



January 1, 2017

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

WELCOME TO MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

7301 North 28th 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 in this new year of our Lord 2017!
Please greet one another in the spirit of Christ.

Roland A. Jank, Jr.
Pastor

Rachel Misiolek
Organist



THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

January 1, 2017

The Feast of the Epiphany is a celebration of Christ’s divine nature manifested in the humanity of the child Jesus in Bethlehem. Beginning with the Wise Men from the east, down through the present day, all nations are coming to His light, and kings to the brightness of His rising. The visitation of the Magi is the first unfolding in time and space of the mystery of Christ, which is that all people are fellow heirs, members of one Body, and participants in the promises of Jesus through the Gospel. In the presence of such a child—God in human flesh who brings all people into oneness with Himself—the royal visitors cannot but worship, offering such gifts as gold, frankincense, and myrrh in grateful response to the love of God made manifest in the humanity of Jesus.

PRELUDE

WELCOME *Please fill out the attendance registration sheet.*

RINGING OF THE CARILLON

Stand

GATHERING

We Enter God's Presence.

INVOCATION

OPENING SENTENCES *(Psalm 72:18, 12-14)*

Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.
For He delivers the needy when he calls,
the poor and him who has no helper.
He has pity on the weak and the needy,
and saves the lives of the needy.
From oppression and violence He redeems their life,
and precious is their blood in His sight.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, who revealed Your glory when the Son became man,
turned away from You by my sinful nature, I try to do Your job—I play God. I think I know what is best for me and for other people. I try to control things over which I have no power, and I too quickly give up on things I need to change. I've hurt You, myself, and the people around me. I need help.

You are the God who knows human life both from the outside-in as creator Father, and from the inside-out as incarnate Son and indwelling Spirit. Only You can hear me, forgive me, and return me to peace with Yourself, with myself, and with the people around me.

The God whose glory is revealed in the human life of Jesus hears your confession, and for Jesus' sake freely forgives you. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Jesus 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

The First Noel

Green 56

**The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.**

Refrain: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

**They look-ed up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.**

Refrain

**And by the light of that same star
Three Wise Men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went.**

Refrain

**This star drew near to the-northwest,
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
And there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where Jesus lay.**

Refrain

**Then entered in those Wise Men three,
Full rev'rently upon their knee,
And offered there in his presence
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.**

Refrain

APOSTOLIC GREETING

RITE OF BAPTISM FOR HOPE DOLORES LORANG

People of God, do you promise to support Hope Dolores and pray for her in her new life in Christ?

We do.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

You Belong To Christ

st. 3 - cantor descant

The musical score is written for a cantor and descant. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The first system has the lyrics: "You be-long to Christ, in whom you have been bap-tized." The second system has the lyrics: "al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

Assisting: Through baptism you have been received into the household of God, entrusted with the good news of Jesus Christ, and strengthened to serve by the holy and life-giving Spirit.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share. Join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

BAPTISM HYMN

See This Wonder in the Making Tune: Tryggare Kan Ingen Vara (474)

**See this wonder in the making: God Himself this child is taking
As a lamb safe in His keeping, His to be, awake or sleeping.**

**Miracle each time it happens As the door to heaven opens
And the Father beams, “Beloved, Heir of gifts a king would covet!”**

**Far more tender than a mother, Far more caring than a father,
God into Your arms we place her, With Your love and peace embrace her.**

**Here we bring a child of nature; Home we take a newborn creature,
Now God’s precious son or daughter, Born again by Word and water.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Sit

WORD

We Hear God’s Word.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 60:1-6

Nations come to the light of God’s presence.

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses’ arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord. (NRSV)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God! (*shouted*)

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 3:1-12

The Gospel's promise extends to all.

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him. (NRSV)

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.

Fine

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

Verse (cantor or choir)

Al - le - lu - ia!

D.C. al Fine

Cantor: We have observed his star at its rising, and have come to | worship him. (*Matt. 2:2*)

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

The magi come to worship the Christ Child.



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

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

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the

child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road. (NRSV)

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sit

S E R M O N

Stand

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

O Morning Star How Fair and Bright
st. 3 - vocal duet, st. 5 - cantor

Green 76

**O Morning Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's own truth and light,
Aglow with grace and mercy! Of Jacob's race, King David's Son,
Our Lord and master, you have won Our hearts to serve you only!
Lowly, holy! Great and glorious, All victorious, Rich in blessing!
Rule and might o'er all possessing!**

**Come, heav'nly bridegroom, light divine, And deep within our hearts now shine;
There light a flame undying! In your one body let us be
As living branches of a tree, Your life our lives supplying.
Now, though daily Earth's deep sadness May perplex us And distress us,
Yet with heav'nly joy you bless us.**

Duet: Lord, when you look on us in love, At once there falls from God above
A ray of purest pleasure. Your Word and Spirit, flesh and blood
Refresh our souls with heav'nly food. You are the dearest treasure!
Let your mercy Warm and cheer us! Oh, draw near us!
For you teach us God's own love through you has reached us.

**Almighty Father, in your Son You loved us, when not yet begun
Was this old earth's foundation! Your Son has ransomed us in love
To live in him here and above! This is your great salvation.
Alleluia! Christ the living, To us giving Life forever,
Keeps us yours and fails us never!**

Cantor: What joy to know, when life is past, The Lord we love is first and last,
The end and the beginning! He will one day, oh, glorious grace,
Transport us to that happy place Beyond all tears and sinning!
Amen! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! Crown of gladness!
We are yearning For the day of your returning.

**Oh, let the harps break forth in sound! Our joy be all with music crowned,
Our voices gaily blending! For Christ goes with us all the way
Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day! His love is never ending!
Sing out! Ring out! Jubilation! Exultation!
Tell the story! Great is he, the King of glory!**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

. . . Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.
. . . among all people in the world.
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.

MUSIC AT OFFERING

Arise And Shine

Vocal Duet

Based on Isaiah 9:2, 6, text and music by John R. Paradowski

Refrain: Arise and shine! Your light has come to all who dwell in darkness.

Arise and shine, for in our midst the light of Christ is with us.

We who walked in dark of night, have seen a great light.

A star has shown our Lord was born; the dawn of this new day. Refrain

Unto us a child was born, A Son was giv'n.

Baptized by John, now he reigns as mighty Prince of Peace. Refrain

OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God,

receive the gifts we bring, our selves, our time and our possessions. Through this meal unite us as your body, shining with the light of your justice and mercy; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PREFACE

S 144a

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

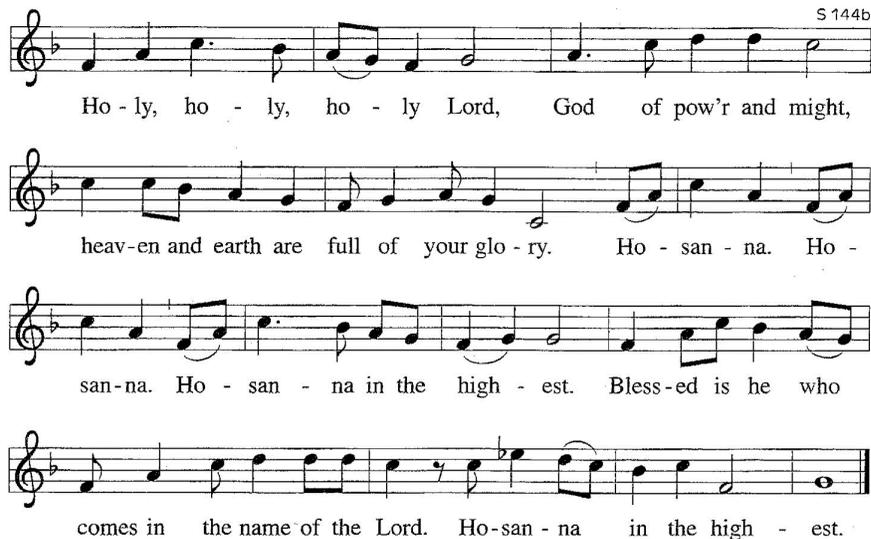
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

SANCTUS

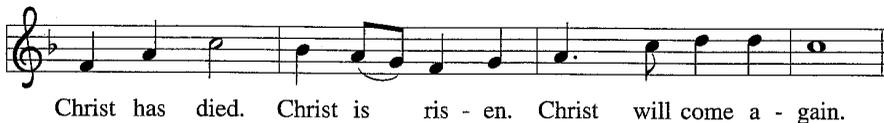
S 144b



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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, O God, . . . until he comes.



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

Therefore, O God, . . . 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 . . . 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

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

S 146

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.

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

Green 50

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Blue 649

Stand

COMMUNION BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Song of Simeon



C Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful-



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre-



pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -



veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.



Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

B E N E D I C T I O N

C L O S I N G H Y M N

As With Gladness Men of Old

Green 82

**As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light, Leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious Lord, may we Evermore be led by thee.**

**As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to thy lowly bed,
There to bend the knee before Thee, whom heav'n and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet Ever seek thy mercy seat.**

**As they offered gifts most rare At thy cradle, rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'nly king.**

**Holy Jesus, ev'ry day Keep us in the narrow way;
And when earthly things are past, Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds thy glory hide.**

D I S M I S S A L

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

P O S T L U D E

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N E X T S U N D A Y – The Baptism of Our Lord (Year A): Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29;
Romans 6:1-11; Matthew 3:13-17

*** ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP TODAY ***

- ACOLYTE----- Isabella Wegner
- ASSISTING MINISTER----- Mikale Townsend, Jr.
- CANTOR ----- Sarah Jank
- EUCCHARISTIC GIFTS----- Jill Clausen, Jerry Zulfer
- LECTOR-----Max Williams
- ORGANIST-----Rachel Misiolek, Rosalie Soodsma
- VOCAL DUET----- Sarah Jank, Gloria Sorensen

*** THIS WEEK AT MOUNT OLIVE ***

- TODAY - HAPPY NEW YEAR!
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR ----- 10:20 A.M.
BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING
- MONDAY - CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
- WEDNESDAY - *NO CONFIRMATION CLASS*
CHANCEL CHOIR ----- 7:30 P.M.
- SUNDAY - WORSHIP-----9:00 A.M.
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR ----- 10:20 A.M.
TAKE DOWN CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS- 11:30 A.M.
ADULT INFORMATION CLASS----- 3:30 P.M.

ADULT BIBLE CLASS HOUR — During the Christian Education Hour in the Fellowship Hall, Pastor Jank will lead us in an open forum which will consist of a question and answer session. Grab a cup of coffee and join us.

HOLY BAPTISM — This morning we welcome into Christ’s family and into our congregation Hope Lorang, infant daughter of Tim and Melissa Lorang. May she grow up in Christ and glorify God all the days of her life. Rachel Misiolek and Mikale Townsend, Jr. are serving as godparents.

TAKING DOWN CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS — Next Sunday, January 8, after the Christian Education Hour.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED — The church office will be closed on Monday, January 2.

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.

POINSETTIAS — Thank you to those who donated poinsettias this year to decorate the church.

Praying For Our Parish in 2017

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

January 1
Robert Frazer

January 1
Victor Padron

January 4
Ryan Flemmer