



Christmas Eve Service, Monday, December 24, 4:30 PM

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Mount Olive Lutheran Church & School

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Pastors John J. Petersen & Luke Ulrich | Principal Silas Born | Evangelical Lutheran Synod

Welcome! In the name of our risen Savior we welcome you to Mt. Olive and thank you for worshipping with us. If you are a guest, please fill out a **Guest Card** (found in front of you in the hymnbook rack) or sign our guest book in the entry. We invite you to come and worship with us again soon. **Large Print** copies of the order of service from the ELS Hymnary are available from the usher stand in the back of the sanctuary. **For the Hearing Impaired:** Our facility is equipped with a hearing assistance system. Please ask an usher for a receiver.

Order of Service, Vespers

(ELH, p. 120)

~**Prelude** — *Mt. Olive Strings*

~**Hymn 125, vv. 1-2** *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

~**Senior Choir: Come, All You Shepherds** (trad. Bohemian, arr. Kenneth T. Kosche)

*Come, all you shepherds, come follow me.
Run to the manger, the Christ Child to see.
There sleeps the little Child born of Mary.
Come, see Him quickly, why do you tarry?
Don't be afraid!*

*Let us go find Him in Bethlehem's stall,
See Him whom angels proclaimed to us all,
This tiny Child now brings us salvation,
Kneel down before Him in adoration.
Alleluia!*

*Truly the angels bring tidings of joy!
Let us give thanks for the birth of this Boy.
He brings to earth God's mercy from heaven;
Goodwill to all and peace now is given.
Glory to God!*

~Hymn 150, vv. 1-2 *In This Our Happy Christmastide*

~Versicles and Gloria Patri — *Opening sentences & “Glory to the Father”* (ELH p. 120-121)

P: O Lord, open my lips.

C: ♪ **And my mouth shall show forth Your praise.**

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

C: ♪ **Make haste to help me, O Lord. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: forevermore. Amen. Alleluia**

~Psalmody: Hymn 138 *Joy to the World*

~Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 7:10-14 Moreover the Lord spoke again to Ahaz, saying, “Ask a sign for yourself from the Lord your God; ask it either in the depth or in the height above.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, nor will I test the Lord!” Then he said, “Hear now, O house of David! Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.

~Senior Choir: *This Night a Wondrous Revelation*

(tr. Anna Hoppe, arr. Benjamin Culli)

This night a wondrous revelation

Makes known to me God's love and grace;

The Child that merits adoration

Brings light to our benighted race;

And though a thousand suns did shine,

Still brighter were that Light divine.

The Sun of Grace for thee is beaming;

Rejoice, my soul, in Jesus' birth!

The light from yonder manger streaming

Sends forth its rays o'er all the earth.

It drives the night of sin away

And turns our darkness into day.

This light, which all thy gloom can banish,

The bliss of heaven glorifies;

When sun and moon and stars shall vanish,

*Its rays shall still illumine the skies.
This light through all eternity
Thy heaven and all to thee shall be.*

*Jesus, precious Sun of Gladness,
Fill Thou my soul with light, I pray.
Dispel the gloomy night of sadness
And teach Thou me this Christmas Day
How I a child of light may be,
Aglow with light that comes from Thee.*

~Gospel Lesson

Luke 2:1-14 And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city. Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"

~Hymn 144, vv. 1, 3, 5-8 *Thy Little Ones, Dear Lord, Are We*

~Epistle Lesson & Sermon Text

2 Corinthians 9:15 Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!

~Sermon Theme:

Our Celebration of an Indescribable Gift

~Offering & Hymn 127 *I Am So Glad When Christmas Comes*

*(The members of Mt. Olive give offerings as a joyful response to what God has given them. These offerings support the work of Gospel ministry in our community and around the world. **Visitors:** Please do not feel obligated to participate in this offering. We ask you to fill out a "Get Connected!" and place that in the offering plate.)*

~Versicle

(ELH p. 122)

P: Let my prayers rise before You as incense:

C: ♪ And the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

~Nunc Dimittis — "Now I Depart"

(ELH p. 124; Lk. 2:29-32)

C: ♪ Lord, now You let Your servant depart in peace according to Your word. For my eyes have seen Your salvation, which You have prepared before the face of all people, a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Your people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.

~Hymn 140 *Silent Night* (Choir, v. 1; Congregation, vv. 2-4)

*Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht,
Alles schläft; einsam wacht
Nur das traute hochheilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!*

~Kyrie - "Lord, Have Mercy"

(ELH, p. 124)

C: ♪ Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

~Lord's Prayer

(ELH p. 125; Mt. 6:9-13)

C: ♪ Our Father, 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 pow'r and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

~Collect — *The Congregation's Prayer of the Day* (ELH p. 148, #9)

P: Let us pray: O God, as You once caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light, grant, we beseech You, that we who have known the mysteries of that Light here on earth may come to the fullness of Its joys in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: ♪ Amen.

~Benedicamus — *Call for blessing* (ELH p. 84; 2 Cor. 13:14)

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: ♪ Thanks be to God.

~Benediction — *Final blessing for God's people* (ELH p. 127; Num. 6:24-26)

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: ♪ Amen.

~Hymn 124 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

~Postlude

Preacher: Pastor John Peterson / Liturgist: Pastor Luke Ulrich

Organist: Mark DeGarmeaux

Senior Choir Director: Elisabeth Urtel

Flute: Mariah Munsen

Join us for these special Worship Services:

Tuesday, **December 25:** Christmas Day (Office Closed)

10:00 AM – Divine Service w/Holy Communion

Monday, **December 31:** New Year's Eve (Office Closed)

6:30 PM – Divine Service w/Individual

Absolution and Holy Communion

Tuesday, **January 1:** New Year's Day (Office Closed)

No Service





The Poinsettias displayed on and around the altar have been donated by our members in memory/honor of the following:

Members

*Philip & Jean Jurgenson
Paul & Mary Jane Tweit
Janet & Greg Costello
Ruth & Bob Heidenreich
Tom & Joni Bode
Audrey Spear
Rev. Ted, Diane, Mark & Paul Gullixson
Elli & Joe Fisher
Dottie Kunkel
Linda Loge
Haugen Family
Becky Anton
Dave & Cindy Reimers
Sarah & Jonah Menough
Bob & Diann Brooks
Mark & Michelle Graham
Bob & Sharon Irwin*

In Memory/Honor of

*Delores Beyer, Don & Luella Jurgenson
Our Parents
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Stella & Raymond Richter
Ruth Gullixson Webber
Ron Fisher and Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Parents
Our Fathers, Derald & Reuben
Sarah's Grandmother, Phyllis Dicke

Our Fathers
Our Parents*