



Lenten Vespers

April 9, 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: Love Does No Wrong to a Neighbor

Everything God wants, Paul agrees with Jesus, everything in the law and the prophets, is fulfilled in love of God and love of neighbor. It’s the only answer we need. So when these followers of God decide to destroy a woman because of their view of God’s law, Jesus quietly and powerfully suggests that their lack of love might be a sin they need to look at. If we belong to Christ, we belong to our neighbors in love. Period.

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)

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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

Hymn

“Beloved, God’s Chosen”

HYMN 648

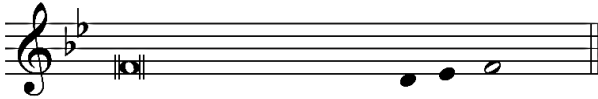
✝ Word

Readings: Romans 12:1-3, 13:8-10; John 8:2-11

(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

“Now Rest beneath Night’s Shadow”

HYMN 568

Participants

Leader: Vicar Natalie Wussler

Interim Organist: Robert Farlee

Sacristan: Lora Dundek

Usher: Andrew Andersen

Livestream: Eric Manuel