



December 04, 2016

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

WELCOME TO MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH



7301 North 28th Avenue
Omaha, Nebraska 68112-2816

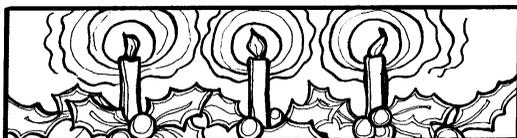
Sunday Worship9:00 A.M.
Education Hour..... 10:20 A.M.
Church Office – 402-455-8700.....FAX – 402-455-8701
Email: MountOlv@msn.com Website: mountoliveomaha.com



Welcome to Advent worship as we continue to prepare for Christ’s coming!

Roland A. Jank, Jr.
Pastor

Rachel Misiolek
Organist



SECOND SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

December 4, 2016

“Say you’re sorry!” Such words are often said by a parent to a child when a wrong has occurred, usually intended to be a lesson for the child in teaching that actions have consequences. As we hear the Word of God today from Matthew 3, we also come to realize that our actions have consequences. Yet it is not just actions, but also thoughts and inactions, and the consequences of our sinful nature. The Lord doesn’t tell us to just, “Say you’re sorry!” Through His Word and through His servants like John the Baptist, He calls us to repent—to not just speak an apology, but to turn away from sin and turn to Him. In this Advent season of preparation to receive our Savior born for us, we also prepare like the people of John the Baptist’s time through this ongoing and continuing action of repentance. Moved to repentance by faith, we are then able to live as His people, bear fruit in His name, and continue to be united as one and “together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ” (*Romans 15:6*).

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

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH *(Matthew 3:2, 3b; Psalm 119:105)*

Beloved in the Lord, this wreath and the candles progressively lit each week remind us that Jesus Christ came to conquer the darkness of sin and lead us into the light of His glorious kingdom. In this season of preparing our hearts and minds to receive the promised Savior given and born for us, we hear today John the Baptist fulfilling Scripture as he prepared the people, called many to repentance, and pointed to the Word of God made flesh.

“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. . . . ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make His paths straight.’”

Lord Jesus, Savior and King, the true light who comes into this world, bless us as we light this candle in the beginning of our preparation for Your coming. Enter our hearts and minds with the light of Your love that we may welcome and receive You with joy as our true and eternal King; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.

The first and second candles are lit.

SONG

Your Word Is a Lamp

first time cantor, two times by congregation

The musical notation consists of three staves of music in treble clef. The first staff contains the notes for the first line of the lyrics: 'Your word is a lamp to my feet and a'. The second staff contains the notes for the second line: 'light to my path, a lamp to my'. The third staff contains the notes for the third line: 'feet and a light to my path.' The lyrics are written below the notes, and the music ends with a double bar line.

CONFESSIO N AND ABSOLUTION (*Psalm 130:3-4*)

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 heed the call of the Lord through John the Baptist to repent - to turn from our sins and turn to Jesus Christ, our Savior, through whom we find true and lasting hope.

Merciful Father, we have turned away from You and sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things, and have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. By the power of Your Holy Spirit, turn us away from sin and to You, that we may love and serve You and Your ways of righteousness, justice, and peace.

God has heard our plea for forgiveness and for the sake of Jesus Christ, He answers our prayer. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

st. 1 - cantor

Cantor: Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding! "Christ is near," we hear it say.

"Cast away the works of darkness, all you children of the day!"

**Wakened by the solemn warning, from earth's bondage let us rise;
Christ, our sun, all sloth dispelling, shines upon the morning skies.**

**See the Lamb, so long expected, come with pardon down from heav'n.
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow, one and all, to be forgiv'n;**

**So, when next he comes in glory and the world is wrapped in fear,
He will shield us with his mercy and with words of love draw near.**

**Honor, glory, might, and blessing to the Father and the Son
With the everlasting Spirit while unending ages run!**

APOSTOLIC GREETING

KYRIE

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

Congregation



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

Lord, have mercy. (*same as above*)

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

Lord, have mercy. (*same as above*)

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

Lord, have mercy. (*same as above*)

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



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Sit

WORD

We Hear God's Word.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-10

From David's line, a ruler will bring righteousness and peace.

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name”; and again he says, “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people”; and again, “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him”; and again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.” May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (NRSV)

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

The musical notation consists of two staves in G major. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a one-sharp key signature (F#), and a common time signature (C). It contains the melody for the first two phrases: 'Al - le - lu - ia,' and 'al - le - lu - ia,'. The second staff continues the melody for the next two phrases: 'al - le - lu - ia,' and 'al - le - lu - ia.' The piece concludes with a double bar line. The number 'S124' is printed in the upper right corner of the first staff.

Cantor: Prepare the way | of the Lord.* All flesh shall see the salva- | tion of God.

(*Luke 3:4, 6*)

H O L Y G O S P E L

Matthew 3:1-12

The ministry of John the Baptist, the way-preparer.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

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

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.' " Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." (NRSV)

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sit

S E R M O N

Time For A New Recipe

Matthew 3:1-12

Stand

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

On Jordan's Banks, the Baptist's Cry

Green 36

**On Jordan's banks the Baptist's cry Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings Glad tidings of the King of kings!**

**Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin; Make straight the way for God within,
And let us all our hearts prepare For Christ to come and enter there.**

**We hail you as our Savior, Lord, Our refuge and our great reward;
Without your grace we waste away Like flow'rs that wither and decay.**

**Stretch forth your hand, our health restore, And make us rise to fall no more;
Oh, let your face upon us shine And fill the world with love divine.**

**All praise to you, eternal Son, Whose advent has our freedom won,
Whom with the Father we adore, And Holy Spirit evermore.**

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

**. . . Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.**

**. . . through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.**

S H A R I N G O F T H E P E A C E

**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

M E A L

We Celebrate the Lord's Supper.

G A T H E R I N G O F T I T H E S A N D O F F E R I N G S

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.

M U S I C A T O F F E R I N G

What Is The Crying At Jordan?

Choir

text by Carol Christopher Drake, alt., music setting by Dennis W. Zimmer

What is the crying at Jordan? Who hears, O God, the prophecy?

Dark is the season, dark our hearts and shut to mystery.

Who then shall stir in this darkness, prepare for joy in the winter night?

Mortal in darkness we lie down, blind-hearted seeing no light.

Lord, give us grace to awake us, to see the branch that begins to bloom;

In great humility is hid all heav'n in a little room.

Now comes the day of salvation, in joy and terror the Word is born!

God gives Himself into our lives; O let salvation dawn! Let salvation dawn!

O F F E R I N G P R A Y E R

God of abundance,

we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P R E F A C E

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

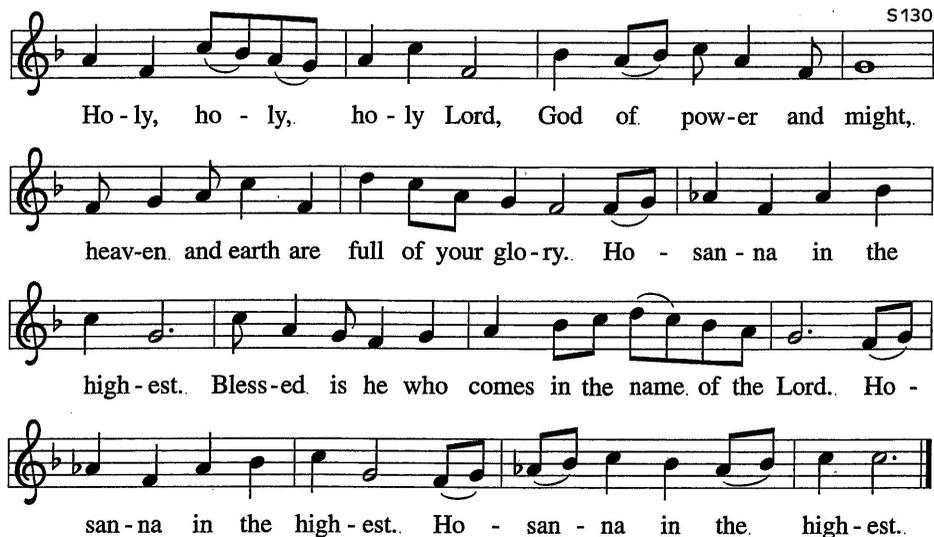
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

SANCTUS

S130



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. 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

Holy One, the beginning and the end, . . . Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



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

With the bread and cup . . . We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. . . . Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, . . . one God, now and forever.



A - men, 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

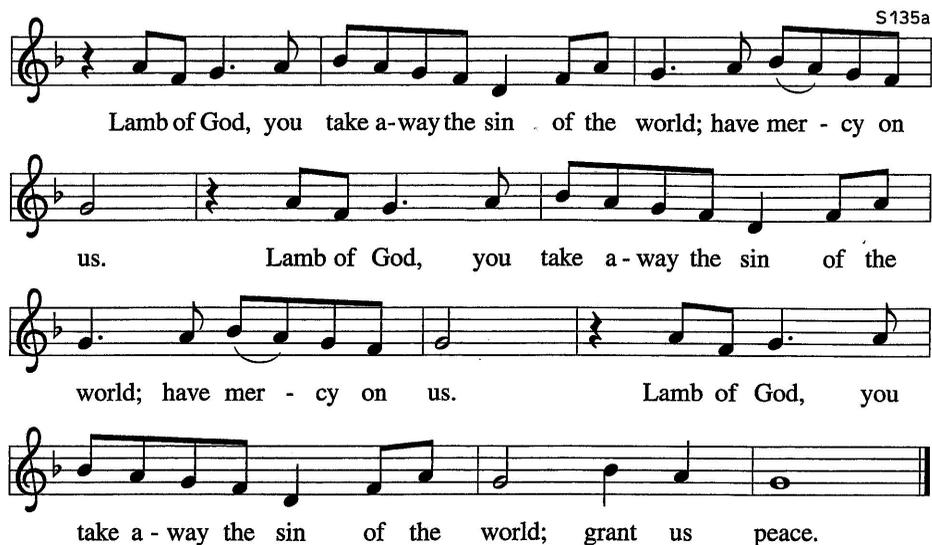
Taste and see that the Lord is good.
Amen.

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



S135a

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.

There's a Voice in the Wilderness



1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a
 2 O Je - ru - sa - lem, her - ald good tid - ings, as -
 3 But the word of our Sav - ior is faith - ful, the



call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a
 cend to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late
 arm of our God is strong, who stands in the midst of the



high - way, a high - way for our God!
 peo - ple the com - ing of their king.
 na - tions and soon will right the wrong.



The val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the
 Like flow'rs of the field we per - ish, like
 Lord, feed your flock like a shep - herd, the



loft - y hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed
 grass our works de - cay; the pow'r and the pomp of
 lambs so gent - ly hold; in pas - tures of peace now



plac - es where God, our God, may go!
 na - tions shall pass like a dream a - way.
 lead them, and bring them to your fold.

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

Green 23

Blessed Be the God of Israel

Blue 725

Stand

COMMUNION BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN

Prepare the Royal Highway

Green 26

**Prepare the royal highway; The King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley A level road appear!
Then greet the King of glory, Foretold in sacred story:**

Refrain: Hosanna to the Lord, For he fulfills God's Word!

**God's people, see him coming: Your own eternal king!
Palm branches strew before him! Spread garments! Shout and sing!
God's promise will not fail you! No more shall doubt assail you!**

Refrain

**Then fling the gates wide open To greet your promised king!
Your king, yet ev'ry nation Its tribute too may bring.
All lands will bow before him; Their voices join your singing:**

Refrain

**His is no earthly kingdom; It comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom And justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding For kindness so abounding:**

Refrain

DISMISSAL

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 – Third Sunday in Advent (Year A): Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 146;
James 5:7-11; Matthew 11:2-15

*** ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP TODAY ***

ACOLYTE----- Robbie Moffett, Jr.
ASSISTING MINISTER----- Robbie Moffett, Sr.
CANTOR ----- Sarah Jank
EUCCHARISTIC GIFTS----- Ruth Benish, Lois Lenz
LECTOR----- Mark Sorensen

*** LAST SUNDAY AT MOUNT OLIVE ***

Worship Attendance.....	121	Bible Class	43
Communion.....	95	Offering.....	5136
Sunday School	20	Needed Weekly	4861
Staff.....	5	Specials	104

First Time Worshipers Last Sunday - 5

Advent Carols & Readings - 47

*** THIS WEEK AT MOUNT OLIVE ***

TODAY - CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR----- 10:20 A.M.
 SS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM REHEARSAL --- 10:30 A.M.
 BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING
 COOKIE SWAP----- 11:30 A.M.
 ADULT INFORMATION CLASS ----- 3:30 P.M.

MONDAY - PASTOR'S BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP----- 7:30 P.M.

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

THURSDAY - ALL BOARDS MEETING ----- 7:00 P.M.

SUNDAY - WORSHIP ----- 9:00 A.M.
 CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR----- 10:20 A.M.
 SS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM REHEARSAL --- 10:20 A.M.
 YOUTH GROUP TO BABYSIT----- 11:30 A.M.
 ADULT INFORMATION CLASS ----- 3:30 P.M.
 CHRISTMAS CAROLING----- 6:00 P.M.

ADULT BIBLE CLASS HOUR — During the Christian Education Hour in the Fellowship Hall, Pastor Jank will lead us in a Bible study after an opening presentation about the work of Lutheran Church Extension Fund. Grab a cup of coffee and join us.

TODAY — A Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) representative, Mr. Nathan Meier, is with us. We as a congregation have invested some of our congregational reserves in financial instruments of LCEF. There are many opportunities for individual investors in this area of the church as well. Come and hear more about this ministry which assists congregations and professional church workers.

ATTENTION CHRISTMAS BAKERS — Today is our Cookie Swap at 11:30 a.m. To participate, bring three to four dozen cookies, bars, snacks or candies. Be sure to bring a container for your treats (plan for around three dozen). If you would like to share your recipe, bring it and we will make copies as needed. We are setting up in the old preschool (room next to Luther Hall) area. Questions? See Anne Wegner at (402) 980-6953.

BABYSITTING — Parents, plan to leave your kids at Mount Olive next Sunday, December 11, from 11:30 to 3:00 p.m. The Youth Group will provide lunch, snacks and activities. A free-will donation is requested. Walk-ins are welcome! Questions? Contact Kristi Townsend at (402) 457-9611.

SS CHRISTMAS REHEARSALS — Practices for the Sunday School Christmas Program, “The Most Important Part of Christmas”, continue every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. On Sunday, December 18th, there will also be a dress rehearsal at 10:30 a.m. At 3:30 p.m. that day, Sunday school students will need to be at church to put on costumes and rehearse songs. Please make every effort to ensure your child is at every practice.

POINSETTIAS — Would you like to help decorate the church with a poinsettia this year? The cost is \$11.50. Use the sheet on the table in the narthex to sign up by December 18. Please indicate whether you would like to leave the poinsettia or take it with you.

MITTEN DRIVE — Please join the Mount Olive Sunday School in helping collect mittens, gloves, scarves, and hats to donate to local charities. Please bring your new or gently used winter wear items to Mount Olive and add them to our mitten tree in the back of church.

CHRISTMAS DAY — December 25 falls on a Sunday this year. Make plans to join us for a joyous celebration of our Lord’s birth at 10:00 a.m. Note the scheduled time on that Sunday morning.

CAROLING — Join us for a fun family evening of Caroling, Cookies and Cocoa. All ages and singing abilities are welcome! Meet at the home of Paul and Jill Clausen (5476 Clay Street) at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 11th. We will sing carols in the Raven Oaks neighborhood for about an hour and then head back to the Clausens for refreshments. Any questions, please contact Jill at 402-650-5962 or paulandjill@cox.net.

Praying For Our Parish in 2016

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

December 9
Ashley Batten

December 9
Carol Lundberg

December 10
Jacob Markham