



# TALENTS to INVEST

November 16, 2014

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (PR. 28)

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# WELCOME TO MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH



7301 North 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Omaha, Nebraska 68112-2816

Sunday Worship .....9:00 A.M.  
Education Hour..... 10:20 A.M.  
Church Office – 402-455-8700.....FAX – 402-455-8701  
Email: MountOlv@msn.com Website: mountoliveomaha.com



**Welcome to worship and Christian fellowship. We are all one in Christ Jesus!  
Take a moment to greet the people sitting near you.**

Roland A. Jank, Jr.  
Pastor

Rachel Misiolek  
Organist



THE 23RD SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST

**November 16, 2014**

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The end of the Church Year is about the end—literally. The time of God’s mercy will end and God will call all people to account. Today, we encounter the difficult parable of the talents with the promise that to him who has, more will be given. What does this mean for us? We live in an age of egalitarianism in which we expect to be treated the same. God does not treat us the same; our differences matter to God. He loves us equally but acknowledges our differences. To one He gives ten, to another five, and to another one. All are His gifts, to be used for His purpose. Different, but uniquely precious, we use them for His glory and so He promises us to enter into His joy.

## PRELUDE

**WELCOME**    *Please fill out the attendance registration sheet.*

## RINGING OF THE CARILLON

**Stand**

**GATHERING**  
We Enter God’s Presence.

## INVOCATION

## CONFESSIO N AND ABSOLUTION

**We confess to You, O Lord, and to one another, that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You above all things nor our neighbor as ourselves. Forgive us our sins and grant us the aid of Your Holy Spirit to amend our sinful lives.**

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

May He who began this good work within you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

Lord of Light

Green 405

**Lord of light, your name out shining All the stars and suns of space,  
Use our talents in your kingdom As the servants of your grace;  
Use us to fulfill your purpose In the gift of Christ your Son:**

**Refrain: Father, as in highest heaven, So on earth your will be done.**

**By the toil of faithful workers In some far outlying field,  
By the courage where the radiance Of the cross is still revealed,  
By the victories of meekness, Through reproach and suffering won:  
Refrain**

**Grant that knowledge, still increasing, At your feet may lowly kneel;  
With your grace our triumphs hallow, With your charity our zeal;  
Lift the nations from the shadows To the gladness of the sun:  
Refrain**

**By the prayers of faithful watchers, Never silent day or night;  
By the cross of Jesus, bringing Peace to all and healing light;  
By the love that passes knowledge, Making all your children one:  
Refrain**

# APOSTOLIC GREETING

## HYMN OF PRAISE

This is the Feast of Victory  
*cantor on verses, congregation on refrain*

### Congregation

*Refrain* S 196



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

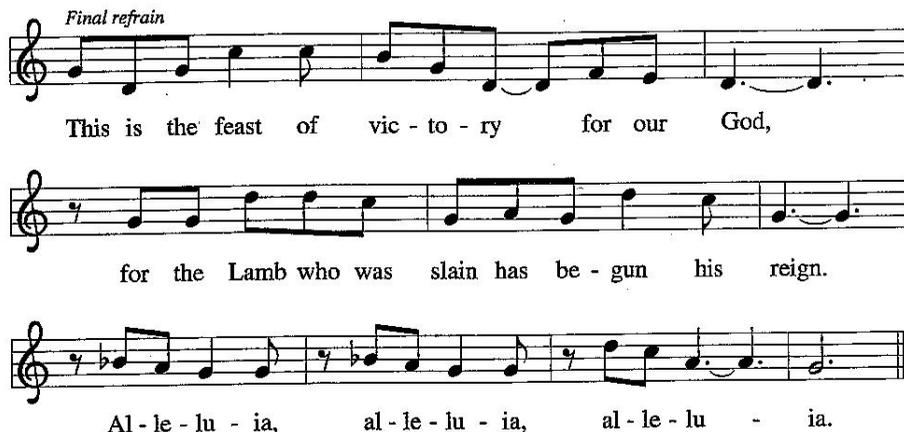
Cantor: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

### Congregation (refrain)

Cantor: Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

### Congregation

*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, al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Sit

### WORD

We Hear God's Word.

## FIRST LESSON

### **Zephaniah 1:7-16**

Sin without repentance will lead to destruction.

*Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. And on the day of the Lord's sacrifice I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who dress themselves in foreign attire. On that day I will punish all who leap over the threshold, who fill their master's house with violence and fraud. On that day, says the Lord, a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills. The inhabitants of the Mortar wail, for all the traders have perished; all who weigh out silver are cut off. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm." Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!** (*shouted*)

PSALM 90:1-12 (antiphon v. 12)



Cantor: So teach us to number | our days\* that we may get a heart of | wisdom.

Cantor: Lord, you have been our | dwelling place\* in all gener- | ations.

**Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth | and the world,\* from everlasting to everlasting | you are God.**

Cantor: You return | man to dust\* and say, “Return, O chil- | dren of man!”

**For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when | it is past,\* or as a watch | in the night.**

Cantor: You sweep them away as | with a flood;\* they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the | morning:

**in the morning it flourishes and | is renewed;\* in the evening it fades and | withers.**

Cantor: For we are brought to an end by your | anger;\* by your wrath we | are dismayed.

**You have set our iniquities be- | fore you,\* our secret sins in the light of your | presence.**

Cantor: For all our days pass away un- | der your wrath;\* we bring our years to an end | like a sigh.

**The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength | eighty;\* yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, as we | fly away.**

Cantor: Who considers the power of your | anger,\* and your wrath according to the | fear of you?

**So teach us to number | our days\* that we may get a heart of | wisdom.**

**Glory be to the Father, and | to the Son\* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,\* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Cantor: So teach us to number | our days\* that we may get a heart of | wisdom.

SECOND LESSON

**1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

Be alert for the day of the Lord.

*Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, “There is*

*peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!** (*shouted*)

**Stand**

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

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Fine*

*Verse (cantor or choir)* *D.C. al Fine*

Choir: Abide in me as I a- | bide in you;\* those who abide in me | bear much fruit.  
*(John 15:4, 5)*

**H O L Y   G O S P E L**

**Matthew 25:14-30**

The parable of the talents.



The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

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

*[Jesus said:] “For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”*

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sit

S E R M O N

**I Didn't Know**

**1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

Stand

## HYMN OF THE DAY

The Day Is Surely Drawing Near

Green 321

**The day is surely drawing near When Jesus, God's anointed,  
In all his power shall appear As judge whom God appointed.  
Then fright shall banish idle mirth, And hungry flames shall ravage earth,  
As Scripture long has warned us.**

**The final trumpet then shall sound, And all the earth be shaken,  
And all who rest beneath the ground Shall from their sleep awaken.  
But all who live will in that hour, By God's almighty, boundless pow'r,  
Be changed at his commanding.**

**May Christ our intercessor be And, through his blood and merit,  
Read from his book that we are free With all who life inherit.  
Then we shall see him face to face, With all his saints in that blest place  
Which he has purchased for us.**

**O Jesus Christ, do not delay, But hasten our salvation;  
We often tremble on our way In fear and tribulation.  
Oh, hear and grant our fervent plea; Come, mighty judge, and set us free  
From death and ev'ry evil.**

## APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the  
power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under  
Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.  
On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the  
right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of  
saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life  
everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**. . . Lord, in Your mercy,  
hear our prayer.  
. . . trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
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 and 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

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

Choir

*Revelation 22, adapt. Ruth Manz, music Paul Manz*

Peace be to you and grace from him Who freed us from our sins,  
Who loved us all and shed his blood That we might saved be.

Sing holy, holy to our Lord, The Lord, Almighty God,

Who was and is and is to come; Sing holy, holy, Lord!

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,

Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,

For Christ is coming, is coming soon For Christ is coming soon!

E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, And night shall be no more;

They need no light nor lamp nor sun, For Christ will be their All!

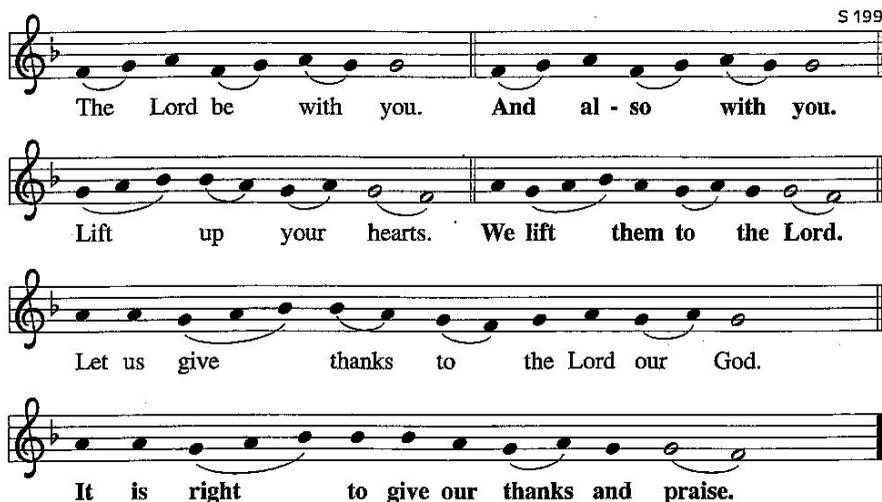
## OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful Father,

**we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us - our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## PREFACE

S 199

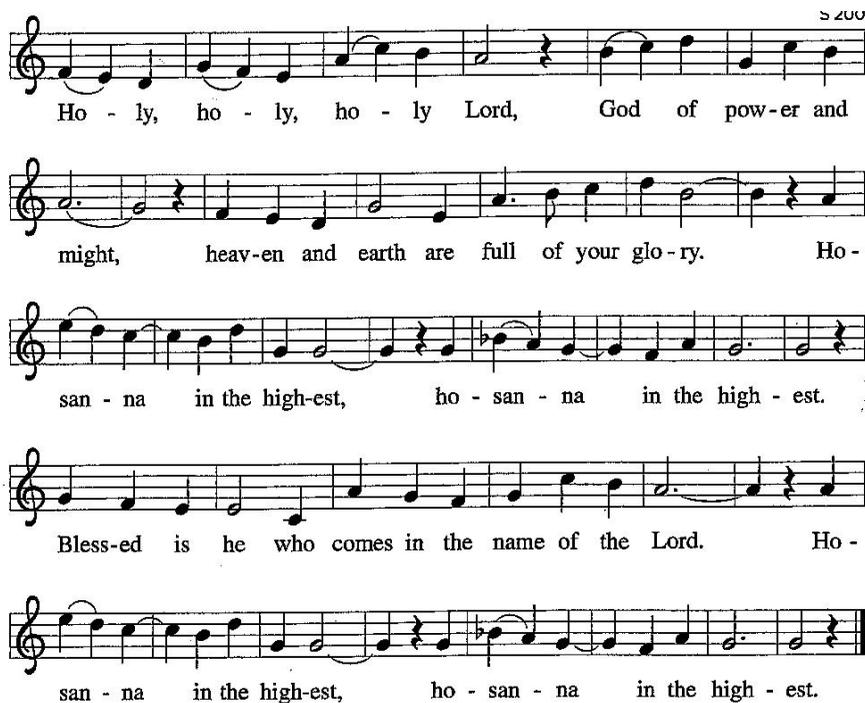


The Lord be with you. And also with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, . . . and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS

S 200



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven . . . forever and ever.



## 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

Come to the banquet for all is now ready.

**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

Three staves of musical notation in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive. The lyrics are written below the staves. A small number '3 201' is written above the first staff.

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.



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high-est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

Blue 754

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Blue 649

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

Green 408

Tune: Beach Spring (423)

**God, whose giving knows no ending, From your rich and endless store:  
Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, Costly cross, grave's shattered door,  
Gifted by you, we turn to you, Off'ring up ourselves in praise;  
Thankful song shall rise forever, Gracious donor of our days.**

**Skills and time are ours for pressing Toward the goals of Christ, your Son:  
All at peace in health and freedom, Races joined, the Church made one.  
Now direct our daily labor, Lest we strive for self alone;  
Born with talents, make us servants Fit to answer at your throne.**

**Treasure, too, you have entrusted, Gain through pow'rs your grace conferred;  
Ours to use for home and kindred, And to spread the Gospel Word.  
Open wide our hands in sharing, As we heed Christ's ageless call,  
Healing, teaching, and reclaiming, Serving you by loving all.**

Stand

COMMUNION BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

## **S E N D I N G**

We Go Out into the World on God's Mission.

### **A N N O U N C E M E N T S**

### **B E N E D I C T I O N**

### **R E C E S S I O N A L H Y M N**

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

Green 424

**Lord of glory, you have bought us With your lifeblood as the price,  
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice;  
And with that have freely given Blessings countless as the sand  
To the unthankful and the evil With your own unsparing hand.**

**Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you Gladly, freely, of your own.  
With the sunshine of your goodness melt our thankless hearts of stone  
Till our cold and selfish natures, Warmed by you, at length believe  
That more happy and more blessed 'Tis to give than to receive.**

**Wondrous honor you have given To our humblest charity  
In your own mysterious sentence, "You have done it all to me."  
Can it be, O gracious Master, That you deign for alms to sue,  
Saying by your poor and needy, "Give as I have giv'n to you"?**

**Yes, the sorrow and the suff'rings Which on ev'ry hand we view  
Channels are for gifts and off'rings Due by solemn right to you;  
Right of which we may not rob you, Debt we may not choose but pay,  
Lest that face of love and pity Turn from us another day.**

**Lord of glory, you have bought us With your life-blood as the price,  
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice.  
Give us faith to trust you boldly, Hope, to stay our souls on you;  
But, oh, best of all your graces, With your love our love renew.**

### **D I S M I S S A L**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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**N E X T S U N D A Y** – Christ the King (Year A): Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 95:1-7a;  
1 Corinthians 15:20-28; Matthew 25:31-46

\*\*\* ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP TODAY \*\*\*

**ACOLYTE**----- Charly Peterson  
**ASSISTING MINISTER**----- Steve Kowalski  
**CANTOR** ----- Sarah Jank  
**EUCCHARISTIC GIFTS**----- Rodney & Karen Lorang  
**LECTOR**----- Max Williams  
**PERCUSSION** ----- Mark Flemmer, Sarah Jank, Gloria Sorensen

\*\*\* LAST SUNDAY AT MOUNT OLIVE \*\*\*

Worship Attendance.....	115	Bible Class .....	33
Communion.....	98	Offering .....	3219
Sunday School .....	25	Needed Weekly .....	4649
Staff.....	8	Specials .....	76

First Time Worshipers Last Sunday - 5

\*\*\* THIS WEEK AT MOUNT OLIVE \*\*\*

TODAY	-	CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR-----	10:20 A.M.
		HEALTH & MEDICATION COUNSELING	
		ADULT INFORMATION CLASS -----	3:30 P.M.
MONDAY	-	ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING ----	6:30 - 8:00 P.M.
		LWML/COSMO -----	6:30 P.M.
TUESDAY	-	MEN’S BIBLE STUDY AT MT. OLIVE -----	7:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAY	-	CONFIRMATION CLASS -----	6:00 P.M.
		CHANCEL CHOIR -----	7:45 P.M.
THURSDAY	-	ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING ----	6:30 - 8:00 P.M.
FRIDAY	-	FRIDAY NIGHT FLIX -----	7:30 P.M.
SUNDAY	-	WORSHIP -----	9:00 A.M.
		CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR-----	10:20 A.M.
		MESSENGER ARTICLES DUE	
		ADULT INFORMATION CLASS -----	3:30 P.M.

**November 16, 2014 (A)**

**TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**ADULT BIBLE CLASSES** — During the Christian Education Hour, Pastor Jank will lead one Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall on the topic: *God's Story and Our Story*. A second Bible Class, *Marriage: God's Design for Intimacy*, led by Lois Barr meets today in the south section of the Fellowship Hall. Please join us in the study of God's Word.

**STEWARDSHIP** — The 2014 Stewardship Campaign entitled *Joyful Giving* happens this month. Please return your pledge form for 2015 after prayerfully deciding your cheerful response to God's blessings.

**FRIDAY NIGHT FLIX** — Please join your fellow Mount Olivers this Friday, November 21, at 7:30 p.m. We will be showing the movie "Where Eagles Dare." This 1968 World War II film stars Clint Eastwood, Richard Burton and Mary Ure. A group of special agents attempting to rescue an Allied general from an impregnable castle is jeopardized by a ruthless German double agent. The movie is rated PG and runs for over two hours, so bring a pillow to make the folding chairs in the Fellowship Hall more comfortable. Popcorn and movie candy will be provided. Circle the date! -Dixie Gerhart (402-602-3252)

**THANKSGIVING DAY WORSHIP** — On Thursday, November 27, gather with us to express your thanksgiving and praise to God in our public worship scheduled at 10:00 a.m. Bring someone outside our congregation with you.

**NEWCOMER VISITOR TEAM** — Max and Linda Williams

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY** — The Men's Bible Study that has been meeting at Rick Barr's home is now meeting at church on Tuesday nights at 7:00 p.m. All men are welcome to come!

**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 Sharon Owens and family in Macau (evangelist). Remember in prayer also our missionaries to Muslim immigrants here in metro Omaha: Aman and Amel Hamid.

**CHRISTMAS AT CONCORDIA** — Celebrate the Advent season with Christmas at Concordia, presented by the student musicians of Concordia University, Nebraska. Concerts will be held at St. John Lutheran Church in Seward on Friday, December 5, at 7:00 p.m.; Saturday, December 6, at 3:00 and 7:00 p.m.; and Sunday, December 7, at 3:00 p.m. Admission is free, but tickets are required. Registration online at [www.christmasatconcordia.net](http://www.christmasatconcordia.net). For more information about Christmas at Concordia Weekend or for instructions on how to register by phone, please visit the website.

**Praying For Our Parish in 2014**

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

November 17  
Emily Johnson

November 22  
William Kowalik