

# The Olive Branch

January 23, 2019



## Sunday Readings

**January 27, 2019**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after  
Epiphany**

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10  
Psalm 19  
I Corinthians 12:12-31a  
Luke 4:14-21

**February 3, 2019**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after  
Epiphany**

Jeremiah 1:4-10  
Psalm 71:1-6  
I Corinthians 13:1-13  
Luke 4:21-30

## Accent on Worship

*Pastor Joseph Crippen*

*"I Don't Want You to Be Uninformed"*

In these green Sundays after Epiphany we have a run through the latter part of First Corinthians as our second readings. Beginning with last Sunday, we're reading from chapters 12 and 13 in January. In February we'll spend all the weeks on 1 Corinthians 15, Paul's great resurrection chapter.

January's readings are all about spiritual gifts. Paul began last week with this explanation: "Concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed." In spite of that, I'm not sure we are becoming informed as he hopes. Too often we read these sections, as in the next Sundays, separately, out of context from the others.

When we read them together (and I encourage you to do this) we see a thread of truth that's hard to see in pieces. Here's the thread, briefly: We each are given gifts of the Spirit *for the common good*. (Jan. 20) We all belong to each other *in one, inseparable body made by the Spirit*, where all are different and important. (This Sunday, Jan. 27) *Sacrificial, Christly love, the highest of all gifts of the Spirit*, and one given to all, shapes our life together in this body. (Feb. 3) This is what Paul needs us and all believers to be informed about.

In the Church, among such different and diverse ways of speaking Christ's name in the world, such a sense of the common good, our oneness in Christ, and the love that binds us, seems rarer and rarer.

Too often, 2,000 years after this first was sent to believers, our broader witness as Christ's Church in this world shows us to still be uninformed, and unwilling to learn.

Perhaps our gift here at Mount Olive can be to show by our actions and life in the world this word of Paul, so that those who encounter us as examples of Christians might see that we are, in fact, informed as to the center of the heart of Christ, and so informed, are living in that heart. For the good of all the world's people.

## Sunday Adult Forums

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

*Each of the gospels presents a distinctive argument about discipleship. What is the argument in Matthew's gospel? From his first sermon in his public ministry to the last, from the Sermon on the Mount to the Great Judgment of Matthew 25, Jesus shows how the blessed become a blessing to others.*

*Sunday, February 3, 2019: To be announced*

## Sign Up!

Sign up sheets are available for Sunday Altar Flowers and also for hosting Sunday Coffee Hour.

**If you would like to sign up for Altar Flowers**, pick your Sunday(s) and sign up on the chart located on the wall just outside the church office. Please note that altar flowers cost \$25 per bouquet and two bouquets are needed each Sunday. If you wish to provide both bouquets, please sign both lines with your designation for the worship folder. If you wish to provide just one of the bouquets, sign only one line with your designation. Make checks payable to Mount Olive and leave them in the church office, or send them in to the office by mail. Please do not place payment for altar flowers in the offering plate.

**Volunteers are also needed to sign up to host Sunday coffee hour.** The sign up sheet for that is conveniently located in the East Assembly Room right at the window where coffee is served! If you are new to hosting Sunday coffee and would like to give it a whirl, experienced people can be on hand to help show you the ropes. Bring some light refreshments or goodies to share.

## 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](mailto: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 23

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

### Friday, January 25

- 8am-5pm Godly Play training event
- 7:00 pm Recovery & Wellness Support Group

### Saturday, January 26

- 6:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous fundraising event

### Sunday, January 27 - Third Sunday after Epiphany

- 8:00 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee & conversation
- 9:30 am Sunday Church School
- 10:45 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee & conversation
- 4:00 pm MFA Event: Monica Czausz Organ Recital

### Monday, January 28

- 4-6 pm National Lutheran Choir Board meeting
- 7:00 pm Worship Committee meeting
- 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

### Tuesday, January 29

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

### Wednesday, January 30

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 5:30 pm Children's Choir supper
- 6:00 pm Children's Choir rehearsals
- 7:00 pm Cantorei rehearsal
- 8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous
- 9am-4pm Restorative Justice training event

## **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](http://NLCA.com/18-19season) or  
call (612) 722-2301.

## **Contribution Statements**

Year-end summary statements of contributions for 2018 were mailed to all contributors last week. Please take a moment to check yours over. Please call Cha Posz at the church with any questions or to request a detailed statement.



## 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.

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## 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](mailto:rwright@lcrelca.org), or by phone at 651-484-1292.

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

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

## News From the Neighborhood

*Anna Scott, Coordinator of Neighborhood Outreach & Ministry*

### *Beacon Congregational Convening on Affordable Housing*

*Tuesday, January 29, 7 p.m.*

*Bet Shalom Congregation, Minnetonka, 13613 Orchard Rd. Minnetonka, MN 55305*

As people of faith, we're gathering for an important conversation about our state to affirm we will be a stronger Minnesota if we invest in homes for those of us with the lowest incomes. Your presence at the Congregation Convening will send a clear message to the new administration that Minnesotans care about home and want to see homelessness ended in our state.

Governor Walz is working on his budget, so this will be a key opportunity. Will he hear that affordable housing needs to be prioritized? Will he hear that from you? Will your congregation show up en masse to proclaim that your faith calls for all people to have a home?

Participants must Register at: [www.beaconinterfaith.org/congregation-convening](http://www.beaconinterfaith.org/congregation-convening). Please note that you are a Mount Olive church member.

There is a group from Mount Olive already registered and prepared to attend. Please contact Anna Scott [neighborhood@mountolivechurch.org](mailto:neighborhood@mountolivechurch.org) or call her at 612-827-5919 to coordinate or ask about carpooling options.

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## Save the Date!

*Minneapolis Area Synod Tool Kit and Conference Assemblies*

*Saturday, Feb. 23, beginning at 9 a.m.*

*St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Bloomington, MN*

A morning of engaging workshops, fellowship, time with Bishop Ann Svennungsen, and conference meetings. Both experienced and new church leaders are strongly encouraged to attend!



## 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](mailto: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](http://mpls-synod.org/events) for more information.

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## 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 current and former 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](http://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](http://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](http://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.*



## **New Testament Images**

Mount Olive is pleased to host an exhibit of the artworks of Kirsten Malcolm Berry. Twelve of Kirsten's latest works, drawn from New Testament texts, are on display in the Chapel Lounge and West Assembly areas.

You can meet the Kirsten this Sunday, January 27, at the reception following the Music and Fine Arts organ recital featuring organist Monica Czausz.

To learn more about Kirsten Berry and her artwork please visit her website at: [www.kirstenmalcolmberry.com/originals](http://www.kirstenmalcolmberry.com/originals)