

MOUNT OLIVE
LCMS
5218 Bartlett Blvd
Mound MN 55364

**Welcome to
Christmas Day Worship!**

Merry Christmas! Welcome to the manger, which cradles the very Word made flesh.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning!" ("O, Come, All Ye Faithful").



December 25, 2022
Christmas Day Service
+ The Gift of Love +
The Nativity of our Lord
Order of Service

Divine Service
Setting One Page 151

Hymn: 359 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

+Service of the Word+
Salutation and Collect of the Day

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 52: 7-10

Epistle Reading: Hebrews 1:1-12

Alleluia and Verse

Holy Gospel Reading: John: 1:1-18

Sermon: God's Gift of Love

Apostles' Creed

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Communion

Sanctus

The Words of our Lord

Lord's Prayer

Pax Domini

Hymn: 380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hymn: 393 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Benediction

Announcements

Hymn: 391 Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 52:7-10*

7How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." 8The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion. 9Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. 10The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

EPISTLE *Hebrews 1:1-12*

1Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, 2but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. 3He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, 4having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. 5For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"? 6And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." 7Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his ministers a flame of fire." 8But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom. 9You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your com-

panions." 10And, "You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; 11they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment, 12like a robe you will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will have no end."

HOLY GOSPEL *John 1:1-18*

1In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2He was in the beginning with God. 3All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4In him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. 6There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. 8He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. 9The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. 10He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him.

11He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. 12But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, 13who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. 14And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. 15(John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he

of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”¹⁶ And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.¹⁸ No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.

What is Happening This Week?

Dec 31 - New Year's Eve

Please join us for two important events in January 2023:

Join us for a **Ministry Expansion Conversation** on Wednesday, **Jan. 18, from 10 AM - noon**, with representatives from Lutheran Church - Extension Fund (LCEF). We will discuss strengths and weaknesses of our current ministry, and make plans for expanding and improving our ministry to individuals and families in our community. Please share your ideas, concerns, and questions about the future of our church with Pastor Mike before that date, and please plan to attend.

You are invited to a **Christian Life Gathering** on **Saturday, January 21, 2023 from 9:00-11:00am**. Registration is \$5 and begins at 8:45am. This event is hosted by the Lake Minnetonka LWML Zone. **Rev. Peter Preus** will be presenting **Christians Wrestle with Suicide--Gospel Comfort for the Grieving**. A Christian's suicide can be viewed as a paradox. How can this person, whose hope is focused on Christ and his salvation, apparently give up hope and determine that their life should end? He will address shame, blame, hopelessness and grace. There will also be time for questions and answers. Rev. Preus' first wife, Jean, committed suicide in 1994. He is the author of *And She was a Christian - Why do Believers Commit Suicide* (2011) and *I Will Grieve for the Suicide* (2021). He has also written various articles on grieving for the suicide and ministering to the despairing Christian.

You may choose to bring one or more small stuffed toys, or blank journals, pens/markers, and stickers, or a gift card to Michael's or Target for the **Gifts From the Heart** offering at the 1/21 event.

These items will be donated to teachers/counselors at Shirley Hills and possibly other schools to help them encourage children who may be stressed or sad.

