



May 3, 2015

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

WELCOME TO MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH



7301 North 28th Avenue
Omaha, Nebraska 68112-2816



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

Wherever two or three people gather in Christ's name, he is present (*Matthew 18:20*).
We dedicate our time together to his glory. Welcome.

Roland A. Jank, Jr.
Pastor

Rachel Misiolek
Organist



5th Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2015

This Sunday's image of how the risen Christ shares his life with us is the image of the vine. Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding that we read of in the gospel and the first letter to John. Baptism makes us a part of Christ's living and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ's life. As the vine brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at his table. We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE CARILLON

Stand

GATHERING
We Enter God's Presence.

INVOCATION

OPENING SENTENCES (*1 John 4:18, 19*)

There is no fear in love,
but perfect love casts out fear.
For fear has to do with punishment.
We love because He first loved us.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (*1 John 4:20; John 15:5*)

“If anyone says, ‘I love God,’ and hates his brother, he is a liar.” Let us repent of our lost condition and seek refuge in the mercy of God.

God, be merciful to me, a sinner. For the sake of Christ forgive me for my selfishness and refusal to walk in love. Draw me to love You, not only for Your eternal gifts to me but because You are my God and my eternal King. Amen.

Jesus says, “I am the vine; you are the branches.” Whoever abides by faith in Him receives forgiveness, life, and salvation. In the name of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen

Blue 674

**Alleluia! Jesus is risen! Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever! Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!**

Refrain: Jesus is risen and we shall arise: Give God the glory! Alleluia!

**Walking the way, Christ in the center telling the story to open our eyes;
Breaking our bread, giving us glory: Jesus our blessing, our constant
surprise. Refrain**

**Jesus the vine, we are the branches; life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;
Heaven to earth, Christ to the people, gift of the future now flowing to me.
Refrain**

Weeping, be gone; sorrow, be silent: death put asunder, and Easter is bright.
Cherubim sing: "O grave, be open!" Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light.

Refrain: Jesus is risen and we shall arise: Give God the glory! Alleluia!

**City of God, Easter forever, golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,
River of life, saints and archangels, sing with creation to God the I AM!
Refrain**

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.



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.



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.



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 8:26-40

Philip teaches and baptizes an Ethiopian.

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God! (*shouted*)

PSALM 150 (antiphon v. 6)



Cantor: Let everything that has breath | praise the Lord!* Praise | the Lord.

Cantor: Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctu- | ary;* praise him in his mighty | heavens!

Cantor: Praise him for his | mighty deeds;* praise him according to his excellent | greatness!

Praise him with | trumpet sound;* praise him with | lute and harp!

Praise him with tambour- | rine and dance;* praise him with | strings and pipe!

Cantor: Praise him with sounding | cymbals,* praise him with loud clashing | cymbals!

Cantor: Let everything that has breath | praise the Lord!* Praise | the Lord!

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: Let everything that has breath | praise the Lord!* Praise | the Lord.

SECOND LESSON

1 John 4:1-11 (12-21)

God's love perfected in love for one another.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts

out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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."

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Cantor: I am the vine, you | are the branches.* Those who abide in me and I in them | bear much fruit. (*John 15:5*)

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

HOLY GOSPEL

John 15:1-8

Jesus is the Vine. We are the branches.



The Gospel according to St. Luke, the 15th chapter.

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

[Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

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

It's Time To Show Whose We Are!

John 15:1-8

Stand

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

At the Lamb's High Feast

Green 210

**At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to our victorious king,
Who has washed us in the tide Flowing from his pierced side. Alleluia!**

*Left: Praise we him, whose love divine Gives his sacred blood for wine,
Gives his body for the feast-- Christ the victim, Christ the priest. Alleluia!*

*Right: Where the paschal blood is poured, Death's dread angel sheathes the sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go Through the wave that drowns the foe. Alleluia!*

**Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Paschal victim, paschal bread;
With sincerity and love Eat we manna from above. Alleluia!**

*Left: Mighty Victim from the sky, Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath you lie;
You have conquered in the fight, You have brought us life and light. Alleluia!*

*Right: Now no more can death appall, Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise, And your saints in you shall rise. Alleluia!*

**Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, Newborn souls in you to be. Alleluia!**

**Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days: Three in One, your name we praise. 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

. . . Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

. . . 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 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.

MUSICAL OFFERING

O Blessed Spring

Choir

text by Susan Palo Cherwien, musical setting by Robert Buckley Farlee

O blessed spring, where Word and sign Embrace us into Christ the Vine,
Here Christ enjoins each one to be A branch of this life-giving Tree.

Through summer heat of youthful years, Uncertain faith, rebellious tears,
Sustained by Christ's infusing rain, The boughs will shout for joy again.

When autumn cools and youth is cold, When limbs their heavy harvest hold,
Then through us, warm, the Christ will move With gifts of beauty, wisdom, love.

As winter comes, as winters must, We breathe our last, return to dust;
Still held in Christ, our souls take wing And trust the promise of the spring.

Christ, living Tree, Be praised for this blest mystery:
That Word and water thus revive And join us to your Tree of Life.

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.

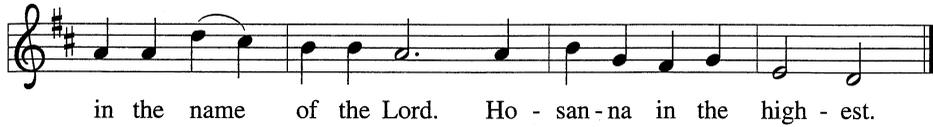
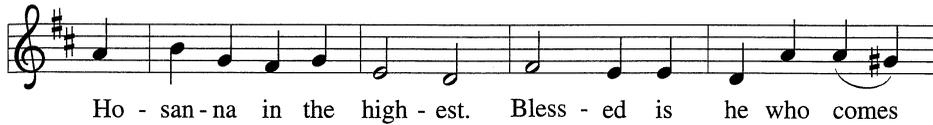
PREFACE

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:

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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



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



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....

Sit

INVITATION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

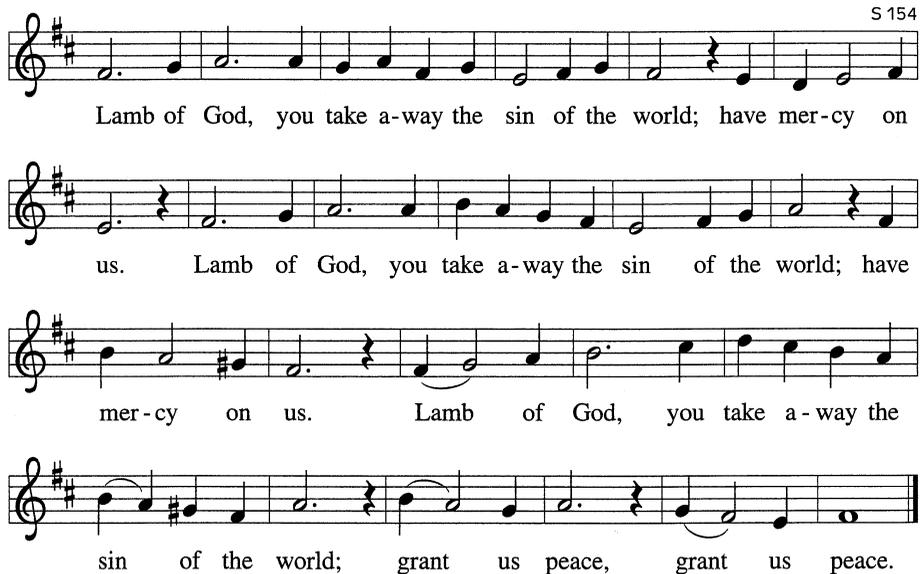
Amen.

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.

Amid the World's Bleak Wilderness

Green 378

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love
stanzas - cantor, refrain - congregation

Blue 765

There in God's Garden

Blue 668

Stand

COMMUNION BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

E A S T E R G R E E T I N G

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

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

Voices Raised to You We Offer

Tune: Song of Praise

**Voices raised to you we offer; tune them, God, for songs of praise.
Hearts and hands we bring in tribute for your gifts through all our days.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Triune God, to you we sing!**

**All creation joins to praise you; earth and sky your works display.
Art and music, gifts you lend us, we return to you today.
Alleluia! Alleluia! God, creator, source of life!**

**Christ, the song of love incarnate, touching earth with heaven's grace,
For your living, suff'ring, dying, for your rising, hear our praise!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ, redeemer, Lord of life!**

**Spirit, flaming through creation, kindle faith within each heart.
Lift our voices high in chorus; through our hands your love impart.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Spirit, helper, breath of life!**

**How can any praise we offer measure all the thanks we owe?
Take our hearts and hands and voices - gifts of love we can bestow.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Triune God, to you we sing!**

D I S M I S S A L

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

P O S T L U D E

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May 3, 2015 (B)

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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N E X T S U N D A Y – Sixth Sunday of Easter (Year B): Acts 10:34-48; Psalm 98;
1 John 5:1-8; John 15:9-17

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

ACOLYTE-----Shelby Poitra
ASSISTING MINISTER ----- Arnie Jacobson
CANTOR -----Mark Flemmer
EUCCHARISTIC GIFTS -----Walt Lahs, Roger Wilson
LECTOR -----Mark Sorensen

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

Worship Attendance.....	130	Bible Class	40
Communion.....	104	Offering	2447
Sunday School	20	Needed Weekly	4824
Staff.....	5	Specials	72

First Time Worshipers Last Sunday - 3

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

TODAY - CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR ----- 10:20 A.M.
ADULT INFORMATION CLASS----- 3:30 P.M.

TUESDAY - PARISH PLANNING COUNCIL----- 7:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY - CONFIRMATION CLASS----- 6:00 P.M.
CHANCEL CHOIR ----- 7:45 P.M.

SATURDAY - FLORENCE DAYS PARADE----- 1:00 P.M.
FINAL FIRST COMMUNION CLASS ----- 4:00 P.M.

SUNDAY WORSHIP-----9:00 A.M.
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR ----- 10:20 A.M.
ADULT INFORMATION CLASS----- 3:30 P.M.

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.

May 4
Paul Kosch

ADULT BIBLE CLASS — During the Christian Education Hour, Pastor Jank will lead the Adult Bible Class on St. Paul's letter to the Galatians. Grab a cup of coffee and join us.

ALTAR FLOWERS — The flowers in the chancel this morning are from Frank Sabatka in memory of his Father, Frank J. Sabatka.

FLORENCE DAYS PARADE – The Florence Days Parade will be held Saturday, May 9, at 1:00 p.m. Mount Olive and St. John are joining efforts. We will hand out cups of free freshly popped popcorn, Mount Olive VBS magnets and Mardi Gras necklaces on the grassy area in front of No Frills, just south of Jimmy Johns. We need about four adult volunteers, maybe a teen or two and a few kids. If you would like to help SET-up the tables and the popcorn wagon, if you would like to help POP-up the popcorn, if you would like to STEP-up and hand out popcorn or if you would like to CLEAN-up afterwards, we need you!! We will also put together a float for the parade. We need about 8 adult volunteers (teens welcome!) to ride the float and/or walk alongside the float. We would like to have some children on the float also. The float together will be put together at Miller Park at 11:00 a.m. the day of the parade. This is a great opportunity to see and be seen by our neighbors. Not to mention, it is a lot of fun! Call Dixie Gerhart at 402-602-3252 or 402-453-6707.

GIVE BLOOD GIVE LIFE — The Red Cross will be visiting Mount Olive on Saturday, May 16th, from 7:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Please help save a life. To schedule your donation, please contact Bonnie White at 402-496-7682 or bjhwhite@cox.net.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY — On Sunday, May 17, we will honor our Sunday School teachers. Please encourage your child to make a card or write a thank you to his or her teacher thanking her for all that she does.

CAMP LUTHER — It is time to begin summer planning. Camp Luther (in Schuyler, NE), a camp for the Nebraska District of the LCMS, has a mission of *Sharing the Love of Christ in Churches, Communities, and God's Great Outdoors!* Mount Olive does offer assistance to students attending Camp Luther. If you are interested in receiving monetary aid, please pick up an application off of the bulletin board in the Sunday School stairwell and return it to the church office no later than May 17th. For more information, visit the website <http://www.campluther.org>. - **Betsy Kosch**, Director, Board of Christian Education

WEEKLY WEEDERS NEEDED — Volunteers are needed weekly to pull weeds in our church lawn on Fridays or Saturdays. Sign up in weekly increments on the sheet on the bulletin board in the north hallway. Questions? Email Paul Kosch at paul.kosch@ops.org

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY — Brighten up those smiles! A dedicated group of volunteers is working with Lifetouch Church Directories and Portraits to bring you a new pictorial directory. Portraits will be taken Wednesday and Thursday, June 3 and June 4 and Wednesday, June 17. More detailed scheduling information will be available soon. If you have any questions or would like to serve on the pictorial directory task force, please call Dixie Gerhart, 402-453-6707.

INTERESTED — in volunteering at the new Nelson Mandela School this fall? There is a need for volunteers to help in the library, music supervisor (no talent needed), cafeteria, reading, and much more. Some of the jobs require a background check. Call the church office at 402-455-8700 or talk to Marilyn Beig if you can help.