



Welcome to Mt. Olive Lutheran Church

MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

2327 17th Ave. Forest Grove, OR 97116

Pastor Nick Koschmann

Office: 503-357-2511

Sunday Worship 10:00am

The Holy Innocents

Sunday, December 28th, 2025

As We Gather

During the Christmas season, families get together and experience the warmth, the joy, the love, and acceptance of being home. However, because we continually turn from God, we experience the curse of being an exile, being homeless spiritually. How do we reconnect with our heavenly Father to experience our true and real home, now in our heart and one day in reality?

Welcome and Introduction

383 A Great and Mighty Wonder

LSB 383



1 A great and might - y won - der, A full and ho - ly cure:
2 The Word be - comes in - car - nate And yet re - mains on high,
3 While thus they sing your Mon - arch, Those bright an - gel - ic bands,
4 Since all He comes to ran - som, By all be He a - dored,
5 All i - dols then shall per - ish And Sa - tan's ly - ing cease,



The vir - gin bears the in - fant With vir - gin hon - or pure!
And cher - u - bim sing an - thems To shep - herds from the sky.
Re - joice, O vales and moun - tains, And o - ceans, clap your hands.
The in - fant born in Beth - l'em, The Sav - ior and the Lord.
And Christ shall raise His scep - ter, De - cree - ing end - less peace.

Refrain



Pro - claim the Sav - ior's birth: "To God on high be



glo - ry And peace to all the earth!"

Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation

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

People: Amen.

Opening Sentences

Psalm 54

Pastor: O God, save me, by your name,

People: and vindicate me by your might.

Pastor: O God, hear my prayer;

People: give ear to the words of my mouth.

Pastor: For strangers have risen against me; ruthless men seek my life;

People: they do not set God before themselves.

Pastor: Behold, God is my helper;

People: the Lord is the upholder of my life.

Pastor: He will return the evil to my enemies;

People: in your faithfulness put an end to them.

Pastor: With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you;

People: I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for it is good.

Pastor: For he has delivered me from every trouble,

People: and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.

Confession and Absolution

Pastor: The greatest curse one can experience, according to the Bible, is homelessness, to be, in essence, an exile. When we turn away from God and attempt to be the boss of our lives, we experience weariness and restlessness in our soul; that is, we experience homelessness. Father, we are grieved that we have hurt You by turning from You and trusting in our own abilities and aptitude.

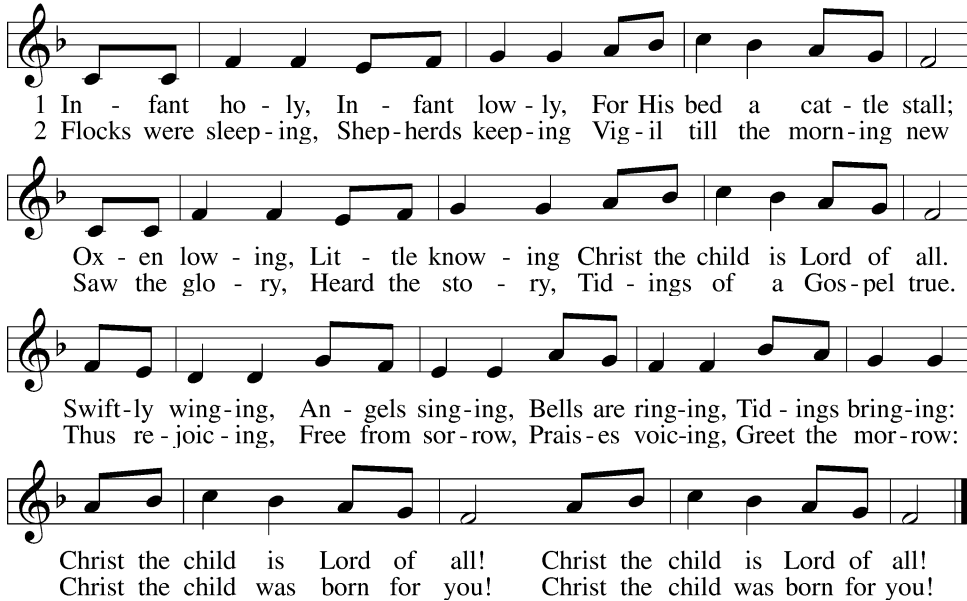
People: Forgive us and send Your Spirit to make His home in us for the sake of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ.

Pastor: Jesus Himself was an exile. He experienced the great wrath and furious anger of His Father; He experienced that on the cross in our place. Our sin is that we put ourselves in the place of God; however, the Gospel is that God puts Himself in our place, being crowned with thorns and nailed to a cross for us. Because of this, and in the stead and by the command of Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

393 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

LSB 393



1 In - fant ho - ly, In - fant low - ly, For His bed a cat - tle stall;
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, Shep - herds keep - ing Vig - il till the morn - ing new
Ox - en low - ing, Lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.
Saw the glo - ry, Heard the sto - ry, Tid - ings of a Gos - pel true.
Swift - ly wing - ing, An - gels sing - ing, Bells are ring - ing, Tid - ings bring - ing:
Thus re - joic - ing, Free from sor - row, Prais - es voic - ing, Greet the mor - row:
Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

Father, come with Your beloved Son and make Your home in us. Send Your Holy Spirit into our hearts that we may truly feel at home now and arrive at our eternal home one day. We ask in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 31:15–17

Epistle

Revelation 14:1–5

Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:13–18



748 I'm But a Stranger Here

LSB 748

1 I'm but a strang - er here, Heav'n is my home;
2 What though the tem - pest rage, Heav'n is my home;
3 There - fore I mur - mur not, Heav'n is my home;

Earth is a des - ert drear, Heav'n is my home.
Short is my pil - grim - age, Heav'n is my home;
What - e'er my earth - ly lot, Heav'n is my home;

Dan - ger and sor - row stand Round me on ev - 'ry hand;
And time's wild win - try blast Soon shall be o - ver - past;
And I shall sure - ly stand There at my Lord's right hand;

Heav'n is my fa - ther - land, Heav'n is my home.
I shall reach home at last, Heav'n is my home.
Heav'n is my fa - ther - land, Heav'n is my home.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Apostles' Creed

**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.**

Offering

*Thank you for your continued support of the ministry Mt. Olive Lutheran Church.
If you are a guest (or if your contact info has changed), please fill out a Connect Card
found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate.*

Offering Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray

People: **Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what You have first given us:
ourselves, our time, our possessions, signs of Your gracious love. Receive them
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **Hear our Prayer**

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.



Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✕ give you peace.

People: Amen.

Closing Hymn

368 Angels We Have Heard on High

LSB 368



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain



Glo - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - -



- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text and tune: Public domain



Announcements

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Guest Preacher: Rev. Dan Bohlken

Acolyte: Maggie Freeman

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by the Ministries Team.

Last Sunday: 136

December Offerings

Month to Date: \$15,578

Project Monthly Need: \$13,750



Acknowledgments

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