



April 23, 2017

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

WELCOME TO MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH



7301 North 28th Avenue
Omaha, Nebraska 68112-2816



Sunday Worship.....9:00 A.M.
Education Hour.....10:20 A.M.
Church Office – 455-8700 FAX – 455-8701
email: MountOlv@msn.com..... website: MountOliveOmaha.com

On this second Sunday of Easter, we hear how doubt and belief are woven into faith for the disciples — and for us. Welcome to worship.

Roland A. Jank, Jr.
Pastor

Rachel Misiolek
Organist

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 23, 2017



On Easter evening and again the following Sunday, because the disciples saw Jesus alive, they knew the resurrection was real, and they believed in Him. They were then able to witness to their faith in spite of opposition and persecution from the Jewish council. Though grieved by various trials, it was the “living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ” (*1 Peter 1:3*) that enabled the Early Church to rejoice. The reality of the resurrection becomes evident to people around us as we live out our faith, confessing Jesus as Lord and offering peace and forgiveness in His name. As they come to faith, they join us and “have life in His name” (*John 20:31*).

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Please fill out the attendance registration sheet.

RINGING OF THE CARILLON

Stand

GATHERING

We Enter God's Presence.

INVOCATION

EASTER ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *(Psalm 124:8; 130:3-4)*

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

If You, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

But with You there is forgiveness, that You may be feared.

Let us now confess our sins, confident of God's grace, mercy, and forgiveness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Gracious Lord, we give thanks that You have given us faith by which we are able to witness to Your Easter victory.

We confess that too often we have remained silent when confronted with the possibility of physical harm, social shunning, and even unkind remarks from our neighbors. Forgive us and strengthen us for witness.

Likewise we give thanks for the joy and hope Your resurrection provides.

We confess that too often in our daily living we have let the conflict, turmoil, and immorality of the world cloud that joy with sorrow and gloom. Forgive us and strengthen us for witness.

And we give thanks for the fellowship of believers we enjoy here in this place and wherever we gather around Your Word.

We confess that we have not always demonstrated the peace and forgiveness You brought to the disciples on Easter evening. Forgive us and strengthen us for witness.

Almighty God has given His Son to die for You and by raising Him to life again has declared that the payment for your sins has been accepted. He has given you His Holy Spirit that You may trust Him for all things and serve Him in joy. As a called and ordained servant of the our Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

Green 132

**Come, you faithful, raise the strain Of triumphant gladness!
God has brought his Israel Into joy from sadness,
Loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters,
Led them with unmoistened foot Through the Red Sea waters.**

**'Tis the spring of souls today: Christ has burst his prison,
And from three days' sleep in death As a sun has risen;
All the winter of our sins, Long and dark, is flying
From his light, to whom is giv'n Laud and praise undying.**

**Now the queen of seasons, bright With the day of splendor,
With the royal feast of feasts Comes its joy to render;
Comes to gladden faithful hearts Which with true affection
Welcome in unwearied strain Jesus' resurrection!**

**For today among the twelve Christ appeared, bestowing
His deep peace, which evermore Passes human knowing.
Neither could the gates of death, Nor the tomb's dark portal,
Nor the watchers, nor the seal, Hold him as a mortal.**

**Alleluia! Now we cry To our King immortal,
Who, triumphant, burst the bars Of the tomb's dark portal.
Come, you faithful, raise the strain Of triumphant gladness!
God has brought his Israel Into joy from sadness!**

APOSTOLIC GREETING

KYRIE

Cantor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation

Cantor

... let us
pray to the Lord:

Ky-ri - e, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. (hum)

Kyrie eleison (KIH-ree-ay eh-LAY-ee-sohn): Lord, have mercy.

Cantor: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation (*same as above*)

Cantor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation (*same as above*)

Cantor: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation (*same as above*)

Cantor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Congregation (*same as above*)

HYMN OF PRAISE

This Is The Feast

Cantor: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

All

1 Wor- thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Sit

WORD

We Hear God's Word.

FIRST LESSON

Acts 5:29-42

The disciples in trouble for preaching Christ.

But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him." When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law, respected by all the people, stood up and ordered the men to be put outside for a short time. Then he said to them, "Fellow Israelites, consider carefully what you propose to do to these men. For some time ago Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him; but he was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and disappeared. After him Judas the Galilean rose up at the time of the census and got people to follow him; he also perished, and all who followed him were scattered. So in the present case, I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone; because if this plan or this undertaking is of human origin, it will fail; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them—in that case you may even be found fighting against God!" They were convinced by him, and when they had called in the apostles, they had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. As they left the council, they rejoiced that they were considered worthy to suffer dishonor for the sake of the name. And every day in the temple and at home they did not cease to teach and proclaim Jesus as the Messiah. (NRSV)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God! (*shouted*)

PSALM HYMN (*Psalm 148*)

Let All Things Now Living

Green 557

**Let all things now living A song of thanksgiving
To God the creator triumphantly raise, Who fashioned and made us,
Protected and stayed us, Who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God’s banners are o’er us, His light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night, Till shadows have vanished
And darkness is banished, As forward we travel from light into light.**

**His law he enforces, The stars in their courses
And sun in its orbit obediently shine; The hills and the mountains,
The rivers and fountains, The deeps of the ocean proclaimed him divine.
We too should be voicing Our love and rejoicing;
With glad adoration a song let us raise Till all things now living
Unite in thanksgiving: “To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!”**

SECOND LESSON

1 Peter 1:3-9

New birth to a living hope through the resurrection.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. (NRSV)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God! (*shouted*)

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Turn as the cross passes.

Cantor begins, congregation joins in on “alleluias.”

The image shows a musical score for the Alleluia acclamation. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!". The music is written in a simple, melodic style suitable for a church service.

Cantor: Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe. (*John 20:29*)

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

Jesus appears to the disciples and to Thomas.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord! (*shouted*)

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the

other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.” A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.” Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name. (NRSV)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ! (*shouted*)

G O S P E L A C C L A M A T I O N

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. (*twice*)

Sit

S E R M O N

We Are Witnesses

Acts 5:29-42

Stand

H Y M N O F T H E D A Y

O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing
setting by Anne Krentz Organ

Choir

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. O sons and daughters, let us sing
With heav'nly hosts to Christ our king: today the grave has lost it's sting!
Alleluia!

When Thomas first the tidings heard that they had seen the risen Lord,
He doubted the disciples' word. Alleluia!

“My piercé side, O Thomas, see, and look upon my hands, my feet;
Not faithless, but believing be.” Alleluia, alleluia.

No longer Thomas denied; he saw the feet, the hands, the side;
“You are my Lord and God!” he cried. Alleluia!

How blest are they who have not seen,
And yet whose faith has constant been, for they eternal life shall win.
Alleluia, alleluia!

N I C E N E C R E E D

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, light from light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son He is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

P R A Y E R O F T H E C H U R C H

. . . let us pray to the Lord.

Hear our prayer, risen Lord, and strengthen us to witness our Easter faith.

. . . in whose name we pray.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please share the reconciliation we have with God with one another by greeting those around you with a hearty handshake and the words, "Peace be with you."

Sit

MEAL

We Celebrate the Lord's Supper.

GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Please fill out the attendance registration sheet in your pew, if you have not already done so. Visitors, you are our guests and are not expected to make a contribution. As the offerings of bread, wine and money are brought forward, please stand.

MUSIC AT OFFERING

I Know That My Redeemer Lives
setting by John Helgen

Cantor

I know that my Redeemer lives! What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, he lives, who once was dead; he lives, my everliving head!
He lives triumphant from the grave; he lives eternally to save;
He lives exalted, throned above; he lives to rule his church in love.
He lives to silence all my fears; He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart; he lives all blessings to impart.
He lives to bless me with his love; he lives to plead for me above;
He lives my hungry soul to feed; he lives to help in time of need.
He lives, all glory to his name! He lives, my Savior, still the same;
What joy this blest assurance gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!

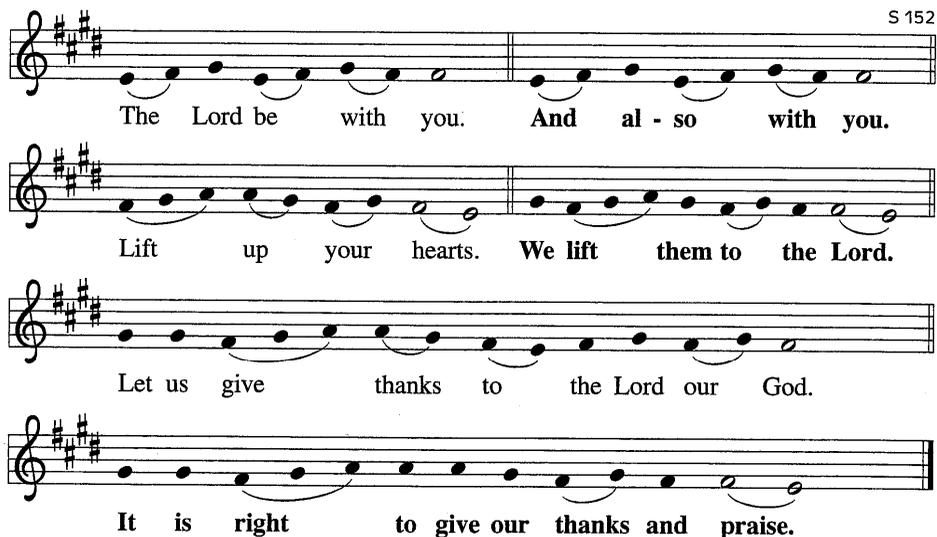
OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you,

O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P R E F A C E

S 152



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

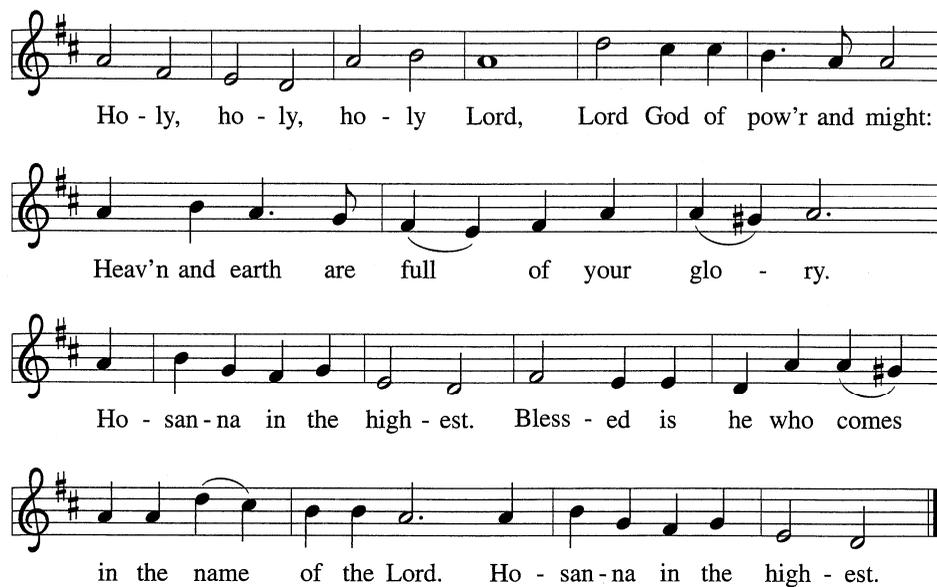
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, . . . we praise your name, and join their unending hymn:

S A N C T U S



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

You are indeed holy, . . . we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Christ has died. Christ is ri - sen. Christ will come a - gain.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command . . . in your holy church, now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

LORD'S PRAYER *(join hands)*

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven . . .

INVITATION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Amen.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

If you believe that those who commune receive in, with and under the bread and wine of this sacrament the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and that receiving the sacrament is a public witness to your oneness in faith in the teachings of our church, you are invited to join us at the Lord's Table. Newcomers are asked to read and sign a communion registration card from the hymnal rack as a sign of your agreement with its statements and give it to an usher.

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

S 154



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

We Walk By Faith and Not By Sight

Blue 675

Awake, My Heart, with Gladness
cantor on st. 2 and 5

Green 129

Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won!

Green 133

**Jesus lives! The vict'ry's won! Death no longer can appall me;
Jesus lives! Death's reign is done! From the grave will Christ recall me.
Brighter scenes will then commence; This shall be my confidence.**

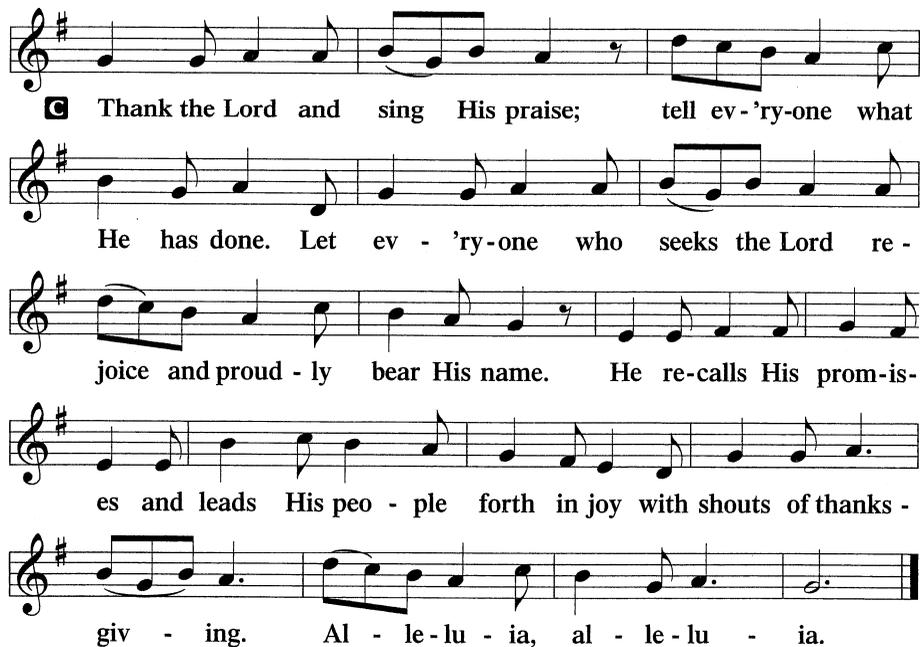
**Jesus lives! To him the throne There above all things is given.
I shall go where he is gone. Live and reign with him in heaven.
God is faithful; doubtings, hence! This shall be my confidence.**

Stand

COMMUNION BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Thank the Lord



Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what
He has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re -
joice and proud - ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-is-
es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

EASTER GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

CLOSING HYMN

Savior, Again to Your Dear Name

Green 262

**Savior, again to your dear name we raise
With one accord our parting hymn of praise;
Once more we bless you ere our worship cease,
Then, lowly bending, wait your word of peace.**

**Grant us your peace upon our homeward way;
With you began, with you shall end the day;
Guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
That in this house have called upon your name.**

**Grant us your peace throughout our earthly life,
Our balm in sorrow, and our stay in strife;
Then, when your voice shall bid our conflict cease,
Call us, O Lord, to your eternal peace.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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NEXT SUNDAY – Third Sunday of Easter (Year A): Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-14;
1 Peter 1:17-25; Luke 24:13-35

PASCHAL CANDLE — The paschal candle burns near the altar through the Day of Pentecost and then it is placed near the baptismal font and lit for baptisms. For funerals it stands at the head of the casket. The paschal candle represents the risen Christ shining in the splendor of the resurrection. The five wax nails represent Christ's five wounds.

YOUTH GROUP 30-HOUR FAMINE — The Youth Group is participating in *World Vision's 30 Hour Famine*. We don't think it's right that thousands of kids are dying from hunger every day. So we're doing something about it. Our group will learn about hunger, raise funds to help the hungry, and then go hungry ourselves this Friday, April 28th, at 6:00 p.m., to Saturday, April 29th, at 9:00 a.m. at the church. Here's how you can help. Please pray and ask God to bless the Youth Group members as they overcome hunger. Please give. Just \$40 can help feed and care for a child for a month. We have set a fundraising goal of \$1000. You can donate by making out a check to *World Vision* and placing it in the offering plate today. There will also be a special collection taken next Sunday, April 30.

REFORMATION 500 — “The apostles, too, wondered at this, so that the Lord said to them: ‘Ought not Christ to have suffered and thus to enter into His glory?’ (*Luke 24:26*) And He set forth through all the prophets, as this very thing is also clear in all the prophets. For this He opened their understanding that thus they might understand the Scriptures. The cross of Christ is found everywhere in the Scriptures.” (—Martin Luther, LW 11:239)

STEWARDSHIP — “He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you.” (*1 Peter 1:3-4*) We have an inheritance waiting for us – a treasure gathered where moth and rust do not destroy. That should change our perspective on the treasures of this earth. They are fleeting, they come and go. But we can use the treasures of this earth for the work of the Kingdom that will not fade away.

OUR MISSIONARIES — We invite your continued prayerful and financial support of our missionaries abroad: Julie Lutz and family in Papua, New Guinea (medical missionary), and Rev. David and Mrs. Barbara Bush in Macau. Note their letters on the north hall bulletin board. David and Barbara are in urgent need of prayers as they are awaiting approval of their travel visas. David will serve as the director of the Concordia English Center in Macau. He will also provide guidance and assistance to the Macau Lutheran Deaf Outreach. As they transition into their new lives, they will be learning Cantonese as well as Chinese sign language. Pray especially for Barbara as she is deaf and is nervous about traveling (and living) outside the U.S. for the first time.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS — In June, LCEF will be hosting its *Picnic in the Park* at Mahoney State Park on Sunday, June 11, from noon to 3pm. More details to follow.

Praying for Our Parish in 2017

Let us remember each other in prayer during the week that we celebrate the anniversary of one's Baptism.

April 24
Cindy Wheeler

April 26
Gerald Wille

April 27
Parker Corcoran
Kailyn Townsend

April 28
Joan Johnson