

Sunday, December 7, *A.D.* 2025 9:30 a.m.



Mount Olive Lutheran Church and Christian Day School

Milwaukee, Wisconsin www.mtolivemke.org 414.744.2200

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Welcome in the name our Lord Jesus Christ. In this sacred season of Advent, we enter a time of watchful waiting and holy expectation. As the Church recalls the prophets' promises and prepares for the coming of our Lord—both in the humility of the manger and in the glory yet to be revealed—we give thanks for your presence in this assembly. May the Holy Spirit grant you repentance, hope, and steadfast faith as we receive God's gifts in Word and Sacrament. Visitors are invited to fill out an attendance card from the pew rack, or introduce yourself at the conclusion of the service and email Pastor Schleider.

- →For first time visitors, this service folder will guide you through our service. The songs are in the songbook in the pew. They are referenced by number.
- →Families with small children, please sit where you are comfortable and where your children can see and engage in the service. There are activity bags for young children at the main entrance. Restrooms are located on the lower level.
- →For those who are hearing impaired, users of hearing aids with a T-coil can hear the service directly through our hearing loop system.



- →For those who are deaf, the ASL interpreter is located in the front of the church on the left at the 9:30 a.m. Sunday service.
- →Please join us for Sunday School, Middle School Bible Study, High School Bible Study, and Adult Bible Study at 11:00. Visitors, do not hesitate to ask an usher or someone near you for more information.
- →Any one in need of pastoral care is encouraged to contact Pastor Schleider at any time.

For those desiring to commune today:

We celebrate the Sacrament of our Lord Jesus Christ's true body and true blood. Since reception of the Lord's Supper expresses not only fellowship with the Lord, but also fellowship and agreement with the teaching of this congregation, we follow the Biblical practice of closed communion. Normally, members of congregations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod who have been instructed in the faith are welcome to partake; however all guests are kindly asked to speak with a pastor before communing at our altar. For children or others who have not been confirmed, but would like to receive a blessing, please come forward with your arms crossed over your chest.



THE DIVINE SERVICE

At the conclusion of the prelude, please stand as you are able. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- P In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the

 Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the

 Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

- #342 What Hope! An Eden Prophesied
 - 1 What hope! An Eden prophesied Where tame live with the wild; The lamb and lion side by side, Led by a little child!

- A shoot will sprout from Jesse's stem,
 A branch from David's line,
 A Prince of Peace in Bethlehem:
 The fruit of God's design.
- 3 As banner of God's love unfurled, Christ came to suffer loss, That by His death a dying world Would rally to the cross.
- Come, Jesus, come, Messiah Lord,
 Lost Paradise restore;
 Lead past the angel's flaming sword—
 Come, open heaven's door.

Kyrie

Choir: Lord, have mercy.





Choir: Christ, have mercy.





Choir: Lord, have mercy.





- P The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- Et us pray.

 Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Isaiah 11:1-10

¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, A and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. ²And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. ³And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. ⁶The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;

and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. ⁹They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Psalm 72

Sung together by all



Give the king your jus-|tice, O God, and your righteousness to the | royal son! May he judge your people with | righteousness, and your | poor with justice!

Let the mountains bear prosperity | for the people, and the hills, in | righteousness!

May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of | the needy, and crush | the oppressor!



May they fear you while the | sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all | generations! May he be like rain that falls on the | mown grass, like showers that wa-|ter the earth!

In his days may the | righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon |be no more! Blessèd be the Lord, the God | of Israel, who alone does | wondrous things.

A Romans 15:4-13

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶that together you may with one mind and voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

⁸For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name."

¹⁰And again it is said,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."

¹¹And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him."

¹²And again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope."

¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able for the Gospel Acclamation:



C All sing the triple Alleluia.

Choir: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight; all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

C All repeat the triple Alleluia.

Matthew 3:1-12

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.
- G Glory to You, O Lord.

¹In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." ³For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'"

⁴Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹"I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

- On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry Announces that the Lord is nigh; Awake and hearken, for he brings Glad tidings of the King of kings!
- 2 Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin; Make straight the way for God within, And let us all our hearts prepare For Christ to come and enter there.
- We hail Thee as our Savior, Lord, Our refuge and our great reward; Without Thy grace we waste away Like flow'rs that wither and decay.
- 4 Lay on the sick Thy healing hand And make the fallen strong to stand; Show us the glory of Thy face Till beauty springs in ev'ry place.
- △ 5 All praise, eternal Son, to Thee Whose advent sets Thy people free, Whom with the Father we adore And Holy Spirit evermore.

Sermon

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

- P ...Lord in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.

Offering & Voluntary

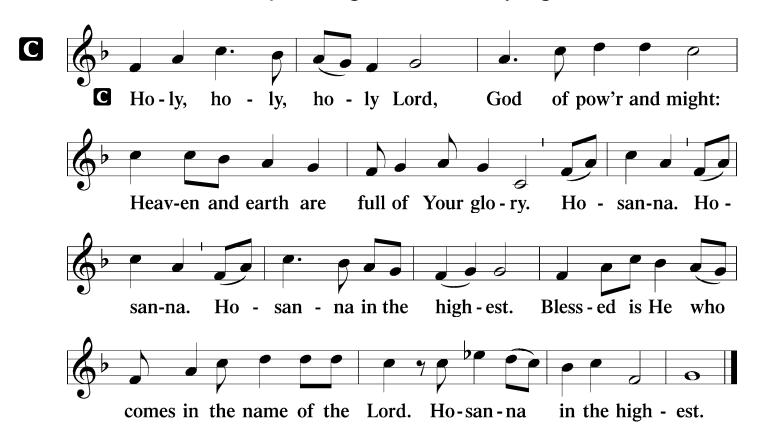
Please feel free to use this QR code for your giving.





- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.

- P Lift up your hearts.
- **G** We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

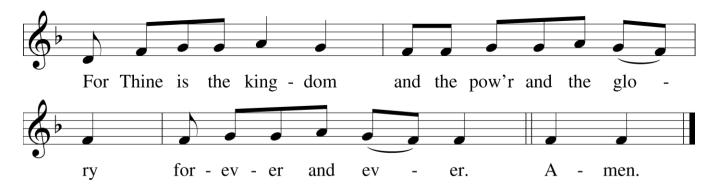
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My

→ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

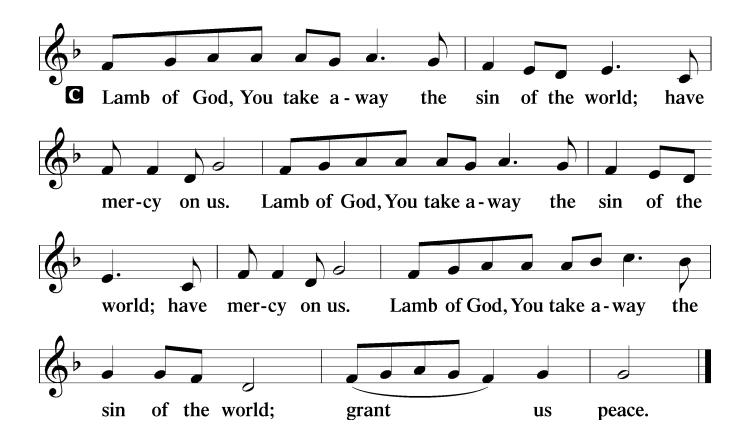
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My → blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

- P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- **C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:





- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.



343 Prepare the Royal Highway

1 Prepare the royal highway;
The King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley
A level road appear!
Then greet the King of Glory
Foretold in sacred story: Refrain

Refrain: Hosanna to the Lord, For He fulfills God's Word!

- 2 God's people, see Him coming: Your own eternal king! Palm branches strew before Him! Spread garments! Shout and sing! God's promise will not fail you! No more shall doubt assail you! Refrain
- 3 Then fling the gates wide open
 To greet your promised king!
 Your king, yet ev'ry nation
 Its tribute too should bring.
 All lands, bow down before Him!
 All nations, now adore Him! Refrain
- 4 His is no earthly kingdom;
 It comes from heav'n above.
 His rule is peace and freedom
 And justice, truth, and love.
 So let your praise be sounding
 For kindness so abounding: Refrain

Anthem

Stir up your pow'r O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Text: Traditional Advent Collect, Music: Carl Schalk

354 Arise, O Christian People

- Arise, O Christian people!
 Prepare yourselves today;
 Prepare to greet the Savior,
 Who takes your sins away.
 To us by grace alone
 The truth and light were given;
 The promised Lord from heaven
 To all the world is shown.
- 2 Prepare the way before Him;
 Prepare for Him the best.
 Cast out what would offend Him,
 This great, this heav'nly guest.
 Make straight, make plain the way:
 The lowly valleys raising,
 The heights of pride abasing,
 His path all even lay.
- 3 The humble heart and lowly God raises up on high; Beneath His feet in terror The haughty soul shall lie. The heart sincere and right, That heeds God's invitation And makes true preparation—It is the Lord's delight.
- 4 Prepare my heart, Lord Jesus; Turn not from me aside, And help me to receive You This blessèd Adventtide.

From stall and manger low
Come now to dwell within me;
I'll sing Your praises gladly
And forth Your glory show.

Please stand for the Post-Communion Canticle.



A Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood.

Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and

→ give you peace.

G Amen.

347 Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People

- 1 "Comfort, comfort ye My people,
 Speak ye peace," thus saith our God;
 "Comfort those who sit in darkness,
 Mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.
 Speak ye to Jerusalem
 Of the peace that waits for them;
 Tell her that her sins I cover
 And her warfare now is over."
- Yea, her sins our God will pardon, Blotting out each dark misdeed; All that well deserved His anger He no more will see or heed. She hath suffered many_a day, Now her griefs have passed away; God will change her pining sadness Into ever-springing gladness.

- 3 Hark, the herald's voice is crying
 In the desert far and near,
 Calling sinners to repentance,
 Since the Kingdom now is here.
 O that warning cry obey!
 Now prepare for God a way;
 Let the valleys rise to meet Him
 And the hills bow down to greet Him.
- Make ye straight what long was crooked;
 Make the rougher places plain.
 Let your hearts be true and humble,
 As befits His holy reign.
 For the glory of the Lord
 Now o'er earth is shed abroad,
 And all flesh shall see the token
 That His Word is never broken.

This morning's pre-service music is two handbell settings of advent hymns: Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending and The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns composed by Tyleen Stults. The offering voluntary is Emmanuel, Savior of the Nations composed by Derek Hakes. As you listen, you will hear a medley of two Advent hymns, O Come, O Come, Emmanuel and Savior of the Nations, Come. The communion anthem is a short setting of the Collect of the Day for the First Sunday in Advent. The postlude is a setting of Freu dich sehr (#347) composed by Johann Gottfried Walther.

Acknowledgments: Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House. Psalm 72 (Mode 1) © 1973 St. Meinrad Archabbey. Advent Alleluia © 2013 Stephen M. Rosebrock. Hymn #343: Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission. Hymn #342: Text: © 1998 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission. Other elements © Concordia Publishing House, Liturgy & Hymn License No. 110005720 or One License 739337-A.

→ Why We Do What We Do →

The Advent Wreath is a devotional practice that has its roots in 16th century German Lutheranism, although many churches use them today. The wreath is rich in symbolism. Evergreens do not have the same dormant cycle as many other plants. The use of evergreen, whether the wreath or the Christmas tree, symbolizes life, which is all the more poignant in a season where most other plants have either died or gone dormant. Come Eastertide, we find the opposite imagery; Spring and coming to life, in many texts. While candles certainly had their practical purposes originally, they also have a symbolic meaning. The use of candles recalls John 8:12 where Jesus says "I am the light of the world." The symbolism of light is so important to the church that we have a rite celebrating this, the "Service of Light" which we use on Saturday and Wednesday (evenings) in Advent. You will notice this year that we have four beeswax candles in the wreath. Over the four Sundays of Advent we will see these candles burn down as we "count down" to Christmas. The use of all blue instead of three purple and one rose aligns with our switch back to the three year lectionary (cycle of readings) where the Advent themes are slightly different than the one year lectionary. Lutheran Service Book provides us with two lectionary options; both have their strengths and weaknesses. You can compare the lectionary beginning on page xiv of the hymnal. This switch will give us an opportunity to live through more Biblical texts over the course of three years.

Christmas Services

December 24th – Christmas Eve Lessons @ 4:00 p.m. December 24th – Christmas Eve Divine Service @ 8:00 p.m. December 25th – Christmas Day Divine Service @ 9:30 a.m.

+ DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS +

- → Monday: Psalm 11; Isaiah 24:14-25:12; 1 John 2:15-29
- ₩ednesday: Psalm 130; Isaiah 26:20-27:13; 1 John 4:1-21
- → Thursday: Psalm 142; Isaiah 28:14-29; 1 John 5:1-21
- → Friday: Psalm 106:1-5; Isaiah 29:1-14; Jude 1-25
- → Saturday: Psalm 143; Isaiah 29:15-30:14; Revelation 1:1-20

+ OF INTEREST TO ALL +

+**Advent Midweek Service**

- Wednesdays @ 10:30 a.m. (use door W2)
- Wednesdays @ 12:15 p.m. (use door W2)
- Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m.
- The Feast of the Epiphany, Tuesday, January 6, 2026 \vdash Soup Supper with Desserts - 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer @ 6:30 p.m.



QR Code for Calendar:

QR Code for News & Notes:



