

March 15, 2015

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

WELCOME TO MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH



7301 North 28th Avenue
Omaha, Nebraska 68112-2816

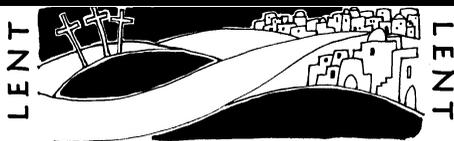
Sunday Worship9:00 A.M.
Education Hour..... 10:20 A.M.
Church Office – 402-455-8700.....FAX – 402-455-8701
Email: MountOlv@msn.com Website: mountoliveomaha.com



God has promised to be our God and to let us be his people. May we focus confidently on the blessing of such a loving relationship as we worship God today.

Roland A. Jank, Jr.
Pastor

Rachel Misiolek
Organist



4th Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2015

The Fourth Sunday in Lent has sometimes been considered an oasis in the midst of Lent. With John 3:16 at the center of today’s Gospel, we find a refreshing oasis as we hear again those beautiful, life-changing, hope-filled words, “For God so loved the world, that He gave his only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.” When snakebitten in the wilderness because of their own sin, the Israelites looked up to the bronze serpent given by God, and they lived. When we are snakebitten—troubled by some persistent sin or burdened by some unforeseen event that threatens to overwhelm us—we can remember that God has given us His Son, lifted up on the cross, to look upon, to trust, and thereby to live now and eternally. Made alive in Christ, “we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them” (*Ephesians 2:10*). A refreshing oasis indeed!

P R E L U D E

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

RINGING OF THE CARILLON

Stand

GATHERING

We Enter God's Presence.

INVOCATION

PRAYER

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *(based on Ps. 51:4; Ephesians 2:8-10)*

Let us confess our sins to God our Father. Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean.

Against You, O LORD, have we sinned and done what is evil in Your sight.

We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

Against You, O LORD, have we sinned and done what is evil in Your sight.

We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

Against You, O LORD, have we sinned and done what is evil in Your sight.

We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment.

Against You, O LORD, have we sinned and done what is evil in Your sight.

For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name.

Amen.

By grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. 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.

GATHERING HYMN

Lift High the Cross

Green 377

**Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.**

**Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God.**

Refrain

**Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine.**

Refrain

*Right: All newborn soldiers of the Crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of him who died.*

Refrain

*Left: O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As thou hast promised, draw us all to thee.*

Refrain

**So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory!**

Refrain

APOSTOLIC GREETING

KYRIE

Blue 602



1,3	Ky - ri - e	e - lei - son.	Ky - ri - e	e - lei - son.
2	Chris - te	e - lei - son.	Chris - te	e - lei - son.
1,3	Lord,	have mer - cy.	Lord,	have mer - cy.
2	Christ,	have mer - cy.	Christ,	have mer - cy.



	Ky - ri - e	e - le	-	i - son.
	Chris - te	e - le	-	i - son.
	Lord,	have mer	-	cy.
	Christ,	have mer	-	cy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Sit

WORD

We Hear God's Word.

FIRST LESSON

Numbers 21:4-9

The lifting up of the serpent in the wilderness.

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God! (*shouted*)

PSALM 107:1-9 (antiphon v. 19)



Cantor: Then they cried to the Lord in their | trouble,* and he delivered them from | their distress.

Cantor: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for | he is good,* for his steadfast love endures | forever.

Let the redeemed of the Lord | say so,* whom he has redeemed from | trouble

Cantor: and gathered in | from the lands,* from the east and from the west, from the north and | from the south.

Some wandered in | desert wastes,* finding no way to a city to | dwell in;

Cantor: hungry and | thirsty,* their soul fainted with- | in them.



Then they cried to the Lord in their | trouble,* and he delivered them from | their distress.

Cantor: He led them by a | straight way* till they reached a city to | dwell in.

Let them thank the Lord for his | steadfast love,* for his wondrous works to the chil- | dren of men!

Cantor: For he satisfies the | longing soul,* and the hungry soul he fills | with good things.

**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: Then they cried to the Lord in their | trouble,* and he delivered them from | their distress.

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 2:1-10

We are saved by grace through faith for good works.

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ — by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God! (*shouted*)

Stand

SERMON

Snakebitten

Numbers 21:4-9

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

God Loved the World So That He Gave

Tune: St. Crispin

1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made
 3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all

Son the lost to save, That all who would in
 flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in
 sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the
 sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by

Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
 Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
 Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.
 Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

5 If you are sick, if death is near,
 This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
 Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;
 That is the firmest ground of faith.

△ 6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
 And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
 To You, O blessed Trinity,
 Be praise now and eternally!

NICENE CREED

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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

. . . Let us pray to the Lord,
Lord, have mercy.
. . . one God, forever and ever.
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

The Tree of Life Choir
text by Stephen P. Starke, tune Bruce W. Becker, setting by David von Kampen

The tree of life with ev'ry good In Eden's holy orchard stood,
And of its fruit so pure and sweet God let the man and woman eat.
Yet in this garden also grew Another tree, of which they knew;
Its lovely limbs with fruit adorned Against whose eating God had warned.
The stillness of that sacred grove Was broken, as the serpent strove
With tempting voice Eve to beguile And Adam too by sin defile.
O day of sadness when the breath Of fear and darkness, doubt and death,
Its awful poison first displayed Within the world so newly made.
What mercy God showed to our race, A plan of rescue by His grace:
In sending One from woman's seed, The One to fill our greatest need
For on a tree uplifted high His only Son for sin would die,
Would drink the cup of scorn and dread To crush the ancient serpent's head!
Now from that tree of Jesus' shame, life eternal in His name;
For all who trust and will believe, Salvation's living fruit receive.
And of this fruit so pure and sweet The Lord invites the world to eat,
To find within this cross of wood The tree of life with ev'ry good.

OFFERING PRAYER

God our provider,
you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through 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

S108

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. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, . . . as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

O God of resurrection . . . with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us . . . with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones . . . 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

Come to Christ, broken and poured out for you.
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 112

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.

There in God's Garden
st. 4 - cantor

Blue 668

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

Green 448

What Wondrous Love Is This
st. 3 - cantor

Green 385

Stand

COMMUNION BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Green 479

**My faith looks up to thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine! Now hear me while I pray, Take all my guilt away,
Oh, let me from this day Be wholly thine!**

**May thy rich grace impart Strength to my fainting heart,
My zeal inspire; As thou hast died for me, Oh, may my love to thee
Pure, warm, and changeless be, A living fire!**

**While life's dark maze I tread And griefs around me spread,
Be thou my guide; Bid darkness turn to day, Wipe sorrow's tears away,
Nor let me ever stray From thee aside.**

**When ends life's transient dream, When death's cold, sullen stream
Shall o'er me roll; Blest Savior, then, in love Fear and distrust remove:
Oh, bear me safe above, A ransomed soul!**

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

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*** LAST SUNDAY AT MOUNT OLIVE ***

Worship Attendance.....	125	Bible Class	39
Communion	101	Offering	4089
Sunday School	21	Needed Weekly	4824
Staff	6	Specials	133

First Time Worshipers Last Sunday - 0

Midweek Lent #3 - 60

N E X T S U N D A Y – Fifth Sunday in Lent (Year B): Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 119:9-16;
Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 10:(32-34) 35-45

*** ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP TODAY ***

ACOLYTE----- Charly Peterson
ASSISTING MINISTER----- Robbie Moffett, Sr.
CANTOR ----- Sarah Jank
EUCCHARISTIC GIFTS----- Ray & Laura Hogan
LECTOR----- Gloria Sorensen

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

TODAY	-	CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR-----	10:20 A.M.
		HEALTH & MEDICATION COUNSELING	
		ADULT INFORMATION CLASS -----	3:30 P.M.
MONDAY	-	ELL CLASSES -----	6:30 - 8:00 P.M.
		LWML/COSMO -----	6:30 P.M.
WEDNESDAY	-	CONFIRMATION CLASS -----	6:00 P.M.
		ELL CLASSES -----	6:30 - 8:00 P.M.
		CHANCEL CHOIR -----	7:45 P.M.
THURSDAY	-	LENTEN MEAL -----	5:30 P.M.
		MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE -----	7:00 P.M.
FRIDAY	-	FRIDAY NIGHT FLIX -----	7:30 P.M.
SATURDAY	-	FIRST COMMUNION CLASS -----	4:00 P.M.
SUNDAY	-	CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR-----	10:20 A.M.
		MESSENGER ARTICLES DUE	
		ADULT INFORMATION CLASS -----	3:30 P.M.

ADULT BIBLE CLASS — During the Christian Education Hour, Pastor Jank will lead the Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall on the parable of “The Workers in the Vineyard.” Please join us in the study of God’s Word.

MIDWEEK LENT — Gather with us Thursday evening at 7:00 P.M. We continue the series on *The Parables of Lent*. This week we focus on *Receive Grace* with the parable “The Workers in the Vineyard.” (*Matthew 20:1-16*)

THANK YOU — Beef Stroganoff was on the menu for the third Lenten Dinner of the season on Thursday, March 5. I am so grateful to Galen Behr and his sous chef, Adam Behr for planning, shopping for and preparing a really delicious meal. Roasted carrots, Eleanor Worrall’s homemade rolls and my personal favorite, chocolate chip cookies. Standing by to serve all those hungry Mount Olivers were Rosemary Block, Aman Hamid and Peggy Posey. Cookie bakers included Rosemary Block, Nancy Jacobson and Sarah Jank. Ray Hogan and Bill Pugh kept the books for the night. And last but not least, the kitchen clean-up crew, including, Crystal Barry, Maurice Craddock, Jody Wells-Padron, Judy Rath and Irene Yeck. They put their hearts into their work and the kitchen was spic and span in no time. Sincere thanks to all. Dinners are served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. prior to the 7 p.m. service. It is a wonderful way to share fellowship with your Mount Olive family. We’d love to have you come on down! Dixie Gerhart PFPR

LENTEN DINNER TIME — A Lenten dinner will be served Thursday, March 19, 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 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)

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE — Sign up to bring food, help with dinner, or make a monetary donation at the back of church this morning for the dinner we are hosting on Monday, March 23, at the Ronald McDonald House. — Joan Johnson (402-960-4179)

COSMO/LWML — We are sponsoring an Easter Book and Bible drive for Project Hope. You may donate either new or gently used Christian books or Bibles. Please place in the box in the back of church. You can also make a monetary donation. Please mark “Project Hope Book Drive” on your envelope and place in the offering plate. —Jill Clausen.

EASTER LILIES — Easter lilies to decorate the altar for Easter are \$11.50 this year. After Easter services you can either take the lily home with you or donate it. Sign up on the sheet on the back table in the narthex no later than March 22.

SAVE THE DATE — Mission U: 202 - The Suburban Outreach Congregation, Saturday, April 25, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. here at Mount Olive. Light lunch served.

FRIDAY NIGHT FLIX — Don’t miss Friday Nite Flix! Please join your fellow Mount Olivers on Friday night, March 20, at 7:30 p.m. We will be showing the classic “Singing in the Rain.” This 1952 comedy/musical stars Debbie Reynolds, Gene Kelly, Donald O’Connor, Jean Hagen and Cyd Charisse. Silent movies are giving way to talking pictures, and a hooper-turned-matinee idol is caught in the bumpy transition, as well as his buddy, prospective ladylove and shrewish co-star. Great song and dance numbers, romance, drama...who could ask for anything more? Popcorn and movie candy will be provided. Circle the date! —Dixie Gerhart (402-602-3252)

EASTER EGG HUNT — Our fifth annual Easter egg hunt at 28th & Craig Park for the community will be held Sunday, March 29th, at 2:00 p.m. Come join us.

COSMO/LWML — will meet tomorrow, March 16, at 6:30 p.m. in Luther Hall. Our Bible study is the book “Yours Are the Hands for Christ.” We will be studying chapter 4: Teaching Hands, pages 43 -49. A copy can be provided if you would like to study ahead. Contact Jody Wells-Padron. Don't be "put off" by the fact that Jody is leading the Bible study this night. See you there.

MALE VOLUNTEER NEEDED — On Friday mornings between 10:30 and noon, immigrant males meet for fellowship at the Peace International Friendship Center, 44th and Grover. Aman Hamid, POBLO missionary to metro Omaha immigrants, needs a male volunteer to join him in conversing with these men. A friendly, faithful Lutheran man is needed. Contact Pastor Jank at 402-455-8700.

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.

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.

March 16
Ben Cox

March 17
Jason Stacy