

The Olive Branch

October 18, 2017



Accent on Worship

Vicar Jessica Christy

In the beginning of his first letter to the Thessalonians, Paul praises the little community for the progress they've made in their new way of living. He says that they have learned to imitate Paul's own example in following Christ, and in doing so, they've become examples for all the new believers in northern Greece. Paul strives to follow Christ, the Thessalonians model themselves after Paul, people across the region imitate the Thessalonians, and so the good news is spreading further every day.

I suspect that imitation has a bad reputation in our world. We so value originality that we rarely hear the message that we should try to emulate people whom we admire. But for Paul, imitation is a very hopeful thing. It means that we all have the capacity to become more like the most loving and faithful people in our lives. It means that our own example matters to those around us, that we can inspire others to transform themselves. There is something of the living Christ in all of us, so when we commit to the way of Christ, we can become Christ to each other. Mission, evangelism, worship – they all begin with us imitating the many ways that we encountered Christ through our beloved teachers in the faith.

This passage resonated with me because much of a good internship year is an exercise in thoughtful imitation. I have the opportunity to enter into this community, identify the styles of leadership and forms of ministry that I most admire, and try to incorporate those things into my own path. For a year, I get to watch and listen for where I discern Christ in you, and then I get to carry what I have learned about the good news out in to the world. People of Mount Olive, I can tell you in joy that, even after just two months, I have already found much to imitate in your shared life. Your example matters. Never forget that.

Sunday Readings

October 22, 2017
20th Sunday after Pentecost (29 A)

Isaiah 45:1-7
Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]
I Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 22:15-22

October 29, 2017
Reformation Sunday

Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 46
Romans 3:19-28
John 8:31-36

Sunday's Adult Forum

Sunday, October 22: "Working for Climate Justice," presented by Michael Lansing and Connie Marty (co-chairs of the Mount Olive Climate Justice advisory committee).

What are green movements doing to address climate change? A look at the broader context for climate justice work, and an opportunity to ask questions, raise concerns, share insights, and affirm steps for moving toward care for the earth.

Next Sunday, October 29: "From Conflict to Communion: Lutheran-Roman Catholic Commemoration of the Reformation in 2017," presented by Don Luther. (See topic information in column on the right).

Transitions Support Group Next Meeting

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

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, or Heather Halen 612-822-0953, hjoyhalen@hotmail.com.

Climate Justice Action Alerts

Your Missions Committee is compiling an email list of those who would like to receive vetted climate justice action alerts so that you can take quick action to influence policy makers around climate justice issues. To add your email address to the list simply email missions@mountolivechurch.org. We will take significant alerts from Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light and the ELCA Action Response and pass them on to you for your action. Remember, all communication with our elected officials is important. Communications via letters or phone that ask questions are more powerful. When phoning, be sure to state your name and address, zip code or congressional district. You can also join the ELCA Action Network around numerous issues at <http://www.elca.org/advocacy>.

Book Discussion

For the November 11 meeting, The Book Discussion Group will read *Anna Karenina*, by Leo Tolstoy.

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!

From Conflict to Communion

2017 is the first ever joint Lutheran/Catholic commemoration of the Reformation. In preparation for this singular event, the Roman Catholic / Lutheran Joint Commission published the document, "From Conflict to Communion."

On Sundays, October 8, 15, and 22, following the second liturgy, Don Luther will lead a discussion group focused on this document. To register, email Don at luther5708@usfamily.net, or call him at 612-861-4777. In preparation for the gathering, "From Conflict to Communion" can be downloaded for free here:

<https://www.lutheranworld.org/content/resource-conflict-communion-basis-lutheran-catholic-commemoration-reformation-2017>.

Calendar

Wednesday, October 18

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting
5:30 pm Children's Choir supper
6:00 pm Children's Choir rehearsal
7:00 pm Cantorei rehearsals resume
8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Thursday, October 19

- 6:00 pm Bible Study

Saturday, October 21

- 11:00 am Diaper Depot open
Noon Community Meal

Sunday, October 22 - 20th Sunday after Pentecost

- 8:00 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee and fellowship
9:30 am Sunday Church School / Adult Forum
10:45 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee and fellowship

Tuesday, October 24

- Noon Bible Study
4:00 pm Diaper Depot open

Clean Energy Forum

On October 24, Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light invites us to learn more about what WE can do at a practical level to move Minnesota closer to 100% renewable energy!

We will gather to learn about bipartisan legislation related to clean energy in Minnesota and strategize about what the faith community can do to pass that legislation in 2017! Clergy and congregational leaders alike are invited! There will also be live streaming for those who cannot get to this forum by visiting <https://mnipl.org/> online.

This event will be held on Tuesday, October 24, from 11:30 am - 2:00 pm at St. Olaf Catholic Church, 215 8th St. S. in Minneapolis.

This forum is sponsored by Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light, the Ecofaith Network of the Minneapolis Area and North-eastern Minnesota (ELCA) Synods, ISAI AH, and Lutheran Advocacy Minnesota.

For questions contact Connie Marty at climatejustice@mountolivechurch.org.

All You Need Is Love?

Thursday Bible Study Continues

The first Thursday Bible study series of this year continues through 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.

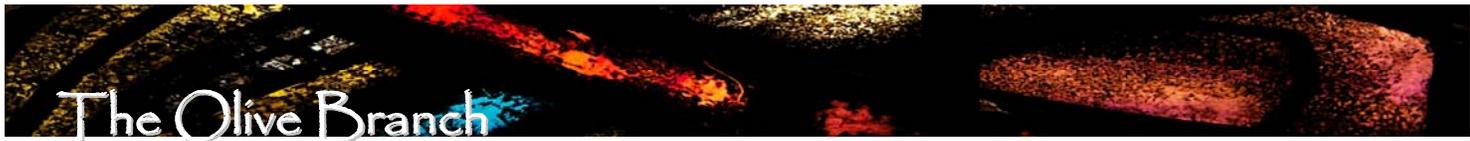
As usual, we begin with a light supper at 6 pm.

All are welcome to this study opportunity!

Attention Mount Olive Worship Assistants

The Servant Schedule for the 1st quarter of 2018 (January - March) will be published at the beginning of December 2017. The deadline for submitting requests to me is November 1, 2017. Please email your requests to peggyrf70@gmail.com. Thanks!

- Peggy Hoeft



Summer of '17: Nearing the End



We know you're tired of seeing pictures of pipes in the boiler room, but isn't this one cool?



The parking lot is graded and marked out for curb locations. The miniature "silos" are forms used to pour concrete bases for the lights.



Drilling the hole for the final base.

DRESS FOR THE REMAINDER OF SUMMER OF '17: Slacks and warm sweaters are in order. Perhaps sit a little closer to your neighbor? Heat is coming in the next couple of weeks, but not quite yet.

Thank you, one and all, for your patience through out all this inconvenience.

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.

News from the Neighborhood

Anna Scott, Coordinator of Neighborhood Ministries & Outreach

11th Annual Powderhorn Park Empty Bowls

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

Understanding Implicit Bias: THIS Saturday!

Do you know your bias? Check out Restorative Justice Community Action's event this Saturday. "Understanding Implicit Bias: Breaking the Cycle" will be held this Saturday, October 21, 9:00 am - Noon, at Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association, 821 East 35th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55407 Please RSVP to Cynthia Prosek if you would like to attend: cprosek@rjca-inc.org

National Lutheran Choir to Present Holy Spirit Mass

Join the National Lutheran Choir on Friday October 27, and Sunday October 29, for the premiere of a major choral-instrumental work. *Holy Spirit Mass*, composed by Norwegian composer Kim André Arnesen, commemorates the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation and celebrates the common ground shared by all people of God.

- **Friday, October 27, 2017 - 8:00 pm**
Basilica of Saint Mary, 88 17th St. N., Minneapolis, MN 55403
- **Sunday, October 29, 2017 - 4:00 pm**
Ordway Concert Hall, 345 Washington St., St. Paul, MN 55102

This concert will be live-streamed from the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, October 22, 7:00 p.m. EST.

For more information and to buy tickets, visit NLCA.com

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 2nd liturgy on Sunday, November 12. Brats and sauerkraut will be provided – bring a dish to pass!

More details to come!

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 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:

- **Currently, until October 30:** "Rebirth, Reform, and Revision: Reading the Image During the Reformation," an exhibition of prints
<http://www.mary.org/news-events/events/reading-image-during-reformation?instance=0#.WeDTMRNSxLw>
- **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>

Names of the Departed Saints Invited

As a part of our All Saints liturgy on 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.

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

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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