



January 29, 2017

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

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



Here we learn what is good and what the Lord requires of us: justice, mercy and walking humbly with God (*Micah 6:8*). May you find blessing and inspiration as you hear God's Word today.

Roland A. Jank, Jr.
Pastor

Rachel Misiolek
Organist



FOURTH SUNDAY
AFTER EPIPHANY

January 29, 2017

Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, mourners, the meek, those who hunger for righteousness, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this counter-cultural way of living and serving.

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

G A T H E R I N G

We Enter God's Presence.

I N V O C A T I O N

OPENING SENTENCES (*Galatians 5:22-23; 1 Corinthians 3:16; Ephesians 4:1-3*)

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?

Walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

CONFES SION AND ABSOLUTI ON (*Micah 6:8; 1 Corinthians 6:19*)

Let us go to our patient, loving Father, confident of His forgiveness for Jesus' sake.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Heavenly Father,

we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have failed to exhibit patience, the fruit of Your Holy Spirit, in our thinking, speaking, and acting. We have not loved You completely or our neighbors as ourselves. We have let our momentary hurts and anger displace the forbearance You have shown us. We have not walked humbly before our God. Our Lord Jesus revealed His person and ministry through His words and actions. In Your great mercy, forgive, renew, and lead us so that we may be revealed as His faith-filled followers to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

“Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price.” Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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

Rise Up, O Saints of God!

Green 383

**Rise up, O saints of God! From vain ambitions turn;
Christ rose triumphant that your hearts With nobler zeal might burn.**

**Speak out, O saints of God! Despair engulfs earth's frame;
As heirs of God's baptismal grace, His word of hope proclaim.**

Rise up, O saints of God! His kingdom's task embrace;
Redress sin's cruel consequence; Give justice larger place.

Give heed, O saints of God! Creation cries in pain;
Stretch forth your hand of healing now, With love the weak sustain.

Commit your hearts to seek The paths which Christ has trod
And quickened by the Spirit's power, Rise up, O saints of God!

A P O S T O L I C G R E E T I N G

H Y M N O F P R A I S E

Glory to God in the Highest

Cantor: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

Congregation

The musical notation consists of five staves of music in common time, treble clef, and a key signature of one sharp. The lyrics are written below each staff. The first staff begins with 'Ad.' above the clef. The lyrics are:

Glory to God, now - ev - er King al - might - y God and Fa - ther,
we war - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

The second staff continues the lyrics:

Lord Je - sus Christ, only Son of our Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

The third staff continues:

you take a - way the sin of the world have mer - cy on us;

The fourth staff concludes the hymn:

you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther, re - ceives our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Hu - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 you a - lone are the Most High. Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

P R A Y E R O F T H E D A Y

Sit

W O R D

We Hear God's Word.

F I R S T L E S S O N

Micah 6:1-8

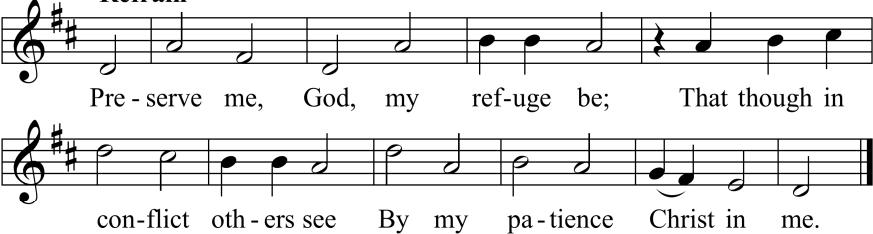
To act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God is good.

Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the Lord has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. "O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord." "With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? (NRSV)

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God! (*shouted*)

P S A L M H Y M N (*Psalm 15*)

Refrain



Pre - serve me, God, my ref-uge be; That though in
con-flict oth - ers see By my pa-tience Christ in me.

People: *Refrain*

Pastor: O LORD, who shall sojourn in Your tent?
Who shall dwell on Your holy hill?
He who walks blamelessly and does what is right
and speaks truth in his heart;
who does not slander with his tongue
and does no evil to his neighbor,
nor takes up a reproach against his friend;
in whose eyes a vile person is despised,

People: *Refrain*

Pastor: but who honors those who fear the LORD;
who swears to his own hurt and does not change;
who does not put out his money at interest
and does not take a bribe against the innocent.
He who does these things shall never be moved.

People: *Refrain*

S E C O N D L E S S O N

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

The contrast between the world's ways and God's ways.

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy

the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength. Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.” (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

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

Fine

Verse (cantor or choir)

D.C. al Fine

Al - le - lu - ia!

Cantor: Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven. (*Matt. 5:12*)

H O L Y G O S P E L

Matthew 5:1-12

The Beatitudes tell us who are the blessed of God.

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

Glory to you, O Lord! (shouted)

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

Blest are they, the poor in spirit, theirs is the kingdom of God.
Blest are they, full of sorrow, they shall be consoled.

Congregation: Refrain

Re - joice! _____ and be glad! _____
Bless-ed are you, ho - ly are you, Re -
joice! _____ and be glad! _____ Yours is the
king - dom of God! _____

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Blest are they, the lowly ones, they shall inherit the earth.
Blest are they who hunger and thirst; they shall have their fill.

Congregation: Refrain

Blest are they who show mercy, mercy shall be theirs.
Blest are they, the pure of heart, they shall see God!

Congregation: Refrain

Blest are they who seek peace; they are the children of God.
Blest are they who suffer in faith, the glory of God is theirs.

Congregation: Refrain

Blest we you who suffer hate, all because of me.
Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom; shine for all to see.

Congregation: Refrain

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, O Christ! (*shouted*)

Sit

S E R M O N

Blessed!

Matthew 5:1-12

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.**

A P O S T L E S ' C R E E D

**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.**

T H E R E C E P T I O N O F M O L L Y G U N T E R A S A M E M B E R

Molly Gunter has come to us from another Lutheran congregation and desires to transfer her membership into our community of faith.

We welcome you as a member of Mount Olive Lutheran Church to join with us in worshipping God, hearing his Word and sharing his supper, proclaiming the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, serving all people, and striving for justice and peace in all the earth.

P R A Y E R O F T H E C H U R C H

... let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, have mercy.
... one God, now and forever.
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

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

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service
jazz setting by Aaron David Miller

Piano

Lord, whose love in humble service Bore the weight of human need,
Who upon the cross, forsaken, Worked your mercy's perfect deed:
We, your servants, bring the worship Not of voice alone, but heart;
Consecrating to your purpose Ev'ry gift which you impart.

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 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:

S A N C T U S

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.

E U C H A R I S T I C P R A Y E R

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

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

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup . . . 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.

A - men, a - men, a - men.

L O R D ' S P R A Y E R (*join hands*)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven . . .

INVITATION

The bread of God comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.
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

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.

O God of Mercy, God of Light

Green 425

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

Green 104

Oh, Praise the Gracious Power
st. 3 and 6 - cantor

Blue 750

Stand

C O M M U N I O N B L E S S I N G

P O S T - C O M M U N I O N P R A Y E R

S E N D I N G

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

A N N O U N C E M E N T S

B E N E D I C T I O N

C L O S I N G H Y M N

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve

Blue 723

**The Spirit sends us forth to serve; we go in Jesus' name
To bring glad tidings to the poor, God's favor to proclaim.**

**We go to comfort those who mourn and set the burdened free;
Where hope is dim, to share a dream and help the blind to see.**

**We go to be the hands of Christ, to scatter joy like seed
And, all our days, to cherish life, to do the loving deed.**

**Then let us go to serve in peace, the Gospel to proclaim.
God's Spirit has empower'd us; we go in Jesus' name.**

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 Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany (Year A): Isaiah 58:3-9a; Psalm 112:1-9; 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16); Matthew 5:13-20

*** ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP TODAY ***

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| ACOLYTE ----- | ----- Isabella Wegner |
| ASSISTING MINISTER ----- | Mikale Townsend, Jr. |
| CANTOR ----- | Dan Schreiber |
| EUCARISTIC GIFTS ----- | Bev Allen, Judy Rath |
| LECTOR ----- | Max Williams |

*** LAST SUNDAY AT MOUNT OLIVE ***

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|---------------------|------|
| Worship Attendance..... | 108 | Bible Class | 43 |
| Communion | 87 | Offering..... | 4229 |
| Sunday School | 17 | Needed Weekly | 4905 |
| Staff..... | 5 | Specials | 170 |

First Time Worshippers Last Sunday - 4

*** THIS WEEK AT MOUNT OLIVE ***

| | | | |
|-----------|---|-------------------------------|------------|
| TODAY | - | CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR----- | 10:20 A.M. |
| WEDNESDAY | - | CONFIRMATION CLASS ----- | 6:00 P.M. |
| | | CHANCEL CHOIR ----- | 7:45 P.M. |
| SUNDAY | - | WORSHIP/VALPO SUNDAY ----- | 9:00 A.M. |
| | | CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR----- | 10:20 A.M. |
| | | BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING | |
| | | VOTERS' ASSEMBLY----- | 11:30 A.M. |

ADULT BIBLE CLASS HOUR — During the Christian Education Hour in the Fellowship Hall, Pastor Jank will lead us in the topic, "What Is the Christian Life?" Next week we begin three weeks on Martin Luther. Grab a cup of coffee and join us.

NEW MEMBER — This morning we welcome into our congregation, Molly Gunter. She comes to us from Trinity Lutheran Church, Amherst, Nebraska. Molly earned her nursing degree from Clarkson College and served as an operating room nurse for five years. She earned her master's degree from Clarkson last August and is now a nurse practitioner working at the Surgery Center of the Heartland. Her hobbies include reading, gardening, and fishing. Molly completed the fall Adult Information Class and renewed her faith. She realized how much she has to learn and looks forward to continue growing here at Mount Olive.

SPRING ADULT INFORMATION CLASS — Begins Sunday, February 19, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

January 29, 2017 (A)

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY! — What do you know about the *Bad Girls of the Bible*? From Eve, to Lot's wife, to Mary Magdalene; we will look at their stories in a new way and learn how a perfect God deals with imperfect people. The book "Bad Girls of the Bible: What We Can Learn from Them" by Liz Curtis Higgs will be provided or you can purchase your own copy to keep. The study will be held six Tuesday evenings from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. in February, March and April. Our first meeting will be Tuesday, February 7, in the library. If you have questions, please call Dixie Gerhart at 402-602-3252 (day) or 402-453-6707 (evening).

REFORMATION 500 HYMN FESTIVAL — As part of the Reformation 500 celebration a hymn festival will be hosted at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 12, at Pacific Hills Lutheran Church to celebrate our Lutheran heritage. Come sing along with an all-city choir including six of Mount Olive choir members as well as featured organist, Dr Jeffrey Blersch, Professor of Music, Concordia University Nebraska and the Concordia University Brass Ensemble. It will be an afternoon highlighting some of the great hymns written by Martin Luther. Help us continue the Reformation Celebration! All are welcome! Stay afterwards for a coffee and dessert reception. There will be a free will offering for the event.

FRIDAY NIGHT FLIX — We have an excellent movie lined up for Friday Nite Flix in February. Please join your fellow Mount Olive movie buffs on Friday night, February 10 at 7:30 p.m. We will be showing the Academy award winning classic directed by Alfred Hitchcock, "Rebecca." This 1940 film stars Laurence Olivier, Joan Fontaine, George Sanders and Judith Anderson. A vacationing young lady meets, falls in love with, and marries handsome and wealthy widower Maxim de Winter. He takes his new bride home to his estate, Manderley. But the new Mrs. de Winter finds her married life dominated by the sinister, almost spectral influence of Maxim's late wife, Rebecca, who still rules from beyond the grave. Believe me, you do not want to miss this film! Popcorn and movie candy provided. Circle the date! Dixie Gerhart, 402-602-3252.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2017 — July 17-21, 2017.

REFORMATION 500 — "It is by faith that the memory of the Lord's works is fixed. But no one can do any of this unless he first despairs of himself and the world and puts his hope in the Lord. He can fix Christ's works and words in the heart after he has cast out hope in the world and has begun to hope exclusively in the Lord. Therefore the first thing for him is to be poor in spirit (*Matt. 5:3*)."-Martin Luther

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 31
Stephanie Markham

February 1
Epiphany Ramos
Paul Whitmore

February 2
Shannon O'Neill-Peterson
Dawn Payne
Mackinsey Whitmore

February 3
Carol Childers