseh.
 4 How long, LORD God of might,
 6 You let our neighbors mock,
 17 Rest your hand upon your chosen one
 19 Restore to us, LORD God of might, the light of your presence,


 Gather your strength, come, save us!
 will you smolder with rage, despite our prayers?
 our ene - - - - - mies scorn us.
 who draws strength from you.
 and we shall be saved.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je-sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv-er, born a child, and yet a king:
3 Come, thou Day - break, just-ly ris-ing, night is gone, the day draws near;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.
come, thou Dawn of Peace sur - pris-ing all the shades of war and fear.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;
An - gels know not, nor we mor - tal s, when the day, and what the hour;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.
let us live then, wise and wake - ful, to the dawn-ing of thy pow'r.

The Commemorations

December 26: St. Stephen, Deacon and Martyr - Stephen was a deacon and the first martyr of the church. He was one of those seven upon whom the apostles laid hands after they had been chosen to serve widows and others in need. Later, Stephen's preaching angered the temple authorities, and they ordered him to be put to death by stoning.

December 27: St. John, Apostle and Evangelist - The son of Zebedee and brother of James, John was one of the twelve disciples and witness to the transfiguration. Tradition has named him also the writer of the Gospel of John, the three New Testament letters bearing his name, as well as Revelation.

Christmas and Epiphany Worship at Mount Olive

Christmas Eve: Wednesday, December 24, 2025

Christmas Eve Eucharist at 4:00 p.m.

Choral Prelude at 9:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve Eucharist at 10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day: Thursday, December 25, 2025

Festival Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.

First Sunday of Christmas: December 28, 2025

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

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)**

3045 Chicago Avenue South • Minneapolis, MN 55407

Phone: (612) 827-5919

Musical, Liturgical, Welcoming + A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

Email: welcome@mountolivechurch.org

Website: www.mountolivechurch.org

Staff

Pastor – Joseph Crippen

Cantor – Daniel Schwandt

Vicar – Erik Nelson

Administrative Assistant – Cha Posz

Sexton – Jose Morocho

Coordinator of Neighborhood Ministry – Jim Bargmann

