

Lenten Vespers

April 2, 2025

7:00 p.m.

*Mount Olive Lutheran Church
Minneapolis, Minnesota*

Love Does No Wrong to a Neighbor

Jesus summed up all the law and the prophets as “Love God with all you have and are and love your neighbor as yourself.” This is the heart of the ethics of the other non-Gospel New Testament writers as well, for obvious reasons. Yet in our polarized and angry culture, divisions are the norm: hate speech, discrimination, open bigotry, targeting the vulnerable in multiple ways, this is our world.

We who are Christ, anointed in baptism as Christ ourselves, have no option but to go where Jesus goes, see “neighbor” as Jesus says God does, and love where and whom Jesus loves.

This week: Faith without loving action for others is dead

James has no patience for a faith in Christ that leaves us on the bench, speaking platitudes of God’s love, while others are struggling and suffering. Like the rich man in Jesus’ parable, we are challenged to go beyond the bounds of our comfortable lives and see the need that God sees. And then do something about it.

Copies of today’s Wednesday noon sermon are on the table with the service folders tonight, and on the church website at www.mountolivechurch.org and select “Sermons” from the list at the bottom of the page.



Mount Olive Lutheran Church (ELCA)

3045 Chicago Avenue South • Minneapolis, MN 55407 + Phone: (612) 827-5919

Musical, Liturgical, Welcoming + A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

Email: welcome@mountolivechurch.org + Website: www.mountolivechurch.org

Staff

Pastor – Joseph Crippen

Interim Organist – Robert Farlee

Vicar – Natalie Wussler

Interim Choir Director – Andrew Stoebig

Administrative Assistant – Cha Posz

Sexton – Jose Morocho

Coordinator Neighborhood Ministry – Jim Bargmann

Lenten Vespers

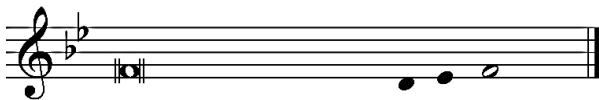
Wednesday, April 2, 2025 + 7:00 p.m.

✝ Opening

Service of Light

(Please stand at the sound of the bell)

Dialog



- L** Behold, now is the accept- | able time;
- C** **now is the day | of salvation.**
- L** Turn us again, O God of | our salvation,
- C** **that the light of your face may | shine on us.**
- L** May your justice shine | like the sun;
- C** **and may the poor be | lifted up.**

Hymn of Light: “O Gracious Light”

HYMN 231

Thanksgiving for Light

page 310

✝ Psalmody

Psalm 141

(seated)

“Let My Prayer Rise Before You as Incense”

page 312

Group One – Pulpit side

Group Two – Lectern side

Psalm Prayer

Psalm 113:2-9

(seated)

The verses are sung by all using the following tone:



Psalm Prayer

Hymn

“Build a Longer Table”

ACS HYMN 1062

✝ Word

Readings: James 2:1-17; Luke 16:19-31

(seated)

A brief silence follows each reading.

Dialog



☐ Long ago God spoke . . . | by the prophets.

☑ **but now in these last days God has spoken to us | by the Son.**

Gospel Canticle

(standing)

“My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness”

HYMN 251

Prayers and Lord’s Prayer

(kneeling) page 318

Blessing

(standing) page 319

Hymn

“All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night”

HYMN 565

Participants

Leader: Pastor Joseph Crippen

Interim Organist: Robert Farlee

Sacristan: Gretchen Campbell-Johnson

Usher: Sue Browender

Livestream: Eric Manuel