

The Olive Branch

July 19, 2017

Accent on Worship

Pastor Joseph Crippen

Where did these come from?

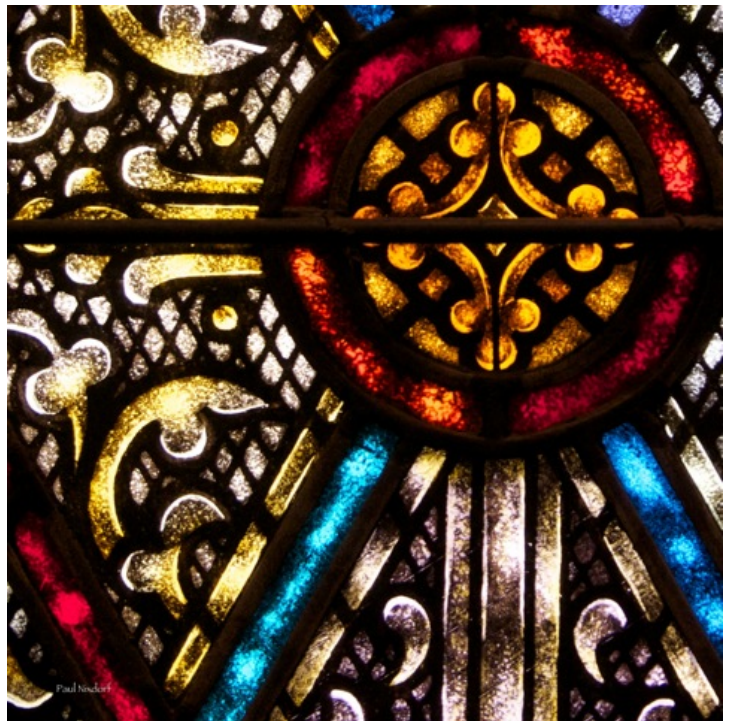
Sunday we hear Jesus tell us a story of good and evil growing in the same field. "Master, did you not sow good seed in your field?" the servants ask. "Where, then, did these weeds come from?" Humans have asked this for millennia. "Did you not make a good world, God? Where, then, did this evil come from?"

Jesus' story looks less than satisfying as an answer. The Master of the farm urges patience on the workers. Yes, he says, it was and is a good field, sown with good seed. Yes, he says, an enemy is sowing weeds in it. But we're not going to tear out those weeds just yet. You can't easily tell the difference, for one thing. Only I, your Master, can really tell. So, I will take care of it in the end. For now, be patient, as I am patient.

Patience is hard for us. This answer seems weak to us. But "patient" comes to us from Latin, and is related to the word for "suffering." (People in hospitals are therefore called "patients.") To be patient is to suffer. So the Triune God's word in this story doesn't mean what we might have thought. The Incarnate Son of God, who tells this story, was literally patient with evil, with us, with the world. He suffered in, with, and among us. He brought the goodness and love and light and life of the almighty and Triune God into the heart of a world sown with the seeds of evil and hate and darkness and death. And he suffered. Was patient. Same thing.

And that is the mercy of our Lord and Christ for which we pray. Because in this patient suffering, the whole world is brought into newness of life. Suffering love brings an end to hate, and an offered life destroys the power of death.

Be patient, therefore, says the Lord. The good seed will bring life to the world in the end.



Sunday Readings

July 23, 2017

**7th Sunday after
Pentecost**

Isaiah 44:6-8

Psalm 86:11-17

Romans 8:12-25

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 30, 2017

**8th Sunday after
Pentecost**

1 Kings 3:5-12

Psalm 119:129-136

Romans 8:26-39

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Summer Worship

**Holy Eucharist is
celebrated each
summer Sunday
morning at
9:30 a.m.**

Lunch at Ghandi Mahal

You're invited to join others from Mount Olive for lunch at Ghandi Mahal Restaurant after worship on Sunday, July 30.

The Summer ACTS kids went to the restaurant a few weeks ago and got to tour their basement hydroponic garden, their fish farm and hear about Ghandi Mahal's efforts to create sustainable food supplies and raise awareness about environmental issues.

One of our mission partners, Interfaith Power and Light, also partners with the restaurant on sustainable food issues. Visit the website to learn more. (<http://gandhimahal.com>).

If you'd like to join the lunch group on Sunday, July 30, it would be helpful if you called or emailed the church office by Thursday, July 28, so the restaurant knows how many to expect.

Contribution Statements – Save a Stamp!

Contribution statements for the first half of 2017 are available and ready to be picked up at church. Please take yours when you come to liturgy. Those statements not picked up will be mailed at the end of July.

Bargain Box to be Held on August 5

It's already time to plan ahead for the next school year. Please help make sure that all children have clothes and school supplies to make school something to look forward to!

On Saturday, August 5, from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm, at Mount Olive, Bargain Box will sell new clothing at very low prices and give out free gently-used clothing for kids. School supplies will be distributed to all children at the Community Meal. Each year, we are able to supply about 100 students with clothes and school supplies, which makes going back to school fun for kids and much easier for parents!

Can you help?

- * Volunteer a few hours on that day;
- * Bring donations of new and gently used kids' clothes;
- * Donate new and gently used back-packs; (donations can go in the orange box in the coat room, monetary contributions should be clearly marked for Bargain Box and school supplies.)
- * Make a monetary gift to purchase school supplies.

Book Discussion

For their August 12 meeting, the Book Discussion Group will read *All the Light We Cannot See*, by Anthony Doerr.

The Book Discussion Group meets on the second Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the West Assembly area. All readers welcome!

Summer *Olive Branch* Publication

During the months of June-August, *The Olive Branch* is published every **other** week. This schedule begins with this issue.

The next *Olive Branch* will be published on Wednesday, August 2. *The deadline for information for that issue is Monday, July 31.*

Calendar

Wednesday, July 19

9:00 am Staff Meeting
 6:00 pm Transitions Support Group
 8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Saturday, July 22

9:00 am AMICUS / Men of Rafiki

Sunday, July 23 - 7th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee and fellowship

Tuesday, July 25

Noon Bible Study
 4:00 pm Diaper Depot open
 7:00 pm Internship Committee meeting

Wednesday, July 26

9:00 am Staff Meeting
 8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Saturday, July 29

9:00 am AMICUS / Men of Rafiki

Sunday, July 30 - 8th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am *Holy Eucharist, with the Sacrament of Holy Baptism*, followed by coffee and fellowship

Tuesday, August 1

Noon Bible Study
 4:00 pm Diaper Depot open

Stewardship Update

2017 Income/Expense

	June	2017 YTD
Income	\$45,580	\$317,033
Expense	\$75,519	\$387,651
% Expenses Funded	60%	82%

Attention Mount Olive Worship Assistants!

The Servant Schedule for the 4th quarter of 2017 (October - December) will be published at the beginning of September 2017. The deadline for submitting requests to me is August 11, 2017. Please email your requests to peggyrf70@gmail.com.

Thanks,
 - Peggy Hoeft

MPR Choral Stream Sponsorship

If you listen to the Choral Streaming service of Minnesota Public Radio, you may have recently heard that Mount Olive is now one of the Choral Stream sponsors. The Evangelism Committee selected this as one strategy to reach out to people who may be interested in coming to a worshiping community where excellent music is loved and heard.

Many thanks to the Mount Olive Foundation for funding this effort. Tune in and listen!

<http://www.classicalmpr.org/topic/choral>

Church Library News

Minnesotans are especially proud of their four seasons and we are always ready to share our enthusiasm and joy in the many ways in which we are blessed in the summer months. Many choose to use every spare moment in pursuit of outdoor activities, while others tend to find less stressful activities, like relaxing on a patio or around a pool or lake, soaking up the sun (or maybe NOT) and that's where those of us who are readers will make sure we have a book or two available within handy reach to satisfy our need to be entertained or possibly inspired in a new or different way. This is where our church library ministry comes in! During the summer, people tend to enjoy a lighter read, perhaps by finding something in the way of books (or other media) to fill that bill in the Fiction or Inspiration categories. You are invited to drop in to our library soon to spend time looking around at what is available for check-out that might be of interest to you.

A small sampling of some suggested Fiction books is on display in the library opposite the checkout desk, as follows:

SUMMER AT FAIRACRE, by Miss Read
BATTLES AT THRUSH GREEN, a novel by Miss Read
GOSSIP FROM THRUSH GREEN, by Miss Read
NO HOLLY FOR MISS QUINN, by Miss Read
GENNIE THE HUGUENOT WOMAN, by Bette M. Ross
SONG OF DEBORAH, by Bette M. Ross
CAST A LONG SHADOW, by Mary E. Pearce
CELIA'S HOUSE, by D.E. Stevenson
THE HIGHLANDER'S LAST SONG, by George MacDonald
THE GENTLEWOMAN'S CHOICE, by George MacDonald
THE RESTORER, by Sharon Hinck

Recently, an article about gratitude in the Mayo Clinic Health Letter Supplement caught my eye as being worthy of reprinting here. Gratitude is being thankful for every experience life throws at you -- materially, emotionally or spiritually. Research shows that a daily "attitude of gratitude" can help boost your energy, improve your mood, increase optimism and enhance your well-being. Amongst a half dozen ideas listed for helping us cope with days that aren't full of happy thoughts or happenings, I found one that appealed to me immediately:

"Start a gratitude journal, by starting or ending your day, jotting down at least one thing for which you are (or were) grateful. It can be an important event or something as simple as finding a new flower in your planter or having enjoyed a good cup of coffee as you began your day."

Perhaps this kind of suggestion appealed to me because of my age, but somehow this idea, along with others you may already be doing to brighten your life, should be interesting and helpful to all ages, as God has given you a life to enrich and appreciate each day.

- Leanna Kloempken

Summer of '17

Since our last installment, important things have been going on:

The little stake in the alley has become a full-fledged power pole with three big transformers hangin thereonn:



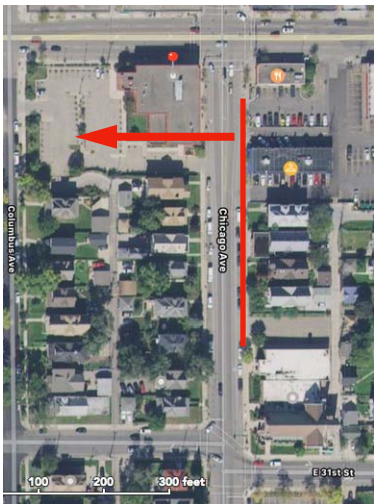
BEFORE



AFTER

Also, we are cleared to do the boring under 31st Street to connect the geothermal field to the church, thanks to a cooperative city department. Work will begin very soon.

The asbestos inspector indicated only minimal asbestos present, essentially only around pipes and pipe fittings. Could have been SO MUCH WORSE! Many buildings of the era were constructed of equal parts brick, mortar, and asbestos it seems. Thank you, forebears!



Very soon, however, the parking lot will be closed for some weeks. Signs will be posted to direct you to the large lot behind the Minneapolis Workforce Center at Lake and Chicago.

And so everyone knows what we are up to this summer, large banners will be posted to let all who pass by in on the project:



August 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<p>1 Noon – Bible Study</p> <p>4-6 pm – Diaper Depot</p> <p>7 pm – Missions Committee</p>	<p>2 10 am – Staff meeting</p> <p>Noon – Congregational Life committee meeting</p> <p>5:30 pm – Neighborhood Ministries Comm.</p> <p>8 pm – N.A.</p>	3	4	<p>5 9 am - AMICUS 11 am – Bargain Box</p> <p>11 am – Diaper Depot</p> <p>Noon – Community Meal</p> <p>1 pm – Prayer Shawl group</p>
<p>6 FOOD COLLECTION 9:30 am – Eucharist 11:00 am - Coffee Fellowship</p> <p>11:00 am – Theological Discussion</p>	<p>7 10 am – Organ Historical Society Hymn Festival</p>	<p>8 Noon – Bible Study</p> <p>4-6 pm – Diaper Depot</p>	<p>9 10 am – Staff meeting</p> <p>8 pm – N.A.</p>	10	11	<p>12 9 am – AMICUS</p> <p>10 am – Book Discussion Group</p>
<p>13 9:30 am – Eucharist 11:00 am - Coffee Fellowship</p> <p>1 pm – Neighborhood Ministries picnic</p> <p>6:45 pm – Mount Olive serves Our Saviour’s Meal</p>	<p>14 7 pm – Vestry meeting</p>	<p>15 – Mary, Mother of Our Lord</p> <p>Noon – Bible Study</p> <p>1 pm – CoAM Advisory Comm.</p> <p>4-6 pm – Diaper Depot</p> <p>7 pm – Holy Eucharist</p>	<p>16 10 am – Staff meeting</p> <p>8 pm – N.A.</p>	17	18	<p>19 9 am – AMICUS</p> <p>11 am – Diaper Depot</p> <p>Noon – Community Meal</p>
<p>20 9:30 am – Eucharist</p> <p>11:00 am – Coffee Fellowship</p> <p>1 pm – Nurturing Fellowship</p>	21	<p>22 Noon – Bible Study</p> <p>4-6 pm – Diaper Depot</p>	<p>23 10 am – Staff meeting</p> <p>8 pm – N.A.</p>	24	25	<p>26 9 am – AMICUS</p> <p>9am-1pm – Altar Guild Chancel cleaning</p>
<p>27 9:30 am – Eucharist 11:00 am - Coffee Fellowship</p>	28	<p>29 Noon – Bible Study</p> <p>4-6 pm – Diaper Depot</p>	<p>30 10 am – Staff meeting</p> <p>8 pm – N.A.</p>	31		

Mount Olive Lutheran Church

3045 Chicago Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55407

*A congregation of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America*

Sunday Eucharist: 9:30 am

Contact Us

Phone: 612/827-5919

Web: www.mountolivechurch.org

Staff

Pastor – *Joseph Crippen*

Cantor – *David Cherwien*

Vicar – *Kelly Sandin*

Coordinator of Neighborhood Outreach
and Ministry – *Anna Scott*

Administrative Assistant – *Cha Posz*

Sexton – *James Wilkes*

*Mount Olive is a Reconciling in Christ
congregation.*

Mount Olive's Schlicker Organ to Be Heard on Pipedreams

This Sunday

This Sunday, July 23 (6-8 a.m.), Minnesota Public Radio's Pipedreams program, "The Minnesota Muse," will include a sampler of some instruments which will be heard next month during the Organ Historical Society's national convention. Mount Olive's Schlicker organ will be included in that convention tour.

The program will include 2 Chorale-preludes (*O Ewigkeit, du Donnerwort; Nun danket alle Gott*), played by John Schwandt at Music & Fine Arts Organ Recital which he presented in October of 2016.

After broadcast, the program can be heard at the Pipedreams website,
pipedreams.publicradio.org.

Tune in!