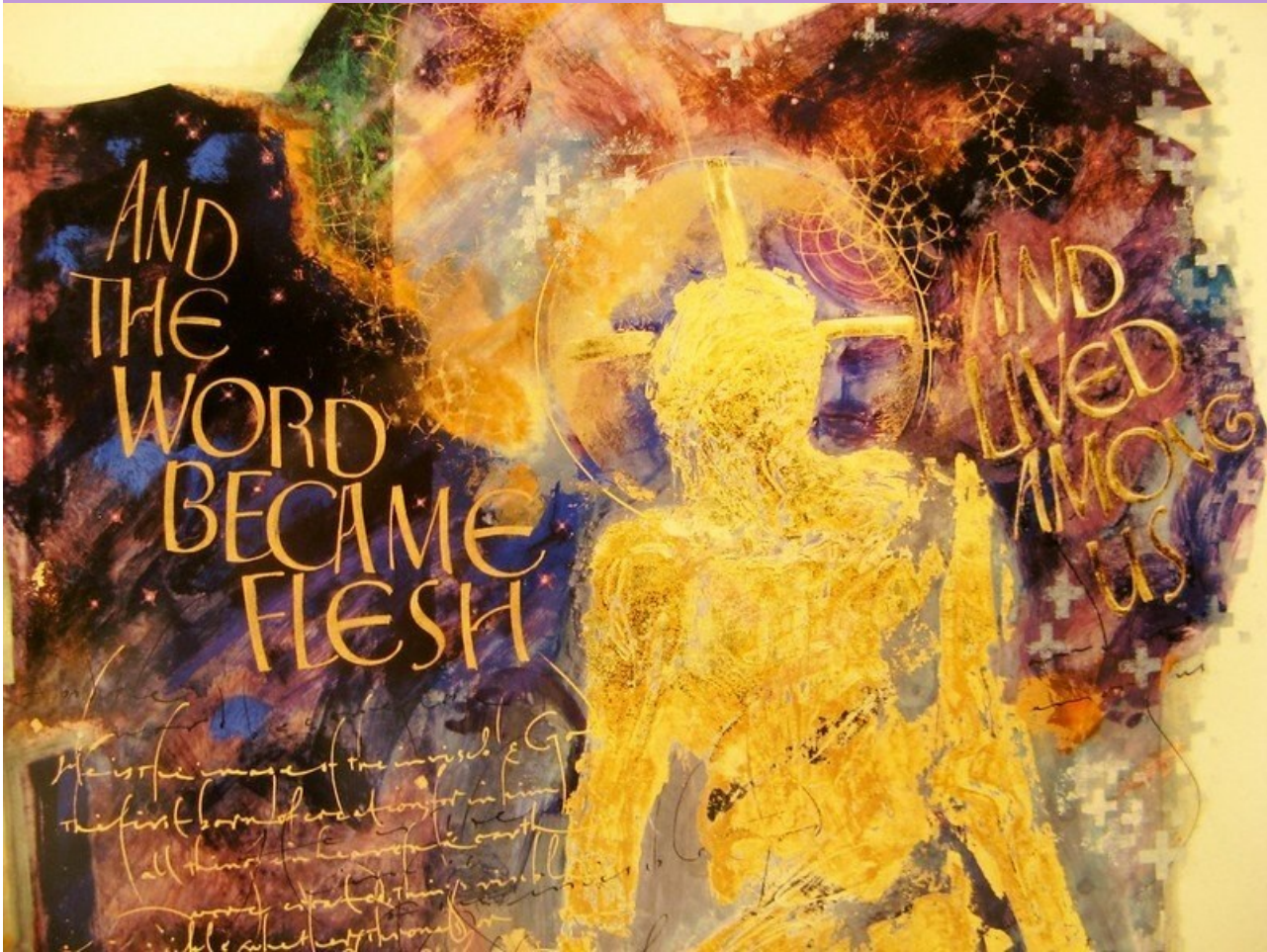


Mount Olive Lutheran Church



Second Sunday of Christmas
Sunday, January 5, 2024
8:00 am & 10:30 am

office@molive.org
www.molive.org
(507) 288-1580



A Reconciling in
Christ Community

2830 18th Avenue NW
Rochester, Minnesota 55901



Mount Olive is a welcoming and inclusive congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), serving our neighbors in Rochester, Minnesota. Our core identity is lived out in four ways: Worship, Service, Education, and Fellowship.

Mount Olive's Welcome Statement:

"We trust that God calls Mount Olive Lutheran Church to a ministry of reconciliation. We embrace as a gift the diversity of our neighborhood and the world, and we extend God's hospitality by welcoming, hearing, and treasuring: All gender identities and sexual orientations All races and ethnicities All ages and abilities All economic statuses and education levels All faith journeys and personal histories As Christ welcomes all, we too welcome the full inclusion of all people into the life, ministry, and sacraments of Mount Olive, joining in a journey toward greater love, understanding, and mutual respect."

About Worship at Mount Olive Lutheran:

WELCOME CENTER

As you leave the Sanctuary, directly to the right, you'll find the Welcome Desk. Please stop by to introduce yourself and ask any questions you may have about Mount Olive. Please talk to an usher if you would like a large print bulletin or a hearing assistance device. Feel free to contact Nancy Britson, Director of Congregational Life if you have further questions.

CHILD CARE

During the 10:30 am service, childcare for infants through 4 years old is available in the Mount Olive nursery, located at the end of the front entry hall. Pagers are available for communication.

COMMUNION

We celebrate Holy Communion each week. All are welcome to the Lord's Supper. If you choose to come forward, please cup your hands to receive a wafer. You are then invited to take a small cup of red wine or white grape juice from the tray. Gluten free wafers are available upon request; please verbally indicate your choice to the server. Leave your empty cup in the basket provided.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

While we have only one version of the Lord's prayer printed in the bulletin, everyone is invited to say it aloud in any language or version of their choosing. We encourage opening the prayer with an image of God that is comforting and life-giving for you, including Our Mother, Our Father, Holy One, or Creator, to name a few.

CREEDS

When we recite creeds in worship, we are connected across time and place with the multitudes who have recited the same or similar words. We use different creeds from week to week as a way to acknowledge there are many different ways of expressing that in which we put our trust. Try not to think of creeds as a line in the sand – you're in, or you're out. Rather, think of it as a time to be curious, and to place trust outside yourself and what you can comprehend.

VIDEO RECORDING

8:00 am services are recorded and published on YouTube. Note that parishioners will not generally appear in the recording unless seated in the front rows of the sanctuary. You can find the services at www.youtube.com/MountOliveELCA.



GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *(Please stand as you are able.)*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is observed for reflection. Please kneel as you are able.

P: God-with-us,

C: **we confess that we have turned away those seeking shelter, claiming there is no room when we have plenty. We have made power and wealth our idols, while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger. We have overlooked the shepherds, expecting good news in prettier packaging. Too often, we have valued violence instead of your peace. Turn us from our ways to your ways. Grant us the grace to begin again. Free us from all that keeps us bound, and forgive our sin, through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us. Amen.**

P: Hear the good news and rejoice! You are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, † forgiven in Christ, and freed to respond in joy.

C: **Amen**

GATHERING HYMN *(Please stand.)* "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

ELW #275

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth; once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.</p> | <p>3 Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar; seek the great desire of nations, you have seen his natal star. Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.</p> |
| <p>2 Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night, God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light. Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.</p> | <p>4 All creation, join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son, evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One. Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.</p> |

APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: The kindness of Jesus, the love of the Creator, and the friendship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**



HYMN OF PRAISE

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

ELW #289
Vs. 1 & 3



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

Refrain



Glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -



ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

The Second Sunday of Christmas

FIRST READING

Ephesians 1:3-14 (Adapted)

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.



CHILDREN'S MOMENT

PSALM 147:1-11

"Yachal"

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

Yach - al, Yach-al We wait and hope Yach - al, Yach-al We stay

Yach - al, Yach-al We trust your love Lai - dai - dai Dai-dai-dai-dai - dai Dai-dai-dai-dai - dai

"Yachal" Words & music © 2020 Worldmaking.net. Used by permission under ONE LICENSE #A-727717. All rights reserved.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(Please stand.)*

"He Came Down"

ELW #253

3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;

he came down that we may have peace; hal-le-lu-jah for-ev-er - more.

GOSPEL

John 1:1-18 (NRSV), pew Bible page 862

P: The Good News according to Saint John.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: The Good News of the Reign of God.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Dr. Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

HYMN OF THE DAY *(Please stand.)*

"Love Has Come"

ELW #292

- 1 Love has come—a light in the darkness!
Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;
hear how their song of joy arises:
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!
Love! Love! Glory to God on high.



- 2 Love is born! Come, share in the wonder.
Love is God now asleep in the hay.
See the glow in the eyes of his mother;
what is the name her heart is saying?
Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers;
Love! Love! Jesus, Immanuel.
- 3 Love has come and never will leave us!
Love is life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us.
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas;
Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

"Love Has Come" Words ©1996 LNWHymns.com. Used by permission under ONE LICENSE #A-727717. All rights reserved.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

P: Let us affirm our faith.

C: I trust in God, the Source of Love, from whose womb all things were born, in whom we live and move and have our being.

I trust in Jesus, the Fullness of Love, who was born of Mary and the Spirit of God, who lived and taught a way of justice and peace that threatened both church and state. He suffered, died and was buried, but on the third day rose again and ascended to glory. As a living presence in the world, he continues to journey with us today.

I trust in the Spirit, the Power of Love, who calls us to the gift of faith, who is ever-present, who inspires, leads, and challenges us to grow, holding together the people of God beyond space and time, keeping all creation in God's good mystery forever. Amen.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

L: Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

L: God of grace,

C: Receive our prayer.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

(Please share a sign of God's peace with one another.)



MEAL

GATHERING OF GIFTS & OFFERINGS

Our offerings are an act of worship. When we return a portion of our wealth to God through our offerings we say, "I trust you, Gracious God, to provide for me and my loved ones. I trust you to continue to sustain my life." Offerings not only increase our faith in God and make ministry here possible, they provide support for many of our partners organizations who serve needy people. Thank you.

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY RESPONSE *(Please stand.)* "What Child is This"

ELW #296

Vs. 3

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him.

The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;

Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray:

C: Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Child, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also 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 our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty.....All praise and glory are yours, O God, now and always.

C: Amen

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION



Today, you're invited to address God in this prayer of Jesus using Our Word, or any other image you prefer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray the prayer Jesus taught his first disciples.

C: Our Word, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

P: A child has been born for us, a Son given to us. Come, receive the gift of Jesus.
All are welcome here.

Please be seated.

All are welcome to the Lord's Supper. As you come forward, please cup your hands to receive a wafer. You are then invited to take a small cup of red wine or white grape juice from the tray. Gluten free wafers are available upon request; please verbally indicate your choice to the server. Leave your empty cup in the basket provided.

COMMUNION HYMN

"The First Noel"

ELW #300

1 The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.

2 They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. *Refrain*

3 And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. *Refrain*

4 This star drew near to the northwest, o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
and there it did both stop and stay right over the place where Jesus lay. *Refrain*

5 Then entered in those wise men three, full rev'rently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. *Refrain*

POST COMMUNION BLESSING *(Please stand as you are able.)*

P: May the gifts of this table strengthen you and hold you in love and grace.

C: Amen.



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food. Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace, comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy.

C: **Amen.**

SENDING

BENEDICTION

P: The God of love † lavish you with grace, illumine your path, and increase your joy, today and always.

C: **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

“Let the Whole Creation Cry”

ELW #876

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Let the whole creation cry, <i>"Glory to the Lord on high!"</i> Heav'n and earth, awake and sing, <i>"Praise to our almighty king!"</i> Praise God, angel hosts above, ever bright and fair in love; sun and moon, lift up your voice; night and stars, in God rejoice.</p> | <p>3 Men and women, young and old, raise the anthem loud and bold, and let children's happy hearts in this worship take their parts; from the north to southern pole let the mighty chorus roll: "Holy, Holy, Holy One; glory be to God alone!"</p> |
| <p>2 Servants striving for the Lord, prophets burning with the word, those to whom the arts belong add their voices to the song. Pow'rs of knowledge and of law, to the glorious circle draw; all who work and all who wait, sing, "The Lord is good and great!"</p> | |

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Welcome, Worship Guests!

We're glad you are with us today! We are grateful for everyone who worships with us. If you are a **visitor** to Mount Olive today, please fill out a **Connection Card** from the pew rack indicating if you are interested in learning more about membership at Mount Olive, receiving our monthly newsletter, weekly email news, or have a prayer concern or other comment to share. Stop by the Welcome Desk in the front hallway following the service if you have any questions about our church or if you would like more information about any upcoming events. Mount Olive **members**, please use a **Connection Card** if you would like to share prayer concerns, comments, or change contact info.



You're invited to the Fellowship Hall for coffee and cookies following the service!

Congregational prayers for healing and comfort ...

- All Homebound Members
- Mount Olive members and friends who are grieving, ill, or recovering, and the family members holding vigil with or supporting the recovering and/or dying.
- Our companions in ministry in Kijota, Tanzania and Bogota, Colombia, who celebrate the Christ Child as we do. Grant them faith, joy, and hope in the new year.
- Our nation, as we work together to find common ground, move beyond our differences, and pledge ourselves to justice, equity, and responsibility for the common good.
- All people injured, grieving, or traumatized through the gun violence that plagues our land. Give all citizens the will and the means to end this evil.
- All people continuing to suffer the horrors of war in Sudan, Ukraine, Palestine and Israel. Bring an end to hostilities, and resolve to find lasting solutions that will bring sustainable

Lutheran World Relief Baby Care Kits

In January, we will be collecting items needed to complete LWR Baby Care kits and the Sunday School children will be assembling the kits. Please place donations in the LWR bin in the entry by Feb. 4th. Learn more and get a shopping card at the table in the entry at church.

Next Sunday's Readings:

Isaiah 43:1-7

When you pass through the waters, do not fear, for I am with you

Psalm 29

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters.

Acts 8:14-17

Prayer and laying on of hands for the Holy Spirit

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

The baptism of Jesus with the descent of the Holy Spirit

This Week at Mount Olive

Sunday, January 5

8:00a - Worship Service
 9:00a - Coffee Fellowship
 9:15a - Sunday School
 9:15a - Sunday Forum
 10:30a - Worship Service
 11:30a - Coffee Fellowship
 4:00p - Olive Branch Church
 4:00p - AA Meeting

Monday, January 6

5:00p - Bolder Options
 6:00p - Artist Studio with Movie
 6:00p - Scout Committee Meeting
 6:30p - Women's Ministry Team
 6:30p - Scout Troop Planning Mtg.
 7:30p - Scout PLC Meeting

Tuesday, January 7

9:30a - Staff Meeting

3:00p - SAIL Active Aging Class
 6:30p - Full Council Meeting
 7:00p - Al-Anon ACOA Meeting

Wednesday, January 8

1:00p - Bookmobile
 5:30p - Facility and Grounds Team
 6:30p - Confirmation
 7:30p - Mount Olive Choir

Thursday, January 9

9:00a - Mount Olive Quilters
 9:00a - Keyboard Club
 1:00p - Painting Group
 3:00p - SAIL Active Aging Class
 4:30p - Brews Brothers at Thesis
 6:30p - Cub Scout Den Meetings
 7:00p - In the Process Al-Anon
 7:15p - Glory Bells
 8:15p - Mount Olive Brass

Friday, January 10

9:30a - Ripe Olives

Saturday, January 11

8:30a - Men's Discipleship
 9:00a - Altar Guild Set Up
 9:00a - How Al-Anon Works Group

Sunday, January 12

8:00a - Worship Service
 9:00a - Coffee Fellowship
 9:15a - Sunday School
 9:15a - Sunday Forum
 10:30a - Worship Service
 11:30a - Coffee Fellowship
 4:00p - AA Meeting
 6:30p - Fun Fellowship Youth
 Bowling at Bowlocity

| Worship Participants | Sunday 8:00 am | Sunday 10:30 am |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Preaching | Dr. Richard Bruxvoort Colligan | |
| Presiding Minister | Rev. Lisa Janke | |
| Organist/Pianist | Deacon Travis Beck | |
| Assisting Minister | David Joyce | Bob Thomsen |
| Lector | Barb Granquist | Donna Miller |
| Greeters | Sandy Dalquist | Gerard & Carolyn Goulet |
| Ushers | Peter Heldt, Don Halley | Loren Else, Dave Mickelson |
| Communion Assistants | Helen Russell | Donna Miller |
| Welcome Desk | Nancy Britson | |
| Nursery | | Carrie Fletcher |
| Altar Guild | Pam Hundley | Denise Foy |
| Livestream Video | Jonathan Jackson | |

Sunday Forums Are Back

This Sunday, January 5, Richard BC, our Director of Spiritual Formation will lead at forum entitled "Discover Your Spirituality Type." When it comes to faith, do you ever compare yourself to others? This morning, be welcome to a workshop to help you understand your faith life, and celebrate your place in our community. Next week, Terry Krieger, our office administrator, will give a first glimpse of the proposed budget for 2025. Grab your coffee, cookie, and a place at a Fellowship Hall table each Sunday at 9:15.

Olive Branch Worship

Sunday, January 5, 4 - 5:00 pm Fellowship Hall



This service is for anyone interested in a contemplative service with music, generous communion, and a word of faithful reflection. Be welcome.

Artist Studio + Moana movie

Monday, Jan. 6, 6:00 - 8:00pm, Library meeting room. It's a family night! Richard leads us in creating personal collage cards using pictures and scraps from magazines. All ages are welcome for an evening of creativity and movie fun with Disney's 2016 hit *Moana*, rated PG. We'll make the popcorn, and you can bring other movie treats to share if you desire.

Pastor Glenn's Matthew Bible Study (Updated Schedule)

Starting on Wednesday, January 15, 6:30 pm via Zoom and Thursday, January 16, 10:30 am in-person, Pastor Glenn will lead an 8-week study in the Book of Matthew. We will be studying some of the most familiar passages in Matthew, hoping to uncover hidden gems that have been lying in plain sight. Highlights of the course will include well-known passages with these phrases: "You are the Salt of the Earth," "You of Little Faith," "My God, My God, Why Have You Forsaken Me?". Books are available soon at \$12 each and the sign up sheet is in the Gathering Area or you can contact Nancy in the office to join in. As always, you need not be a member of Mount Olive to join in the discussion, so guests are welcome.

MOUNT OLIVE STAFF

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--|--------------------|
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