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**February 1, 2015**

**FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

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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

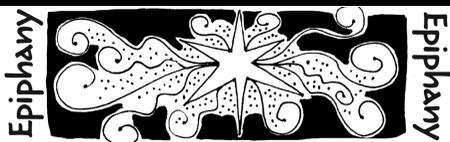


**Brothers and sisters, welcome to worship in the name of the Father,  
the Son and the Holy Spirit.**

Roland A. Jank, Jr.  
Pastor

Rachel Misiolek  
Organist

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4th Sunday After the Epiphany

**February 1, 2015**

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“Do you have the authority to do that?” How frustrating to be a mid-level employee and not able to do what it takes to help others. Or how frustrating is dealing with a mid-level employee and knowing the other person cannot help you, even if he wants to! We do not have that problem with Jesus, though. We never have to go to a higher authority! Jesus has the authority to help us in our greatest need: our need for salvation. In today’s Readings, we see Moses’ prophecy about this Messiah, “Listen to Him!” In the Gospel, we see that Jesus really does have authority and proves it by driving out a demon. He has the authority; listen to Him!

**P R E L U D E**

**W E L C O M E**    *Please fill out the attendance registration sheet.*

**R I N G I N G   O F   T H E   C A R I L L O N**

**Stand**

## GATHERING

We Enter God's Presence.

### INVOCATION

#### OPENING SENTENCES *(Psalm 56:10-13)*

In God, whose word I praise,  
**in the LORD, whose word I praise,**

in God I trust; I shall not be afraid.  
**What can man do to me?**

I must perform my vows to You, O God;  
**I will render thank offerings to You.**

For You have delivered my soul from death,  
**yes, my feet from falling,**

that I may walk before God  
**in the light of life.**

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Jesus speaks with authority. He expects us to listen to Him. Yet, far too often, we choose to listen to others. We choose to listen to our sinful natures, the world, or the temptations of the devil. Though we confess that Jesus is our Lord, too often we do not bow to His authority. We confess our sins:

**Father in heaven, I confess my sins to You: I have not listened to You as I should. I have listened to others who have led me to sin. I have sinned against You in action. I have sinned against You in my thoughts. I have sinned against You in my desires. I pray that You have mercy on me, a sinner.**

Jesus speaks with authority. He spoke with absolute authority when He announced, "It is finished!" He has paid for your sins in full, for every sin of thought, desire, and action. And so in His name, and by His authority, I declare to you: I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

# GATHERING HYMN

## Open Your Eyes, O Faithful People



1 O - pen your ears, O faith-ful peo-ple, o - pen your ears and hear God's word.  
2 They who have ears to hear the mes-sage, they who have ears, now let them hear:



O - pen your hearts, O roy - al priest-hood, God has come to you.  
they who would learn the way of wis - dom, let them hear God's word.



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!  
God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!  
God has spo - ken words of wis - dom, hal - le - lu - jah!

Hal-le-lu-jah!



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!  
God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!  
God has spo - ken words of wis - dom, hal - le - lu - jah!

# APOSTOLIC GREETING

## HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God in the Highest

### Refrain: Congregation

*Refrain*



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

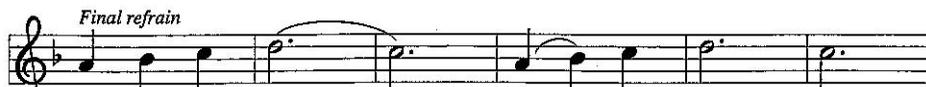
Cantor: Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. **Refrain**

Cantor: Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. **Refrain**

Cantor: For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

### Refrain: Congregation

*Final refrain*



Glo - ry to God in the high - est.



A - men, a - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Sit



**He has shown his people the power | of his works,\* in giving them the inheritance of the | nations.**

Cantor: The works of his hands are faith- | ful and just;\* all his precepts are | trustworthy;

**they are established forever and | ever,\* to be performed with faithfulness and up- | rightness.**

Cantor: He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant for- | ever.\* Holy and awesome | is his name!

**The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good under- | standing.\* His praise endures for- | ever!**

**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: Full of splendor and majesty | is his work,\* and his righteousness endures for- | ever.

## SECOND LESSON

### **1 Corinthians 8:1-13**

Limits to liberty.

*Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him. Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when*

*it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.*

The Word of the Lord.

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

**Stand**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

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

Verse (cantor or choir)

Al - le - lu - ia!

*Fine*

*D.C. al Fine*

Cantor: The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light; for those who sat in the shadow of death | light had dawned. (*Matt. 4:16*)

## HOLY GOSPEL

### **Mark 1:21-28**

Jesus heals a man with an unclean spirit.



The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

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

*They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, [Jesus] entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking*

*one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.*

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sit

## S E R M O N

**His Words Have Authority**

**Mark 1:21-28**

Stand

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

Son of God, Eternal Savior

Green 364

**Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race,  
You our head, who, throned in glory, For your own will ever plead:  
Fill us with your love and pity, Heal our wrongs, and help our need.**

**As you, Lord, have lived for others, So may we for others live.  
Freely have your gifts been granted; Freely may your servants give.  
Yours the gold and yours the silver, Yours the wealth of land and sea;  
We but stewards of your bounty Held in solemn trust will be.**

**Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of love and Prince of Peace;  
Hush the storm of strife and passion, Bid its cruel discords cease.  
By your patient years of toiling, By your silent hours of pain,  
Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure, Stem our selfish greed of gain.**

**Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race:  
By your praying, by your willing That your people should be one,  
Grant, oh, grant our hope’s fruition: Here on earth your will be done.**

Sit

## THIRD YEAR YOUTH CONFIRMATION STUDENTS

Stand

### 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

. . . let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

. . . one God, now and forever.

**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

There Is a Balm in Gilead

Choir

*African American spiritual, setting by John Leavitt*

Refrain: There's a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;

There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain,

But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.

Refrain

Don't ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend;

And if you lack for knowledge, He'll ne'er refuse to lend.

Refrain

## OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you,

**O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

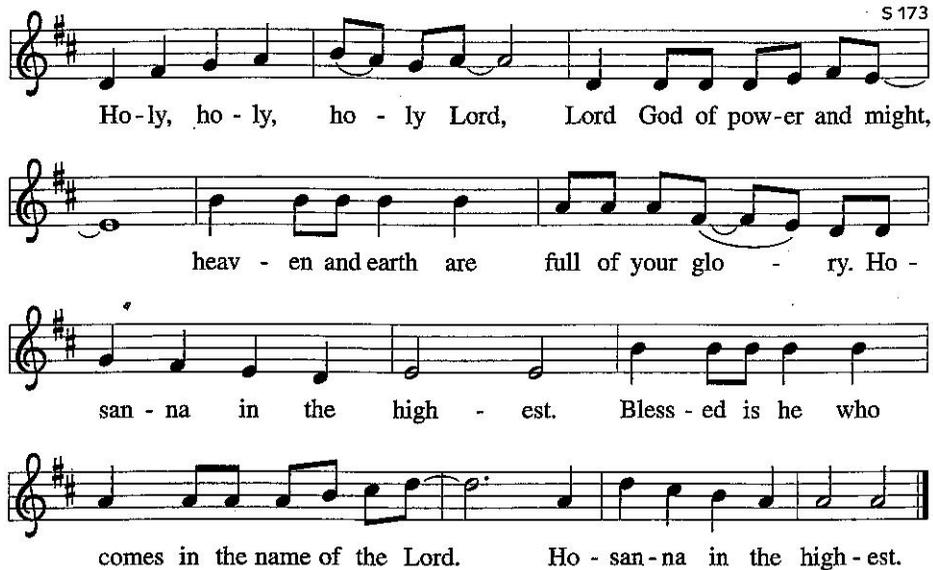
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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

## SANCTUS

S 173



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow - er and might,  
heav - en 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, . . . until he comes.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Therefore, O God, . . . to share with us the great and promised feast.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, we pray, . . . with all your saints in light.

**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those . . . almighty Father, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## 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

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Blessed are all who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

**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 174

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.

Healer of Our Every Ill  
*cantor on stanzas, congregation on refrain*

Blue 738

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Green 228

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

Green 90

Stand

## COMMUNION BLESSING

## POST - COMMUNION PRAYER

### SENDING

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BENEDICTION

## CLOSING HYMN

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Green 559

**Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing My great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King, The triumphs of his grace!**

**My gracious Master and my God, Assist me to proclaim,  
To spread through all the earth abroad The honors of your name.**

**The name of Jesus charms our fears And bids our sorrows cease,  
Sings music in the sinner's ears, Brings life and health and peace.**

**He breaks the pow'r of canceled sin; He sets the pris'ner free.  
His blood can make the foulest clean; His blood avails for me.**

**To God all glory, praise, and love Be now and ever giv'n  
By saints below and saints above, The Church in earth and heav'n.**

## DISMISSAL

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

## POSTLUDE

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

Worship Attendance.....	121	Bible Class .....	43
Communion.....	100	Offering .....	2774
Sunday School .....	22	Needed Weekly .....	4824
Staff.....	7	Specials .....	170

First Time Worshipers Last Sunday - 0

**N E X T S U N D A Y** – Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany (Year B): Isaiah 40:21-31;  
Psalm 147:1-11; 1 Corinthians 9:16-27; Mark 1:29-39

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

**ACOLYTE**----- Charly Peterson  
**ASSISTING MINISTER**----- Steve Kowalski  
**CANTOR** ----- Mark Flemmer  
**EUCCHARISTIC GIFTS**----- Debbie Fly, Kaylee Fly  
**LECTOR**----- Joan Kowalski  
**PERCUSSION** ----- Mark Flemmer, Sarah Jank, Mark Sorensen

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

TODAY	-	VALPO SUNDAY		
		CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR-----	10:20 A.M.	
		- BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING		
MONDAY	-	ELL CLASSES-----	6:30 - 8:00 P.M.	
		MT. OLIVE BOOK CLUB-----	7:00 P.M.	
TUESDAY	-	MEN’S BIBLE STUDY/RICK BARR-----	7:00 P.M.	
WEDNESDAY	-	CONFIRMATION CLASS-----	6:00 P.M.	
		ELL CLASSES-----	6:30 - 8:00 P.M.	
		- CHANCEL CHOIR -----	7:45 P.M.	
THURSDAY	-	CHRISTIAN HERITAGE -----	4:00 - 8:00 P.M.	
SUNDAY	-	WORSHIP-----	9:00 A.M.	
		- CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR-----	10:20 A.M.	
		VOTERS’ ASSEMBLY-----	11:30 A.M.	
		ADULT INFORMATION CLASS BEGINS-----	3:30 P.M.	

**ADULT BIBLE CLASS** — During the Christian Education Hour, Pastor Jank will lead one Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall on the book of Galatians. 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.

**THIRD YEAR STUDENTS** — This morning Alexia Moffett and Charly Peterson, our two third-year Youth Confirmation students, will share with us one of their favorite Bible passages.

**VALPO SUNDAY** — Today we remember the work of this independent Lutheran university that provides an encouraging environment for spiritual exploration. This institution has five different colleges besides a graduate division and consistently earns recognition for the quality of its academic programs. “Valpo” is located in Valparaiso, Indiana, a city of 31,000 people, in Northwest Indiana just an hour east of Chicago.

**VOTERS’ ASSEMBLY** — Next Sunday at our 11:30 Voters’ Meeting the new Nominating Committee will be announced. We pray that God will guide their choice of congregational leaders for the next two years.

**ADULT INFORMATION CLASS** — The 15-week Spring Adult Information Class will begin Sunday, February 8, at 3:30 P.M. Now is the time for you to pray for and invite prospective attendees. Enrollee forms are in today’s bulletin.

**NEW MEMBER** — Dean Hinsley, former member here at Mount Olive, has transferred back to our congregation from St. John’s Lutheran Church. Welcome, Dean!

**ELL** — English Language Learning classes will be taught at Mount Olive on Monday and Wednesday nights from 6:30 to 8:00 beginning February 2, and ending April 29. Please contact Marsha Behr if you would like to learn more about this or if you would like to volunteer an hour or two of your time. No experience necessary!

**GIVING RECORDS** — Your 2014 giving record is available in the narthex.

**LENTEN DINNER TIME** — Make your way down to Mount Olive for midweek Lenten dinners, starting Ash Wednesday, February 18. Meals are served from 5:30 to 6:30 to make it easier for families to attend the 7:00 p.m. Lenten service. We do need your help, however, to put the dinners on. Ten to twelve volunteers are needed each night for a variety of jobs. Sign up today and avoid the rush! We also need dessert makers. Please check out the table in the narthex. Galen Behr (402-453-6733 evening, 402-981-2667 daytime)

**YOUTH GROUP BABYSITTING/VALENTINE DATE NIGHT** — The Youth Group is hosting a babysitting night on Friday, February 13, from 5:30 - 9:00 P.M. You can bring children for part of the time or all of the time, you decide. A free-will donation is requested. All proceeds to benefit the Youth Group. Dinner and snacks will be served. Registration encouraged but walk-ins are welcome! Please R.S.V.P. by February 10th to **Kristi Townsend** at townsend.kristi@gmail.com, (402) 457-9611 or join the Facebook event.

**Praying For Our Parish in 2015**

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

February 1  
Epiphany Ramos  
Paul Whitmore

February 2  
Shannon Peterson  
Dawn Payne  
Mackinsey Whitmore

February 3  
Carol Childers

February 6  
Mikale Townsend, Jr.  
Kaylea Townsend

February 6  
Kelsea Townsend  
Krista Townsend