



MOUNT OLIVET LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday Worship - Minneapolis Campus Third Sunday of Advent - December 15, 2024 *What Child is This?*

Liturgists: 9am Pastor Dixon, 10am Pastor Cieslik, 11am Pastor Olson Popp

The Prelude

Carol of the Bells

Jeff Perks

(please stand when invited)

The Processional Hymn

Angels We Have Heard on High

289:1, 2

Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply,
echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo;
gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heav'nly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo;
gloria in excelsis Deo.

The Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen. *(please sing)*

The Confession of Sins and Assurance of Forgiveness

Pastor: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Congregation: Amen. *(please sing)*

Pastor: St. John writes, “If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sin, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:8-9). And so we gather to confess our sin, not because we fear God thinks us unworthy, but because we trust God’s promise to receive us always in mercy and grace. Let us therefore pray together with confidence...

Congregation: Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.** *(please sing)*

Pastor: Almighty God, in mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ, God gives the power to become children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. All this is promised in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen. *(please sing)*

The Salutation and Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you. *(please sing)*

Pastor and Congregation: Dear God, grant us the faith of Mary so that we may believe that you see us, favor us, and want to work through us for the sake of the world you love. In Jesus’ name, **Amen.** *(please sing)*

(please be seated)

The Hymn of Advent

The King Shall Come

260:1

The King shall come when morning dawns
and light triumphant breaks,
when beauty gilds the eastern hills
and life to joy awakes.

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Hymn of Joy

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

270:1

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

The Scripture Reading

Luke 1:26-38

Glory to you, O Lord. *(please stand as you are able and sing)*

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Praise to you, O Christ. *(please sing)*

The Profession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.

(please be seated)

The Welcome

Pastor Grangaard

The Hymn (9 and 10am only)

O Little Town of Bethlehem

279:1, 4

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

The Anthem (9 and 10am only)

Born, Born In Bethlehem

Donald Moore

Alleluia Choir

The Hymn (9 and 10am only)

Away in a Manger

277:1, 2

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

The Anthem (9 and 10am only)

Jesus, the Light of the World

Joanne LeDoux

Cherub Choir

The Prayers of Remembrance

The Offertory Anthem

Somebody's Talkin' 'Bout Jesus

Terry D. Taylor

Hosanna and Chapel Choirs - 9 and 10am

Sing We Now of Christmas

Cristi Cary Miller

Christmas Pop-Up Choir - 11am

The Offertory Prayer *(please stand as you are able)*

What Child Is This

296:3

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

(please be seated)

The Sermon

Pastor Grangaard

Gabriel Visits Mary

The Closing Hymn *(please stand as you are able)*

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

288:2

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

The Lord's Prayer

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 power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

The Sending Prayer

Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Benediction and Threefold Amen

(please pause for a moment of silent prayer)

The Postlude

Ding Dong Merrily on High

Jeff Perks

Pastors

David J. Lose, Senior Pastor
Kurt P. Kalland, Monica M. Hammersten,
Mark J. Dixon, Rebecca W. Freeman, Benjamin M. Cieslik,
Jeni F. Grangaard, Jenna L. Olson Popp

Worship and Music Staff

Beverly Claflin, Director of Worship and Music
Jordan Buchholtz, Principal Organist
Colleen Roess, Director of Cherub Choir
Katie Widen, Director of Alleluia Choir
Elizabeth Werness, Director of Hosanna Choir
Rachel Wixson, Director of Chapel Choir
Mary Broge, Cherub Choir Accompanist
Randi Lundell, Chapel and Hosanna Choir Accompanist
Susan Steincross, Alleluia and Pop-Up Choir Accompanist

December Altar Flower Dedications

In memory of Arthur William Boerner, by Jeffrey and Kathy Boerner

In celebration of Frank Brust's 90th birthday on December 21,

by and with love from his children and grandchildren

In honor and loving memory of my daughters, Sara Jane
and LeAnn Renee Carlson, by their mother Nancy Stevens

In memory of Lenny and Mary and Lydia, Lila, and Harlan,

by Tom and Judy Dunlap

In loving memory of Ruby Johnson, by her family

In loving memory of Jon Kimball, by Kim Kimball,

Megan and Zack Upham, and Molly Kimball and Jack Bury

In loving memory of Steve Klein, by Faye Klein

In loving memory of George Kotsonas on his 90th birthday, by his family

In loving memory of Richard Calvin Marshall, by Marcia Marshall

In memory of Dean Modig on his birthday,

by Lois Modig, Pam Donley, and Susan and Michael Johnson

In memory of Jack Munson on his birthday,

by his wife Norma, and daughters Kris, Kathy, and their families

In loving memory of David "Dave" Nelson, by Jan Nelson and family

In loving memory of James K. Olson, by his family, Phyllis Olson, Kurt, Lizabeth,
Blake, and Taylor Halva

In loving memory of Alice Parson, by Launa and Gary

In memory of Gary Riba to honor his December 25th birthday, by Jane Riba

In loving memory of Helen Rydland on the anniversary of her birthday,
by her family

In memory of Patricia Swanson, by the Rys Family

In memory of our parents, by Connie and Jay Thompson

In appreciation to the Mount Olivet Pastoral Staff

In honor of the staff who support the recovery community

In honor of First Responders

In celebration of Isabel Barrett Brainerd's 1st birthday

In celebration of Joyce Lindeman's 99th birthday, by her family

In celebration of the one year anniversary of the baptism of our grandson,
by Jeffrey and Lisa Quist

In celebration of Blake Dianne Tichy's baptism on December 22nd,
by Grama with much love

If you would like to donate to the Mount Olivet Flower Fund please contact Jody
Barbee at jbarbee@mtolivet.org or 952.767.1501.