



The Olive Branch

November 7, 2018

Accent on Worship

Cantor David Cherwien

Sunday Readings

November 11, 2018
25th Sunday after
Pentecost

Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17
Psalm 127
Hebrews 9:24-28
Mark 12:38-44

November 18, 2018
26th Sunday after
Pentecost

I Samuel 1:4-20
Psalmody: I Sam. 2:1-10
Hebrews 10:11-25
Mark 13:1-8

Letting Go

We who live in the Northern Hemisphere get an added dimension to the liturgical year we observe. Nature adds an underscore to where we are in the liturgical cycle. Right now, we're in the "end times" - the last days of the lectionary before we start over on Advent 1. The lessons speak of All Saints, the return and Reign of Christ, of harvest, of the darkness, of our yearning for light.

Much of nature lets go of its green growth - deciduous trees let go of the leaves and fruit that do their important work in the growing season, in order to "hunker down" conserving all energy in preserving the root system, covered in dark soil. We know it is not death, even though it may look like it - this process is a dramatic preparation for new life that comes in Spring. I think of it as a great "letting go." The days grow shorter - I'm already noticing that the drive to and from work is in darkness. It's colder.

It's a time for us to shed some of the excess we grew over the long green season, to hunker down to our own roots buried in our souls. To find the energy for that inner core of what we really need.

This Sunday's lesson is the story of the widow's mite. A woman who only had two coins gives all that she had. Much less than the more wealthy folks around her gave. But the percentage . . .

I've always thought of stewardship a bit backwards than what I so often have heard over the years in the church. People are often asked to give to a cause - help with their financial support of someone or something in need. For churches, giving is in order to "support the church and its mission." So if our budget calls for XX number of dollars, that's what we need to raise. There's nothing wrong with that, to be sure! The needs are indeed real and those of us with the financial ability to help are called to do so.

The backwards part is that often the real "need" is more that I *need* to "let go" of money that's been given to me (OK, earned...) perhaps just as much as the recipient's need of it. Do I really need that \$20, even though it's my last? (Forget that I can walk up to a machine and it can spit a battery of 20's at me pretty quickly and easily).

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Sunday Adult Forums

Sunday, November 11, 2018

Anna Scott will offer a presentation about the situation at the Hiawatha Encampment and other Neighborhood Ministries activities.

Sunday, November 18, 2018

“Climate Justice: An Interfaith Update,” presented by - Julia Nerbonne, Executive Director of Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light

Julia will lead a discussion about the role of faith communities in building the climate justice movement. From pipeline resistance to building equity in to the solar industry, MNIPL is helping to connect faith values with a growing movement. Come prepared to share your experience, and hear about what others are doing.

Pledge Sunday November 11

On November 11, 2019 you are invited to bring a pledge card to place in the offering plate during worship.

The pledging process is personal, it's substantial, and it's joyful. What is this commitment? Being the presence of God requires us to give freely of our financial treasures in the same way we give of our time and talent resources. Mount Olive Lutheran Church and its neighborhood at 31st and Chicago are the recipients of God's grace and fortune that has kept us going for over 100 years.

For all who pledge, the pledge amount will be recorded in your giving record and reported on your quarterly statement. There is no tracking or reminding, no hounding you to make your numbers. It's simply a process that reminds us of our commitment to our mission.

Thank you in advance for taking this step. Pledge cards are being mailed out this week and will also be available on the information kiosk.

Book Discussion

The Book Discussion group meets on the second Saturday of each month at 10 am. For the November 10 meeting, they will read *The Portrait of a Lady*, by Henry James.

New Members to be Received November 18

Mount Olive will receive new members on Sunday, November 18, at the second liturgy. If you are not a member of Mount Olive and would like to join the congregation at that time, please speak with Pr. Crippen or call/email the church office.

TRUST News

The South Minneapolis Coalition for Grief Support's FALL Series began on September 27 and runs through December 6. It is held at Richfield United Methodist Church, 5835 Lyndale Avenue South, Minneapolis.

Please look for more details in the latest edition of the TRUST Communicator or visit their website at www.trustinc.org.

Calendar

Wednesday, November 7

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

Friday, November 9

- 7:00 pm Recovery & Wellness Support Group

Saturday, November 10

- 9:00 am Confirmation
10:00 am Book Discussion group
2:00 pm *Funeral Eucharist: Stanley Sorenson*
Sunday, November 11 - 24th Sunday after Pentecost

- 8:00 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee & conversation
9:30 am Sunday Church School / Adult Forum
10:45 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee & conversation
4:00 pm MFA Event: Cembalo and Viola da gamba concert, followed by reception
6:45 pm Mount Olive serves Our Saviour' meal

Monday, November 12

- 7:00 pm Vestry meeting
7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, November 13

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

Wednesday, November 14

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
5:30 pm Children's Choirs supper
6:00 pm Children's Choirs rehearsals
7:00 pm Cantorei rehearsal
8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Advent Luncheon for Seniors to be Held Wednesday, December 5

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!

Music & Fine Arts Event: This Sunday, November 11, 4 pm *Cembalo and Viola da gamba* *Tami Morse, Cembalo, and Tulio Rondón, Viola da gamba*

Tulio Rondón and Tami Morse celebrate their recent recording of the J. S. Bach gamba sonatas with a Minnesota tour! Hear the complete J. S. Bach sonatas for viola da gamba and obbligato harpsichord, their own arrangement for harpsichord and gamba of the *D-minor Organ Trio Sonata*, and selections from the *French Suite No. 5 in G Major* for solo harpsichord.

A reception will follow the concert.

Attention Mount Olive Worship Assistants!

The Servant Schedule for the first quarter of 2019 (January - March) will be published at the beginning of December 2018. The deadline for submitting requests is November 9, 2018. Please email your requests to peggyrf70@gmail.com.

News From the Neighborhood

Got Bags?!

The Diaper Depot can reuse your paper or plastic shopping bags for its customers. Please drop them off by the grocery cart in the coat room or in front of the Diaper Depot door. Don't know where the Diaper Depot is? It's downstairs by the elevator and saw 85 families in the month of September. That's a lot of neighbors - and a lot of bags!

Wall of Forgotten Natives - An Update

Mount Olive has recently made three trips to the homeless encampment on Franklin and Hiawatha Avenues to serve a midday warm meal. We plan to continue as long as needed. Feeding bodies is an important ministry specialty of this community, but there are other ways to learn more and do more to be loving, informed neighbors to those residing at the Wall. If you're wondering what life is like at camp or ways to be involved, please check out the official camp blog run by the Metropolitan Urban Indian Directors: <https://www.franklinhiawathacamp.org>.

The Neighborhood Ministries Committee will be collecting donations specific to the list on the blog (and listed below). If you'd like to make a specific donation that goes towards the meals being served or to the camp, please mark your envelope "Hiawatha" and place it in the offering plate, or drop your donation off in the office. You can also go to the website if you'd like to make a donation directly to one of the support organizations.

DONATIONS NEEDED:

Winter Wear: boots, gloves, hats, coats, thick socks, long underwear of all sizes (adults and kids)

Blankets, sleeping bags, tarps (extra large), tents, hand warmers, wood, water, one-pound propane tanks. Non-perishable food items (remember people are camping and cooking is difficult).

Large pillar candles, for warmth.

There is a box in the West Assembly area to receive your donations. If you have larger items please call Anna Scott 612-827-5919, or contact her via email to neighborhood@mountolivechurch.org and she can deliver directly to the camp.

Thank you.

Capital Appeal Nears Milestone at the End of November

The work from our Capital Appeal, Bold Step Forward, has been completed, and at the end of November we reach a major milestone: the construction loan will become our mortgage going forward.

Bold Step Forward was conceived as a 3-year fundraising campaign. This means that our fundraising is nearing the halfway point. To date, we have received more than \$750,000 of the \$1.1 million pledged. The balance of the cost of our construction (the new HVAC system which provides air conditioning in the nave, the renewed parking lot, the revisions to the Parish House entrance, and the replacement of sagging organ pipes) will become a 30-year mortgage that has a locked-in favorable rate.

All Bold Step Forward funds received by the end of November will reduce the size of the new mortgage. If you are considering a gift in 2018 toward Bold Step Forward, doing so by the end of November will be very helpful!

Your Bread for the World Advocacy Matters!

Earlier last month, the Global Food Security Reauthorization Act unanimously passed in both the House and Senate. Its passage extends congressional authorization for Feed the Future, a U.S. government initiative charged with combating chronic hunger and food insecurity around the world. Last week the President signed the act.

Through initiatives like Feed the Future, participating countries have been able to increase agricultural and nutritional investments. As a result, farmers can feed their families and communities and contribute to their countries' economic growth.

Thanks to all who sent letters to their congress people.

A Word About Altar Flowers

Starting now, if you sign up for altar flowers, please note that your payment for those flowers should be **made payable to Mount Olive Lutheran Church**, instead of Mount Olive Women. Envelopes are provided at the chart.

Also, please include your designation for the flowers when you sign up, or at least be sure to add the designation no later than Wednesday of the week you have signed up for, to ensure that your designation can be included in that Sunday's worship folder.

Thanksgiving Day Eucharist

*Thursday, Nov. 22,
10:00 a.m.*

Bring non-perishable food items to help re-stock local food shelves. Monetary donations are especially welcome (for every \$1 donated, food shelf personnel are able to buy about \$9 worth of food!)

As has been our custom for a number of years, the entire offering received at the Eucharist on Thanksgiving Day will be divided between Sabbathani Community Center and Community Emergency Services food shelves.

Accent on Worship, *continued from page 1*

I wonder if we spend way too much time trying to figure out how much we can give and still have enough left. Enough for what? What are truly our needs? I suspect a lot of us could pretty easily get along with far less than we think. We could let go of far more than we think. It's hard, to be sure. The mortgage is real. And for heaven's sake, listen to me - one who's "livelihood" depends on this approach! And so it goes.

What this month, the close of the liturgical season we began last Advent, can help us understand is that we can let go. God is all that we need - God is the root system that feeds us, and gives us new life when things fall away. The widow shed all of what the world would normally say she needs. But she had something more important that no one could take away.

Let's let go together and see what happens.

- Cantor David Cherwien

New Season, New Addition - Inside and Outside



Where have all the "weed-lings" gone?

Butterflies are shutting down for the winter, and so is our pollinator garden. Plants cut down and mulched, ready to hibernate for the winter and feed the garden in the spring - one of the little chores required to keep our landscape fresh and neat.

Did you sign up to be a landscape maintenance volunteer on October 28? 🤔 No?!

Rest assured, another opportunity will be yours 😊. You can pitch in for an early spring clean up workday, or adopt a plot for weekly maintenance next spring and summer.

New Addition, for Your Good Health

Hoping you never require need of this facility, but a well stocked first aid kit has been placed in the narthex for the occasional accident or emergency. Congregational Life and Property committees worked together to make this available.

It is in the north stairwell. Next to it in the red binder is the Emergency Procedures Manual - what to do, who to call, where to go in case of emergency. There are also copies posted in both kitchens, and near the elevator.

BTW, do you know where the Emergency Defibrillator is located 🤔 (also by the elevator). Have you attended one of the CPR/FirstAid training sessions offered by Congregational Life?

🤔 Set aside the time the next time one is offered.



Mount Olive Lutheran Church

3045 Chicago Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55407

*A congregation of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America*

**Sunday Eucharist:
8:00 and 10:45 a.m.**

Contact Us

Phone: 612-827-5919

On the Web: mountolivechurch.org

Staff

Pastor – *Joseph Crippen*

Cantor – *David Cherwien*

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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