

# The Olive Branch

November 1, 2017

## Accent on Worship

*Pastor Joseph Crippen*

*See what love we've been given*

There is a beautiful section of First John appointed for this Sunday, All Saints Sunday. Here's a verse I love: "Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed." Sunday we will gather, as we always do, in the midst of our community in Christ, with children of God that we can see, hug, love, speak with. We will gather, as we always do, with children of God we can no longer see, holy, beloved ones who have completed their baptismal journey and are at rest in the Triune God's embrace. In Christ's mystery, we all share the heavenly feast together at God's table. But it will be different for us than for those who have gone ahead of us.

Those saints know what the elder says we who remain here do not yet know. What they "will be" they already now are. It is revealed. Living in the light of the Lamb's throne, never feeling hunger or thirst, or any pain, as John in the Revelation promises in Sunday's first reading, they know the fullness of what it is to be children of God.

But the elder says we are already children of God. Even here, where we see what we truly are, as Paul has said, as in a mirror, dimly. "See what love the Father has given us," the elder tells us, "that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are."

Every year at All Saints there are names for whom we pray who sat in the pews with us the year before but are no longer on our side of the grave. Every year at All Saints there are names for whom we pray who weren't even alive last year, but who have come through Baptism's waters and joined us in Christ's Body. And every year at All Saints all the rest of us are also there.

The joyful mystery is that we are all children of God, and we are all together in Christ, not just on this Sunday, but at every Eucharist. On this Sunday, we sense this connection even more than normal, but this is a gift we take with us every week, every time we gather: Beloved, we are all God's children. That is who we are. Some of us now live in the full revelation of that joy. Some of us wait for our time to come. Some of us have just started on this journey.

But we are all at this feast together, washed in water, fed by bread and wine, joined in God's eternal love now and always. Do you see what love God has given us?



## Sunday Readings

**November 5, 2017**

**All Saints Sunday**

Revelation 7:9-17

Psalms 34:1-10, 22

1 John 3:1-3

Matthew 5:1-12

**November 12, 2017**

**23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after**

**Pentecost**

Micah 3:5-12

Psalms 43

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

Matthew 23:1-12

**Fall Back!**

***Daylight Savings***

***Time ends this***

***weekend!***

Don't forget to set your  
clocks back one hour  
on Saturday night!

## Sunday's Adult Forum

*There will be no Adult Forum next Sunday, November 5.*

**Sunday, November 12:** "Where Our Heart Is," part 1 of a 3-part series presented by Pastor Crippen.

This series is an exploration of capitalism, the Market as god, and life in Christ, with Jesus' admonition in mind: "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Matthew 6:21)

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## Transitions Support Group Next Meeting

**TONIGHT - Wednesday, November 1, 2017, 6 pm**

Do you ever think it would be nice to have someone who would just listen to what's going on in your life right now? That's what we do for each other when we meet. Join us on Wednesday, November 1, from 6-7 pm in the church library. This is an opportunity to share your particular concerns with others in the Mount Olive community.

Questions? Please contact Cathy Bosworth 612-708-1144, [marcat8447@yahoo.com](mailto:marcat8447@yahoo.com), or Heather Halen 612-822-0953, [hjoyhalen@hotmail.com](mailto:hjoyhalen@hotmail.com).

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## Solar House Party, November 14, 7-8:30pm

The Congregational Life Committee is sponsoring this event to engage and educate members about meaningful steps they can take in their own homes to reduce their carbon footprint by supporting solar energy.

The agenda includes brief informational talks from experts about rooftop solar for homeowners; what is a Community Solar Garden and how to subscribe to one to save on energy bills and help the environment; energy efficiency; and the connection between solar and climate justice.

**TIME:** 7 to 8:30 p.m. Nov. 14

**LOCATION:** The home of Mount Olive member Connie Marty, 2478 Lydia Ave. W. in Roseville

Drinks and light appetizers will be served. Registration required because of limited space.

This event also is sponsored by Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light, a nonprofit organization that works with faith communities to build the climate-justice movement, with assistance from solar businesses.

## Book Discussion

For the November 11 meeting, The Book Discussion Group will read *Anna Karenina*, by Leo Tolstoy. For the December 9 meeting, they will read *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, by Zora Neale Hurston.

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!

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## Names of the Deceased Saints Invited

As a part of our All Saints liturgy this Sunday, Nov. 5, worshippers are invited to submit the names of loved ones close to them who have died in the past year, since last All Saints Sunday, who weren't members of Mount Olive. (Members of the parish who have died are always named.) These other names submitted will be included in the prayers of intercession. You may also contact the church office with the names.

Please keep this to just those who have died this past year, so we can have a more manageable list.

## Calendar

### Wednesday, November 1

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting  
Noon Congregational Life Committee meeting  
2:00 pm Evangelism Committee meeting  
5:30 pm Neighborhood Ministries Committee meeting  
5:30 pm Children's Choir supper  
6:00 pm Children's Choir rehearsal  
6:00 pm Internship Committee meeting  
7:00 pm Cantorei rehearsals resume  
8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

### Thursday, November 2

- 6:00 pm Bible Study

### Saturday, November 4

- 9:30 am Confirmation  
11:00 am Diaper Depot open  
Noon Community Meal  
1-3 pm Prayer Shawl group meets at Blackeye Roasting Co.

### Sunday, November 5 - All Saints Sunday

- 8:00 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee and fellowship  
9:30 am Sunday Church School / Adult Forum  
10:45 am *Holy Eucharist, with the Sacrament of Holy Baptism*, followed by coffee and fellowship  
Noon Theological Discussion group

### Tuesday, November 7

- Noon Bible Study  
4:00 pm Diaper Depot open  
7:00 pm Missions Committee meeting  
7:00 pm National Lutheran Choir rehearsal

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## **Advent Luncheon for Seniors to be Held Wednesday, December 6**

Attention Seniors (65 and over)! Be on the lookout for your invitation to the annual Advent Luncheon for Seniors. The invitations for this fun annual event will soon be in the mail!

If you are age 65 or over and have not received your invitation, it's likely because we do not have your birthdate (or correct birthdate) on file. If that's the case, please call the church office and let us know so that we can update your membership information. All members of the Mount Olive Community age 65 and over are cordially invited!

## **All You Need Is Love?**

### *Thursday Bible Study Concludes*

The first Thursday Bible study series of this year finishes this Thursday, Nov. 2.

Meeting in the Chapel Lounge from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Pr. Crippen is leading a study on the First Letter of John, titled "All You Need Is Love?"

This treasured epistle is a deep, joyful exploration of the power of God's sacrificial love to reconcile all things, and the desire of God that we share in that love for the sake of the world.

As usual, we begin with a light supper at 6 pm.

All are welcome to this study opportunity!

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## **Coffee Hours Hosts for First Coffee Needed!**

If you attend first liturgy and have enjoyed a nice fresh, hot cup of coffee after church, why not take a turn hosting coffee hour after the first liturgy yourself? If this task seems a daunting thing to do alone, find a friend to serve with you!

Taking a turn will help to keep this from becoming a burden on someone else.

## Chancel Dusting and Polishing Day

The Altar Guild is hosting a chancel-cleaning event on Saturday, November 11, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

During our construction project, our sexton, James Wilkes, has worked hard to manage the dust, but we have some catching up to do. Please join our crew – for an hour, for the morning. The more hands, the faster we'll finish!

Bring your favorite duster and polishing rags, and help spiff up our worship space for the Advent and Christmas seasons.

Questions? Contact Beth Gaede--bethgaede [at] comcast [dot] com.

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## Save the Date!

### *Reformation 500 Congregational Potluck Meal*

Plan now to join your Mount Olive friends and family for a meal to commemorate the 500th Anniversary of Martin Luther's 95 Theses.

We'll gather for a POTLUCK meal after 2<sup>nd</sup> liturgy next Sunday, November 12. Brats and sauerkraut will be provided – bring a dish to pass!

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## Brad Holt Travels to Nigeria

Nigeria is the companion church for our synod. We had hoped that three Mount Olive members would be traveling at this time to bring this partnership into clearer focus for our congregation. Unfortunately the group visit was cancelled, so Judy Hinck and Mark Pipkorn will not be going. But Brad Holt is traveling alone to our partner church, the Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria.

Brad departed on October 31 and will return in time for Thanksgiving. While he is in Nigeria, Brad will be teaching briefly at the Bronnum Lutheran Seminary and giving in-service education to various groups of pastors. He envisions that in the future other pastors from Mount Olive may go to do similar teaching. Brad and Linda served the Lutheran church in Nigeria from 1972-1981, and he has returned four times since then.

The LCCN is a growing church, approaching even the size of the ELCA. But it has far fewer financial resources and needs a higher educational level for both clergy and laity. Mount Olive has considered a partnership with Bronnum Seminary. The Seminary is in need of better access to the web, and Mount Olive has so many people with theological training. It seems like a good match.

Brad looks forward to hearing their music, greeting old friends, and meeting the new Archbishop, Musa Panti Filibus, who has been elected as President of the Lutheran World Federation. Please remember the church in your prayers, that Brad's learning and teaching will be fruitful, and that he will return healthy and safe.

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## News from the Neighborhood

*Anna Scott, Coordinator of Neighborhood Ministries & Outreach*

### *11<sup>th</sup> Annual Powderhorn Park Empty Bowls*

*This Friday, November 3 at 11am - 7pm*

Come together with your friends and neighbors for a community meal of bread and soup to help raise funds to feed those who are hungry in our neighborhood.

Pick out a handmade bowl for your meal, enjoy visiting with your neighbors, and when you leave, take your bowl home with you - now empty - as a reminder that you've done something good to help your neighbors.

A donation of \$20 for the meal and the bowl is suggested. One bowl per adult in-person attendee.

### *Give Thanks. Give Food. Give Care.*

As we approach Thanksgiving and the winter season, it is time to collect food and goods for our neighbors in need. Here is what would be helpful for our partners at Sabathani, CES, and our own use here:

- Non-perishable food items such as; canned fruit, canned meats, pasta, rice, oil, flour, sugar, fruit juice, stew, peanut butter & jelly.
- Prepackaged, single serve soups and meals like ramen, boxed meals, and stews which can go to folks on the street and can be warmed in microwaves.
- Hygiene supplies such as; socks, razors, feminine products, toilet paper, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrushes/toothpaste, dish and laundry soap.
- Cash goes the farthest for food shelves! Donations can be marked "Thanksgiving" on blue envelopes.

All donations will be brought forward at the service on Thanksgiving Day and brought to our partners the following week. Thank you for your care for our neighbors!

Stay warm and keep others cozy - Neighborhood Ministries is collecting coats, hats, scarves, and mittens to be given away during Community Meals this winter. Please drop new or gently used donations in the box by the coat area. Thank you!



*This beautiful china set has been sitting in boxes in my office for too long and needs a loving home. It's a complete 12-piece full set, including serving ware and tea set. If you or someone you know can use it and appreciate it please contact Anna Scott by next Mon., Nov. 6.*

## New Member Welcome

Mount Olive will welcome new members (or associate members) into membership on **Sunday, December 10 at the 10:45 liturgy**. A welcome brunch for the whole congregation will follow the service at 12:15.

If you would like to be included in this new member group, or if you know someone who would like an invitation to join, please contact Cha at the church office ([welcome@mountolivechurch.org](mailto:welcome@mountolivechurch.org) or 612/827-5919) or speak with Pastor Crippen. Thanks!

## Exhibitions at the Basilica

The Basilica of St. Mary in Minneapolis is hosting three exhibitions in the coming days and weeks which may be of interest to many:

- **November 4-26:** "Windows To Heaven: A Visual Hymn of Praise," an icon exhibit open to the public, with a special exhibit in the John XXIII Gallery: "A Retrospective of the Work of Iconographer Nicholas Markell." Nicholas is the iconographer of three of Mount Olive's icons and recently presented an adult forum at Mount Olive.  
<http://www.stcroixiconography.org/windows-to-heaven/>
- **November 19:** Dedication of "The Homeless Jesus" sculpture  
<http://www.mary.org/news-events/events/homeless-jesus-sculpture-dedication?instance=0#.WeDUixNSxLw>

## Summer of '17: Almost Over



**Good news for this week:** *The parking lot will be open All Saints' Sunday, November 5. The fence will be up, but the gates will be open. Find your space.*

**Less good news:** Continue to "layer up" for cool conditions in church. We will still only have "partial heat" this Sunday and next.

**Consider this Reformation perspective:** As we experience 16th century central heat, our brothers and sisters at Central Lutheran are experiencing 16th century plumbing while their new building is under construction - a line of portable toilets. We will be warm soon; it's going to be a long winter downtown.

## Mount Olive Lutheran Church

3045 Chicago Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55407

*A congregation of the Evangelical  
Lutheran Church in America*

**Sunday Eucharist: 8:00 & 10:45 am**

### **Contact Us**

Phone: 612/827-5919

On the Web: [mountolivechurch.org](http://mountolivechurch.org)

### **Staff**

Pastor – *Joseph Crippen*

Cantor – *David Cherwien*

Vicar – *Jessica Christy*

Coordinator of Neighborhood Outreach  
and Ministry – *Anna Scott*

Administrative Assistant – *Cha Posz*

Sexton – *James Wilkes*

*Mount Olive is a Reconciling in Christ  
congregation.*

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