Blessing of the Animals

October 4, 2026 ✝ 2:00 p.m.

Mount Olive Lutheran Church
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Welcome to Worship at Mount Olive!

Mount Olive is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. It is a community in and of the city where all are welcome in every aspect of congregational life. We believe that worship is central to our life together, that our weekly gathering around Word and Sacrament strengthens us for our work as people of God in this and in every place.

Our weekly liturgies are held every Sunday morning at 8:00 and 10:45 a.m. A time of refreshment and conversation follows the Sunday liturgies in the Chapel Lounge, located down the hallway to the right as you leave the nave. Sunday Church School and Adult Education begin each Sunday at 9:30.

An elevator to the lower and street levels can be found at the northwest corner of the education wing. Restrooms are located on the main floor and lower level. Turn right as you exit the narthex, then turn left. Restrooms are at the end of the hall, next to the elevator. Please ask a Greeter if you need assistance!

Canticle of the Sun (composed by St. Francis of Assisi)

Most high, all powerful, all good Lord! All praise is yours, all glory, all honor, and all blessing. To you, alone, Most High, do they belong. No mortal lips are worthy to pronounce your name.

Be praised, O Lord, through all your creatures, especially through our Brother Sun, who brings the day. You give light through him, and he is beautiful and radiant in all his splendor! Of you, Most High, he bears the likeness.

Be praised, O Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars; in the heavens you have made them bright, precious and beautiful.

Be praised, O Lord, through Brothers Wind and Air, and clouds and storms, and all the weather, through which you give your creatures sustenance.

Be praised, O Lord, through Sister Water; she is very useful, and humble, and precious, and pure.

Be praised, O Lord, through Brother Fire, through whom you brighten the night. He is beautiful and cheerful, and powerful and strong.

Be praised, O Lord, through our sister Mother Earth, who feeds us and rules us, and produces various fruits with colored flowers and herbs.

Be praised, O Lord, through those who forgive for love of you; through those who endure sickness and trial. Happy are those who endure in peace, for by you, Most High, they will be crowned.

Be praised, O Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death, from whose embrace no living person can escape. Happy are those she finds doing your most holy will.

Praise and bless the Lord, and give thanks, and serve our Lord with great humility.

Blessing of the Animals

Stand as the minister enters.

HYMN: "All Creatures, Worship God Most High!" ELW 835

Stanzas 1 & 6: All
Stanza 2: Low voices
Stanza 3: High voices
Stanza 4: Low voices
Stanza 5: High voices

GREETING AND PRAYER

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. O God, you have made us and these animals and all living things. You are ever more wonderful than the things you have made. We thank you for giving us these animals who give us joy. As you take care of us, so also we ask that we might take care of the animals who trust us to do so. By doing this, we share in your own love for all creation, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

READINGS: Genesis 1:20-25, 31a; Genesis 9:8-16 *(seated)*

A Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALMODY: Psalm 104: 1, 10-28

The verses are read responsively by all. Lectern side reads the odd verses, pulpit side reads the even verses.

(standing)

HYMN: "Earth Is Full of Wit and Wisdom" ACS 1064

PRAYERS FOR GOD'S CREATURES

Response to each petition: C **Amen.**

TIME OF BLESSING *(seated)*

Animals may be brought forward for an individual blessing.

Response to the blessing: ℭ **Amen.**

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION *(standing)*

℗ Let us bless the Lord.

ℭ **Thanks be to God!**

℗ The blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ✢ Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever.

ℭ **Amen.**

✢ ✢ ✢

Worship Leaders

Leaders: Pastor Joseph Crippen, Vicar Emily Hagen

Organist: Cantor Daniel Schwandt

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
Vicar – Emily Hagen
Sexton – Jose Morocho
Cantor – Daniel Schwandt
Coordinator of Neighborhood Ministry – Jim Bargmann
Office Administrator – Amy Thompson