



Mt. Olive Lutheran Church

Christmas Day - December 25th

Welcome to Mt. Olive

From all of us at Mt. Olive, welcome to worship. We are so glad that you have joined us today.

A Few Notes Before Worship

- Restrooms are located in the entryway
- We love having children in worship! We realize that can sometimes be challenging. If your child becomes restless, the fellowship hall or the library (across from the restrooms) are great places to regroup.
- Baby changing stations are located in every restroom
- You are our guest. If there is something else we can help you with, please let an usher know. They will be happy to assist.
- Finally, you'll find everything you need for worship printed in this worship folder or as noted in the blue hymnal located in your pew.

Assistive Listening System Available

Our assistive listening system is available with the use of the free app, Listen EVERYWHERE (available for both Android and Apple devices). If you are interested in using Mt. Olive's assistive listening system, please pick up an informational card on the table in the entryway or ask an usher for assistance.

Good News Of Great Joy – God Became Man

How can an omnipresent God be held in his mother's arms? How can an all-powerful God be too weak to walk? This is the mystery of the incarnation—that God took on human flesh. We cannot understand how it can be so. But the Spirit enables us to grasp that this incomprehensible truth is very good news. This is the Savior we need! As true man, he was born under God's law, all the commandments that we have broken. Where we have failed, Jesus was perfect. As true God, when he laid down his perfect life, it was a sacrifice valuable enough to pay for the sins of the world, so that we might be adopted as God's children.

Christmas Day fills us with wonder—that the Creator God could become flesh and dwell among us and that, in his great love for us, he would do such a thing. Let us marvel at this good news of great joy!

A Prayer Before Worship

Dear Lord, I thank you for giving me this opportunity today to gather together with fellow believers to join in worship and praise. May my worship and meditation this day be pleasing in Your sight and be deserving of Your honor. Amen.

Hymn

362 Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising sts. 1–3, 6

1 Come, your hearts and voices raising, Christ the
2 Christ, from heav'n to us descending and in
3 Ja - cob's Star in all its splen - dor beams with
6 Gra - cious Child, in mer - cy hear us, from your

Lord with glad - ness prais - ing; loud - ly sing his
love our race be - friend - ing, in our need his
com - fort sweet and ten - der, forc - ing Sa - tan
low - ly man - ger cheer us, gent - ly lead us

love a - maz - ing, wor - thy folk of Christ - en - dom.
help ex - tend - ing, saved us from the wi - ly foe.
to sur - ren - der, break - ing all the pow'rs of hell.
and be near us till we join th' an - gel - ic choir.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr.

Tune: German, 14th cent.

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 734541

Tune: Public domain

Stand

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

CW 188

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Absolution

CW 188

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Word

Salutation

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

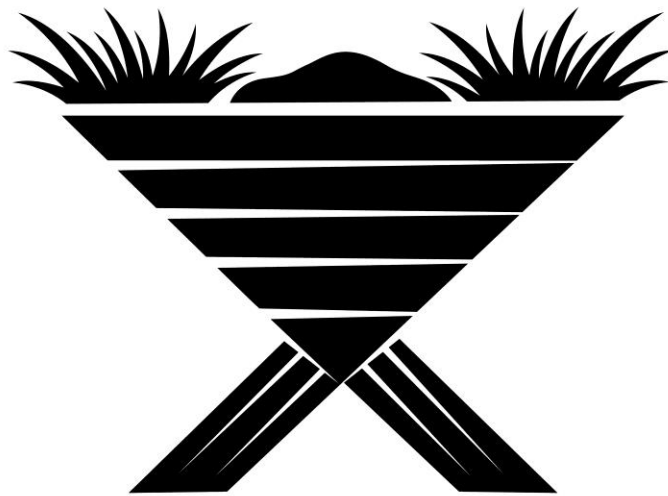
Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that the birth of your only Son in the flesh may set us free from our old bondage under the yoke of sin; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated



First Reading

Micah 5:2–5a

²“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
though you are small among the clans of Judah,
out of you will come for me
one who will be ruler over Israel,
whose origins are from of old,
from ancient times.”

³Therefore Israel will be abandoned
until the time when she who is in labor bears a son,
and the rest of his brothers return
to join the Israelites.

⁴He will stand and shepherd his flock
in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they will live securely, for then his greatness
will reach to the ends of the earth.

⁵And he will be our peace

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

347 *Angels from the Realms of Glory* sts. 1, Ref, 4

1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, wing your
4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing

flight o'er all the earth; once you sang cre -
long in hope and fear, sud - den - ly the

a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
Lord, de - scend - ing, in his tem - ple shall ap - pear.

Refrain

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship,
wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Text (st. 1): James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.; (st. 4): Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, alt.

Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

Text and tune: Public domain

Second Reading

Galatians 4:4–7

⁴But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. ⁶Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “Abba, Father.” ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but God’s child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



The children may come forward during verse 2 for the children's devotion

Hymn of the Day

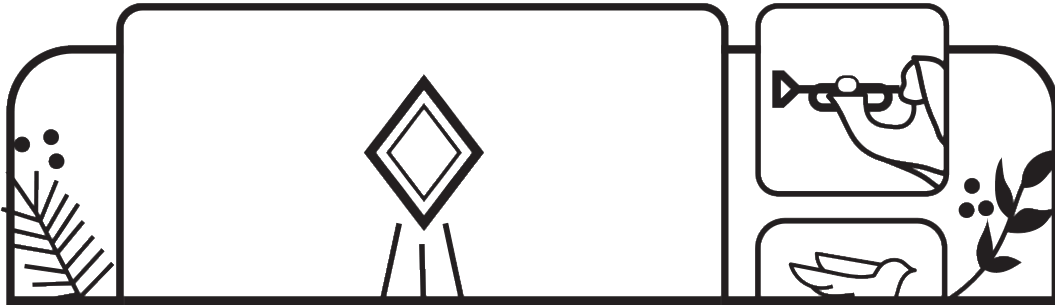
358 Of the Father's Love Begotten sts. 1–2, 5

1 Of the Fa-ther's love be-got-ten ere the worlds be -
2 Oh, that birth for-ev-er bless-ed when the vir-gin,
5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa-ther, and, O Ho-ly
gan to be, he is Al-pha and O-me-ga,
full of grace, by the Ho-ly Ghost con-ceive-ing,
Ghost, to thee hymn and chant and high thanks-giv-ing
he the source, the end-ing he,
bore the Sav-ior of our race,
and un-end-ing prais-es be,
of the things that are, that have been,
and the babe, the world's Re-deem-er,
hon-or, glo-ry, and do-min-ion
and that fu-ture years shall see ev-er-more and ev-er-more.
first re-vealed his sa-cred face ev-er-more and ev-er-more.
and e-ter-nal vic-to-ry ev-er-more and ev-er-more.

Text: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348–c. 413, abr.; (sts. 1–2): tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.; (st. 5): tr. Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877, alt.

Tune: plainsong, 13th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain



Good News of Great Joy



God's Word In Our Lives

Good News Of Great Joy! God Became Man!

John 1:1-18

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

⁹The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹²Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— ¹³children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

¹⁴The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

¹⁵(John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, "This is the one I spoke about when I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

Stand

Apostles Creed

Tune from *"God, We Praise You"*

I believe in God the Father, Maker of the heav'n and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, our Savior, God's own Son, of human birth.
Virgin-born, the Lord incarnate, Whom the Spirit did conceive,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate; He's the God whom I believe.

Crucified, was dead and buried; Down to hell in victory;
From the dead he rose the third day; Up to heav'n triumphantly.
There at God's right hand He's ruling; By His will the world is led.
He will come to judge the nations, Both the living and the dead.

I believe in God the Spirit; In His church, His chosen band.
They are joined in sweet communion; Holy in His sight they stand.
I believe in sins forgiven; I believe I'll rise again;
I believe in life eternal. Amen! Amen! Amen!

Be seated

Welcome!

Worship Registers

We're so glad you could join us for worship today and would love to have a record of your visit!

Any information you'd be willing to share would be greatly appreciated!

Use the QR Code below for an online worship register



Prayer of the Church

Brief intercessory prayers may be added in a fitting place.

Eternal Father, we give you thanks and praise on this holy day for sending your one and only Son to share our humanity, carry our guilt, and become for us the perfect Lamb who takes away the sin of the world.

Lord, we praise you.

Keep our faith in your Son alive and strong. Nourish us with your Word and sacraments and by your Holy Spirit give us strength to overcome Satan's power and empty promises. Help us to withstand the temptations the world and our sinful nature put on our path.

Give us faith and courage.

Remember ministers of the gospel throughout the world who on this day are proclaiming that a Savior has been born. We especially commend to your care the missionaries we have called as members of the Wisconsin Synod. Since they cannot enjoy the fellowship of their extended families this Christmas, grant to them the inner joy that comes with service in your kingdom.

Protect all those who proclaim the gospel in our place.

We pray for our city and countryside, for our neighborhoods and subdivisions, and for all who live and work and find delight here. Give to the leaders of government wisdom to make and uphold laws that promote the good of society. Grant our nation peace, health, and prosperity that we may have the opportunity and resources to spread the good news to all people.

Govern and prosper your people.

Fill us with kindness and arouse us to do good to all people, especially those who are less fortunate than we. Bring your healing to those who are sick or diseased in body or mind and comfort those who are mourning the death of someone they love. [Keep in your care...*here name the person and the cause of the petition.*] We especially pray for brothers and sisters who are setting aside their celebration today to care for the sick and stand at the side of the dying.

Sustain those who endure the troubles of life.

Be a source of strength to all your people and fill them with your power and peace. If any are among us today who have lost the true meaning of this festival, let them rediscover the joy that comes from Christ alone.

Let your peace reign in the hearts of all.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

As you sent your Son to bring peace to all people on earth, so we pray for all people, those known and those unknown to us.

We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



The Sacrament

Stand

Preface

Tune from "*Oh, Come All Ye Faithful*"

P: (sung) The Lord be with you.

C: (sung) **And with you, His servant.**

P: (sung) Oh, come, let us lift our hearts unto the Lord.

C: (sung) **With hearts uplifted**

Thanks to Him we render:

With joy we come before Him,

In gratefulness implore Him,

With thankful hearts adore Him

Evermore!

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whose wonderful and mysterious birth you have opened our eyes to the glory of your grace and renewed in our hearts the fervor of your love. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Tune from "*Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*"

C: (sung) Holy, holy, holy Lord!
God of hosts, by all adored!
Heav'n and earth cannot contain
All the glory of Your name!
Hail, hosanna, God most high!
Blest is He who now draws nigh
In the name of God the King!
Hallelujahs glad we sing:
Hail, hosanna! Praises due
Be forever, Lord, to You!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin.

We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Tune from *"It Came Upon The Midnight Clear"*

Our Father, Lord on heav'n's high throne,
Most holy be Your name.
Your kingdom come. Your will be done
On earth — in heav'n the same.
Give us this day the food we need;
Forgiven may we be;
Into temptation do not lead;
From evil set us free.

Yours is the kingdom; unto you
In grateful love we bow;
And Yours the pow'r; Lord, let us view
Your mighty presence now.
The glory Yours; Your praise be sung
By angel hosts and men
In ev'ry land, by ev'ry tongue
Forevermore! Amen.

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my ✝ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my ✝ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Lamb of God

Tune from *"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring"*

C: (sung) Lamb of God, our mighty Savior,
All our sins You take away.
Lamb of God, by Your great favor,
Lord, have mercy now, we pray.
Lamb of God, our prayers attending,
Never let Your mercies cease,
But, Your Holy Spirit sending,
Grant us all Your gift of peace.

Be seated

Distribution

The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith. In light of our Lord's clear warning concerning His Holy Supper in 1 Corinthians 11:27-29, we ask you take the opportunity to join us in studying what our God has to say concerning this Holy Supper prior to communing.

Distribution Hymn

331 *From Heaven Above to Earth I Come*



1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come to bear good
2 "To you this night is born a child of Mar - y,
3 "This is the Christ, our God most high, who hears your
4 "He will on you the gifts be - stow pre - pared by



news to ev - 'ry home; glad ti - dings of great
cho - sen vir - gin mild; this lit - tle child of
sad and bit - ter cry; he will him - self your
God for all be - low, that in his king - dom,



joy I bring, where - of I now will say and sing:
low - ly birth shall be the joy of all the earth.
Sav - ior be from all your sins to set you free.
bright and fair, you may with us his glo - ry share.

5 "These are the signs which you shall mark:
the swaddling clothes and manger dark.
There you will find the infant laid
by whom the heav'ns and earth were made."

6 How glad we'll be to find it so!
Then with the shepherds let us go
to see what God for us has done
in sending us his own dear Son.

7 Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes,
and see what in the manger lies.
Who is this child, so young and fair?
It is the Christ Child lying there.

8 Welcome to earth, O noble Guest,
through whom the sinful world is blest!
You came to share my misery,
that you might share your joy with me.

- 9 Ah, Lord, though you created all,
how weak you are, so poor and small,
that you should choose to lay your head
where lowly cattle lately fed!
- 10 Were earth a thousand times as fair
and set with gold and jewels rare,
it would be far too poor and small
a cradle for the Lord of all.
- 11 Instead of soft and silken stuff
you have but hay and straw so rough
on which as king, so rich and great,
to be enthroned in royal state.
- 12 And so it pleases you to see
this simple truth revealed to me:
that worldly honor, wealth, and might
are weak and worthless in your sight.
- 13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
prepare a bed, soft, undefiled
within my heart, made clean and new,
a quiet chamber kept for you.
- 14 My heart for very joy must leap;
my lips no more can silence keep.
I too must sing with joyful tongue
that sweetest ancient cradle song:
- 15 Glory to God in highest heav'n,
who unto us his Son has giv'n,
while angels sing with pious mirth
a glad new year to all the earth!

Thanksgiving

Tune from "*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus*"

C: (sung) Thank the Lord, His praises voicing,
For His promised faithfulness!
All who seek the Lord, rejoicing,
Tell His love, His name confess.
Praise the Father, Son, and Spirit,
Living God, who sets us free
By His mercy to inherit
Life and joy eternally!

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

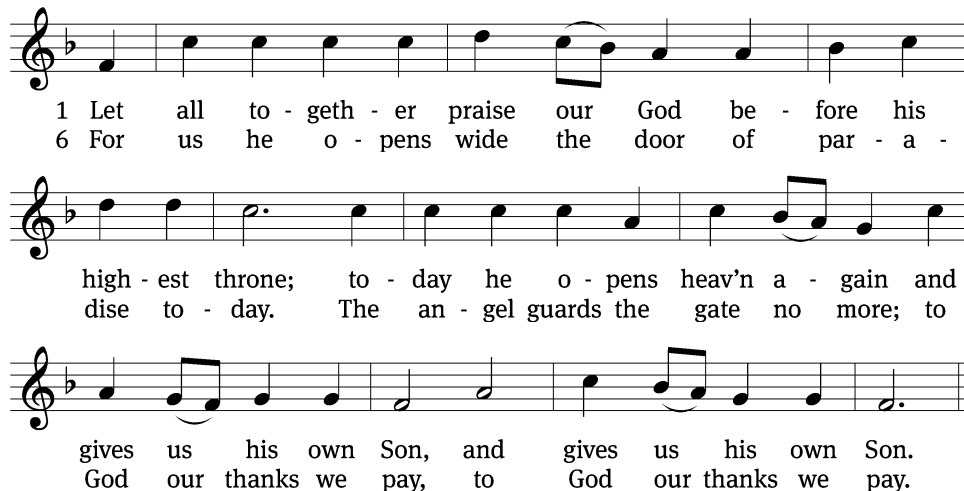
Tune From “*O Little Town of Bethlehem*”

P: (sung) Now may the good Lord bless and keep,
His love in you increase;
Lift up His face with shining grace,
And grant eternal peace.

C: (sung) To Father, Son, and Spirit,
Eternal One-in-Three,
Be thanks and praise through all our days
And to eternity!

Hymn

355 *Let All Together Praise Our God* sts. 1, 6



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God be - fore his
6 For us he o - pens wide the door of par - a -
high - est throne; to - day he o - pens heav'n a - gain and
dise to - day. The an - gel guards the gate no more; to
gives us his own Son, and gives us his own Son.
God our thanks we pay, to God our thanks we pay.

Text: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561, abr.; tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, sts. 1-3,5,6, alt.

Tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561

Text and tune: Public domain

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