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# ✠ Third Sunday In Advent ✠

## December 14, 2025

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**WELCOME TO MOUNT OLIVE IN THE NAME OF CHRIST OUR COMING KING!**

### **AS WE GATHER**

*The world does not reward faithful preaching and teaching. John got imprisonment and eventually execution for it. Jesus would too. But while John was in prison, Jesus sent him the joyful message that God's plan was moving forward. Today that joy comes to us in His gift of the Lord's Supper.*

Guests: At Mount Olive, we confess Christ's words that the Lord's Supper is His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. Paul writes in 1 Cor.11: 27-29 that one may receive this gift to their detriment if they do not discern the true Body and Blood. If you have questions or are not a member of a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregation, please speak with Pastor Torkelson before communing. He is happy to talk with you.

**Please fill out an attendance card available in the back of the pew  
and place it in the offering plate.**



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior  
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, In Sa - tan's  
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing  
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come  
 prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a  
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him  
 soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His  
 shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es  
 throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.  
 burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.  
 grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
 ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–51  
 Tune: Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820  
 Text and tune: Public domain

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** **Amen.**  
**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.  
**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** **who made heaven and earth.**  
**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**  
**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,  
**C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**  
**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the

stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## KYRIE

LSB 186



**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

**P** Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

## CHILDRENS MESSAGE

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Isaiah 35:1–10*

<sup>1</sup>The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; <sup>2</sup>it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. <sup>3</sup>Strengthen the weak hands,

and make firm the feeble knees. <sup>4</sup>Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." <sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; <sup>6</sup>then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; <sup>7</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. <sup>8</sup>And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray. <sup>9</sup>No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. <sup>10</sup>And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## PSALM

## As Long As I Live

Psalm 146

Emily Torkelson—Verses

*Refrain*

Praise the LORD, my heart! My whole  
life, give praise. Let me sing to  
God as long as I live.

*Refrain x2*

- 1 Put not your trust in princes, mortal men, who cannot save;  
Blessed is he whose hope is in the Lord, the God of Jacob. *Refrain*

- 2 The Lord gives food to the hungry, the Lord sets prisoners free.  
He gives sight to the blind and lifts up those who are bowed down. *Refrain*
- 3 God watches over the outcast and sustains the widow and the orphan.  
God will reign forever, He is Lord of all generations. *Refrain x2*

## EPISTLE

*James 5:7-11*

<sup>7</sup>Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup>You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. <sup>9</sup>Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. <sup>10</sup>As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## ALLELUIA

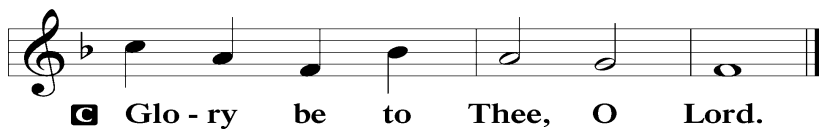
*LSB 190*



## HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 11:2-15*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.



<sup>2</sup>When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" <sup>4</sup>And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. <sup>6</sup>And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

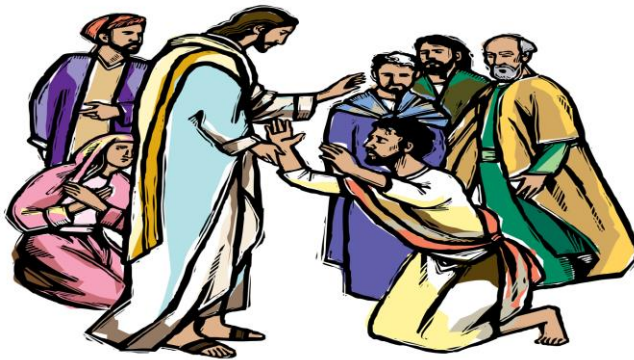
<sup>7</sup>As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John:  
"What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind?  
<sup>8</sup>What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those  
who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. <sup>9</sup>What then did you go out to see? A  
prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>This is he of whom it is written,  
"Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way before you."

<sup>11</sup>Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater  
than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater  
than he. <sup>12</sup>From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has  
suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. <sup>13</sup>For all the Prophets and the  
Law prophesied until John, <sup>14</sup>and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to  
come. <sup>15</sup>He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.



**The blind receive their sight  
and the lame walk, lepers are  
cleansed and the deaf hear.**

**MATTHEW 11:5, ESV**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding*

LSB 345



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is  
 2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the  
 3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with  
 4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the  
 △ 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the



near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the  
 earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all  
 par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with  
 world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us  
 Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -



works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"  
 sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.  
 tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;  
 with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.  
 liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt.  
 Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–89  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## SERMON

*Let NOTHING Rob You Of The Joy Of Christ**Matthew 11*

## APOSTLES' CREED

**G** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition: **P** Lord, in your mercy, **G** hear our prayer.

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY

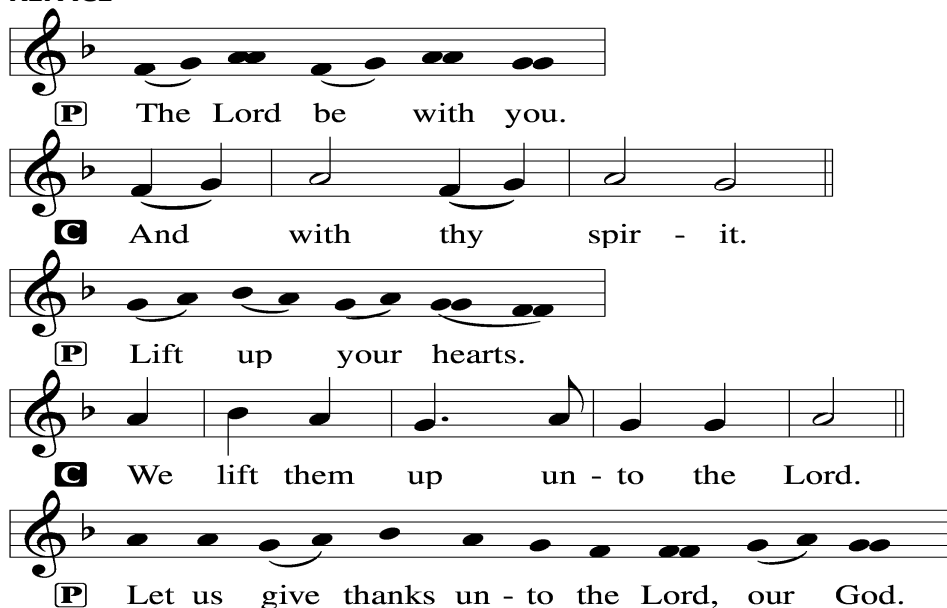
LSB 192



**C** Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

### PREFACE

LSB 194



**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with thy spir - it.  
**P** Lift up your hearts.  
**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.  
**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.





## PROPER PREFACE (ABBREVIATED)

LSB 194

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

## SANCTUS

LSB 195

**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,  
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,  
bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.  
Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 162

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LSB 197

### PAX DOMINI

LSB 197



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.

**C** A - men.

### AGNUS DEI

LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the  
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that  
tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the  
world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

## DISTRIBUTION

### HYMNS

**CHOIR:** *Lamb Of God, You Are  
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus  
The Only Son From Heaven*

LSB 338

LSB 402

# NUNC DIMITTIS

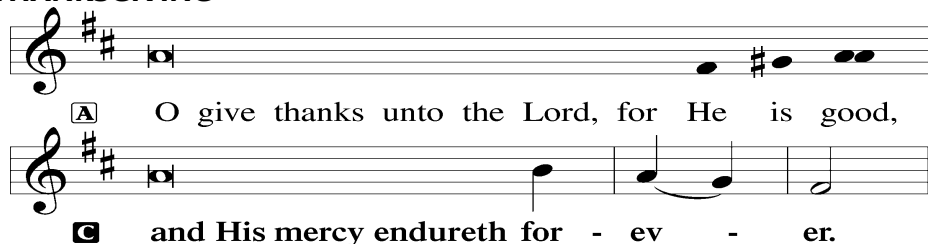
LSB 199



**C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -  
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

# THANKSGIVING

LSB 200



**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

**A** Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.



**P** The Lord be with you.



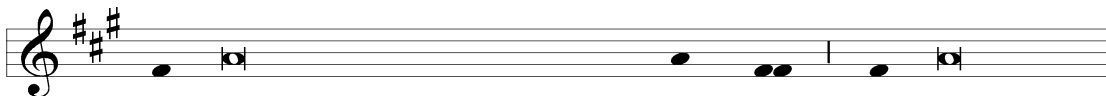
**C** And with thy spir - it.



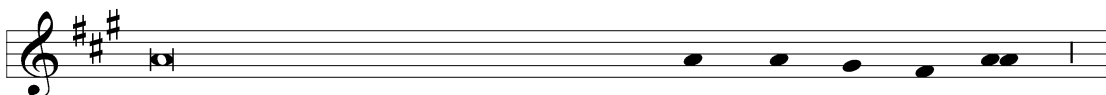
**A** Bless we the Lord.



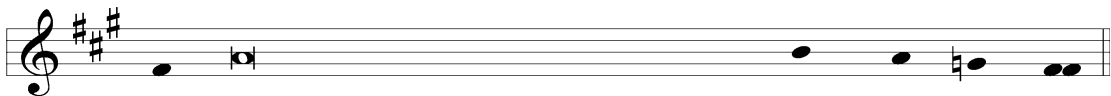
**C** Thanks be to God.



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.

## CLOSING HYMN

### *Prepare The Royal Highway*

LSB 343



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!  
2 God's peo-ple, see Him com - ing: Your own e - ter - nal king!  
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom-ised king!  
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!  
Palm branch-es strew be - fore Him! Spread gar-ments! Shout and sing!  
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.  
His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore-told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
God's prom-ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
All lands, bow down be - fore Him! All na - tions, now a - dore Him!  
So let your praise be sound-ing For kind-ness so a - bound-ing:

*Refrain*



Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful - fills God's Word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.

Tune: Swedish, 17th cent.

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005669

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## DISMISSAL

**P** Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**C** Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

## SERVANTS IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Officiant: Pastor Dan Torkelson

Organist: Don DeBruin

Elder: Zach Treece

Lector: Michele Hotzel

Audio/Visual: James Fenske, Barb Koehler

Acolyte: Blaire Ballweg

Greeters: George and Sue Krug

Usher Team: Jaskowiak

Camera: Paul Skidmore

Altar Guild: Charisse Treece





## **Sunday Worship**

*December 14, 21, 2025*

*9:00 am*

## **Wednesday Midweek Worship**

*December 17, 2025*

*12:00 pm & 6:30 pm*



## **Children's Sunday School Christmas Program**

*December 24, 2025*

*4:00 pm*

## **Christmas Eve Services**

*December 24, 2025*

*4:00 pm – SS Program*

*6:30 pm – Worship Service*

## **Christmas Day Worship**

*December 25, 2025*

*9:00 am*