

The Olive Branch

January 16, 2019



Sunday Readings

January 20, 2019

2nd Sunday after

Epiphany

Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalms 36:5-10

I Corinthians 12:1-11

John 2:1-11

January 27, 2019

3rd Sunday after

Epiphany

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Psalms 19

I Corinthians 12:12-31a

Luke 4:14-21

Accent on Worship

Cantor David Cherwien

Advent through Easter provides such a dramatic transformation reflected in nature around us up here in the Northern Hemisphere.

We're almost exactly in the middle of that cycle.

Advent, during the darkest time of year for us, is followed by the Birth of Christ in the world – the coming of the Light of the World deep in hope for better times. Things start turning around in the liturgical cycle, and in nature around us as well, and hopefully, well, everywhere else!

We are now in the Sundays after Epiphany – January and February. This is a time when light gradually returns and the days stay light longer. Since Easter is a moveable date, the length of this stretch of time varies. This year we have seven Sundays – only one short of the possible eight Sundays of Ordinary time after Epiphany.

The word Epiphany means “making known” and that’s truly what the lessons are about in this season. This Sunday is the story of the Wedding at Cana – where Jesus performs his first miracle, turning water into wine. The following weeks, Jesus makes himself known in his home town Nazareth, in the synagogue. Then the calling of the disciples, and knowledge of him and his work, and his following grows and grows in these lessons.

This year, being almost as late in the calendar as it can be, Easter may even coincide with a dramatic spring season, with new plants and warm temperature. Not always a sure thing in Minnesota, to be sure. But when that does happen, we all do come out of our layers and feel warm

and new, and it's very natural to celebrate!

For now, wearied perhaps from all of our celebrating for Christmas, we're ready for a little Ordinary Time in these Sundays after Epiphany before we launch into our Lenten re-focus on Ash Wednesday (March 6 this year). It's one of the effective parts of celebrating the church year liturgically – just about when you're ready to stop partying, we have Ordinary Time. And after enough of a stretch of Ordinary, we're ready for a little partying.

For the ordinary songs in the Eucharistic liturgy in this two month liturgical stretch, we'll be singing settings of the Gloria, Alleluia, and Sanctus by composer Thomas Pavlechko, now serving as church musician in Dallas. This music was new in the ELW. The Alleluia (page 102) and Sanctus (page 108) are included in ELW's setting one, but his matching setting of the Gloria is included as a hymn in the service section of the hymnal (ELW 163). I appreciate them for the gentle rises and falls of the melody – especially the rise to the high point. Let your energy take you to the top notes with the full support of your mind, body, and soul!

It all works, doesn't it?

The Olive Branch

Sunday Adult Forums

Sunday, January 20, 2019: "Learning to Be Present to Those Most In Need," presented by Deacon Steve Arnold, Spiritual Advisor and Chaplain at Crestview Senior Ministries.

Sunday, January 27, 2019: "The Way of Discipleship[in Matthew," presented by Martha Stortz, Christensen Center for Vocation at Augsburg University.

Many Thanks!

A thousand thanks to all those who help us mark the changes in the liturgical year in our sanctuary and building:

Advent wreath - Naomi Peterson

Advent birch branches - David and Susan Cherwien

Christmas trees: Dan Adams, Steve and Eric Manuel

Chrismons: Peggy Hoeft, Carol Austermann, James Bargmann, Carol Martinson, Donn and Bonnie McClellan, Rod and

Connie Olson, Tim Pipkorn, Steve Pranschke, Joann Sorenson

Wall Sconces and votives: Tom Olsen

Hanging of the Greens: Kandi Jo Benson Nelson, Brad Nelson,

Carol Austermann, Nicholas Johnson, Carla Manuel, Eric and

Steve Manuel, David Molvik, Mark and Tim Pipkorn

Poinsettias: Gary Pagel, Naomi Peterson

Aisle candlestands: Art Halbardier, Peggy Hoeft

Outdoor planters: Gary Pagel

Moravian Epiphany star: Brad Nelson

Vitrine (glass case) and Creche display: Paul Nixdorf and Johnny Vegesna

Attention Mount Olive Worship Assistants!

The Servant Schedule for the 2nd quarter of 2019 (April - June) will be published at the beginning of March 2019. The deadline for submitting requests is February 9, 2019. Please email your requests to peggyrf70@gmail.com. Thanks!

Book Discussion

The Book Discussion Group meets on the second Saturday of each month at 10 am in the West Assembly Area. All readers welcome! For the February 9 meeting, they will read *Middlemarch*, by George Eliot. For March 9, *Germinal*, by Emile Zola.

RIC Worship Service

This annual service will be held on Saturday, January 26, 2019, 4:30 pm, at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church (700 S. Snelling Ave. in St. Paul). All are invited to come together with the other 42 Reconciling in Christ congregations for this annual worship service.

New Members to be Received Feb. 10

Mount Olive will receive new members on February 10, at the late liturgy.

If you are interested in joining at that time, please speak with Pr. Crippen or contact the church office.

Calendar

Wednesday, January 2, 2019

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
7:00 pm Cantorei rehearsal
8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Saturday, January 5

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

Sunday, January 6 - Epiphany of Our Lord

- 8:00 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee & conversation
9:30 am Sunday Church School
10:45 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee & conversation
Noon Theological Discussion group

Monday, January 7

- 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, January 8

- Noon Bible Study
4-6 pm Diaper Depot open
7:00 pm National Lutheran Choir rehearsal

Wednesday, January 9

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
7:00 pm Cantorei rehearsal
8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Saint John Passion: An In-Depth Look

A six-week presentation about J. S. Bach's *St. John Passion* will be held on Monday evenings, Jan. 14-Feb. 18, beginning at 6:30 pm, at Lutheran Church of the Resurrection (3115 Victoria St. N. in Roseville).

Workshop participants will listen, study, and discuss this very important work.

Presentation leaders are Prof. Paul Westermeyer and Chaplain John Setterlund. Cost for this 6-week series is \$20.

For details and registration information, please contact Rachel Wright either by email to rwright@lcrelca.org, or by phone at 651-484-1292.

National Lutheran Choir Winter Concert Recording: *Carols We Love to Sing*

Carry on the Christmas-time cheer, and join the National Lutheran Choir's live concert recording of *Carols We Love to Sing*, third in the popular Hymns We Love to Sing CD series. Audience members will have the opportunity to both listen to National Lutheran Choir perform special arrangements of carols and participate in the recording session by singing along to popular congregational hymns.

Sunday, February 10,
4:00pm
St. Michael's Lutheran Church
9201 Normandale Blvd.
Bloomington, MN 55437

Tickets: Adult \$28 | Senior \$26 | Students and Children FREE

For tickets and more information, please visit NLCA.com/18-19season or call (612) 722-2301.



Mount Olive Music & Fine Arts to Present Organist Monica Czausz

Sunday, January 27, 2019 - 4:00 pm

Monica Czausz is one of America's leading young concert organists. She received first prizes at the 2015 American Guild of Organists Southwest Region Competition for Young Organists, the 2015 Schweitzer Competition in the Young Professionals' Division, the 2013 William C. Hall Competition, the 2012 L. Cameron Johnson Competition, and the 2011 Oklahoma City University Competition. In 2016 she was a featured performer at both the American Guild of Organists' and the Organ Historical Society's national conventions.

Ms. Czausz will offer a diverse program on Mount Olive's 55-rank Schlicker organ. A light reception will follow the concert.

*The Presentation of Our Lord
Saturday, February 2, 2019*

*Holy Eucharist at 7:00 pm
All are welcome.*



2018 in Review Starring Mount Olive's Solar Panels

The solar panels work silently, day after day, requiring no attention whatever (except when they get covered with snow). But - do they ever make a difference!

From January to December, they generated 21,064 kilowatt hours of electricity, which represents **23% of our total electrical usage, and that**

power cost us \$0.00!

This is important, because in 2018, we primarily heated and cooled our buildings with electricity, including air-conditioning the church for the first summer in history.

Most of those kilowatt hours were consumed on site to operate our equipment, lights, coffee pots, and other necessities of life. But not all of them: **In 2018, we were able to sell back to Xcel Energy 1920 kilowatt hours of excess we did not need, which shows up as a credit on our electric bill.** Because our system was built under the (now defunct) **Made in Minnesota Solar Incentive**, the state reimburses Mount Olive directly \$0.15 per kilowatt hour generated for the first ten years - this year about \$3160.

We were able to finance our system thanks to the generosity of the **Mount Olive Lutheran Church Foundation**, which loaned the congregation the cost of construction interest free. The Foundation will be repaid over ten years from the state reimbursements and savings from the use of solar energy.



Painting For Sale

The Magnum Mysterium painting by Robyn Sand Anderson that is now on display in the Chapel Lounge is for sale. The cost is \$2500.00. The dimensions are 4' high and 6' wide.

If you or anyone you know is interested in purchasing this art piece, please contact the church office or Paul Nixdorf (612-296-0055) or by email to pn@paulnixdorf.com.

Allies and Friends Workshop

Who: Muslims and Lutherans together

What: A day of conversation, learning, and relationship-building

When: Saturday, Feb 2nd, 8:30 am - 2:30 pm

Where: Grace University Lutheran Church, 324 Harvard St SE, Mpls. (University of Minnesota East Bank)

Registration required. Visit mpls-synod.org/events for more information.

Together in Hope: A Concert of Hope and Reconciliation

Featuring the Together In Hope Choir with the St. Olaf College Orchestra String Ensemble

Saturday, February 9, 2019, 8:00pm

The Basilica of Saint Mary

1600 Hennepin Ave Minneapolis, MN 55403

mary.org | 612.333.1381

Doors will open for general seating at 7:15pm

Concert is free of charge

The Together In Hope Choir, an ecumenical, professional-caliber ensemble of 60 voices, brings a message of healing and Christian reconciliation.

Directed by Mark Stover of the University of Michigan and Teri Larson of The Basilica of Saint Mary, the Choir will be accompanied by members of the St. Olaf College Orchestra. The performance features the U.S. premiere of *So That the World May Believe: A Motet for Unity and Service* and *Holy Spirit Mass*, by Kim André Arnesen.

The evening will include a shared ecumenical message from Archbishop Bernard Hebda and Bishop Ann Svennungsen.

The Together In Hope Project's mission is to advance healing and reconciliation through the transformative power of music. For more information, visit

www.togetherinhopeproject.org.

Every Church A Peace Church Twin Cities

The next regular bimonthly potluck supper meeting will be on Monday, January 28, 6:30 p.m. at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 4537 3rd Ave. S., in Minneapolis (access to parking lot at this address), 612-823-8205, www.stjoan.com. (Please note that this meeting is at an irregular time. Normally our bimonthly meetings are on the third Monday of each odd numbered month. This year the 3rd Monday in January falls on the Martin Luther King holiday so St. Joan of Arc Church is not available for us.)

The topic for this program is "Peacemaking in the Current Political Environment," presented by David Schultz, a Hamline University Professor of Political Science.

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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- **MFA Event: Monica Czausz, Organist, Jan. 27, 4 pm**

