



Sunday Readings

The Olive Branch

March 6, 2019

March 10, 2019

First Sunday in Lent

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16

Romans 10:8b-13

Luke 4:1-13a

March 17, 2019

Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Psalms 27

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Luke 13:31-35

Accent on Worship

Pastor Joseph Crippen

A Journey Together

Lent is upon us, with Shrove Tuesday (and sausage and pancakes!) yesterday and Ash Wednesday today, the day this *Olive Branch* is sent out. Ash Wednesday heralds the 40-day journey we make with each other before Passion Week and Easter. It is a time for us to practice disciplines of faith as we prepare our hearts and minds for the celebration of the deepest mysteries of our faith, the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. There is an austerity to Lent, with the ancient disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving more strongly emphasized during this season. I find that austerity refreshing, having the Church call me to stop doing things, to put aside other things, to consider the greater meaning of the life of a disciple. Our family has often given up food items for Lent, but I'm also going to try fasting

once a week this year as a spiritual discipline which our forebears often have recommended for focusing on God's call to us. In our worship we even set aside a word, Alleluia, which we will not sing or say until we sing it anew at the Great Vigil. Lent enables us to practice for the journey of faith that is our whole life, as we learn discipline which will stay with us far beyond these few weeks.

Let us make this journey together, brothers and sisters. In the gift of community we help each other in our walk of faith, and during this Lent we can exercise that gift for each other. We worship together on Wednesdays in addition to our normal Sunday Eucharist. We add meals of soup and bread as time of fellowship and encouragement. We receive the blessings of God's grace here, together, and now we help and teach each other to walk in that grace.

Lent is indeed upon us. May God make this a season of life for us, as we walk together, practice the discipline of following Christ's path, and anticipate the joyful celebration of Easter which makes all things new.

Sunday Adult Forums

Sunday, March 10: "Implicit Bias and Microinequities," presented by Anne Phibbs, PhD, Strategic Diversity Initiatives.

We cannot move toward true equity in our workplaces, organizations and personal relationships until we address historical and institutional inequality. In order to address the myriad ways that certain people are marginalized based on social identities such as race, gender, disability, religion, class, and sexual orientation, every one of us needs to understand our own identities, how we all demonstrate bias that is often unconscious, and how we are capable of moving toward equity.

Sunday, March 17: "Jim Crow of the North," a PBS video about the practice of discriminatory housing covenants in Minneapolis, as detailed by the Mapping Prejudice Project.

The Mapping Prejudice Project is a team of geographers, historians, digital humanists and community activists seeking to expose structural racism in Minneapolis. Based at the Borchert Maps Library at the University of Minnesota, they are building a map that shows how racial restrictions in property deeds shaped the racial makeup of the city.

Farewell to Anna

This Sunday, March 10, after second liturgy, we'll have a traditional Lutheran potluck (Anna's choice!) to say thank you to Anna for her service as Mount Olive's Coordinator of Neighborhood Ministries and Outreach. Bring a dish to share!

Ash Wednesday – TODAY, March 6
Holy Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes
at Noon and 7:00 p.m.
All are welcome.

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 March 9 meeting, they will read, *Germinal*, by Emile Zola. For the April 12 meeting, *Spirit Car*, by Diane Wilson.

Midweek Lenten Worship Wednesdays during Lent

Holy Eucharist at Noon, followed by Soup luncheon
Evening Prayer at 7, preceded by Soup supper at 6 pm.

Members in the News

Recently, an Iowa TV station did a piece on Lynn Dobson's installation of the new organ at St. Thomas Church in New York. See it [here](#):

The Olive Branch

Calendar

Wednesday, March 6 – Ash Wednesday

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting
Noon *Ash Wednesday Eucharist*
5:30 pm Neighborhood Ministries Committee meeting
7:00 pm *Ash Wednesday Eucharist*
8:00 pm Cantorei extra rehearsal
8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Thursday, March 7

- 2:00 pm Funeral Eucharist: William Pratley
7:00 pm Nominating Committee meeting

Friday, March 8

- 7:00 pm Recovery & Wellness Support Group

Saturday, March 9

- 10:00 am Book Discussion group
10:00 am Music & Fine Arts Committee meeting
10:00 am N.A. speaker event

Sunday, March 10 – First Sunday in Lent

- 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
Noon Potluck Luncheon in honor of Anna Scott
4:00 pm *MFA Event: Lent Procession*
6:45 pm Mount Olive serves Our Saviour's meal

Monday, March 11

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

Tuesday, March 12

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

Wednesday, March 13

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting
Noon *Midweek Lenten Eucharist*, followed by soup lunch
5:30 pm Children's Choirs supper
5:30 pm Internship Committee meeting
6:00 pm Centering Prayer
6:00 pm Soup Supper
6:00 pm Children's Choir Supper
6:30 pm Children's Choir rehearsals
7:00 pm *Lenten Vespers*
7:30 pm Cantorei rehearsal
8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Adult Forum Presentations On YouTube

The recent two-part adult forum series presented by Earl Schwartz, "The Book of Isaiah's," is now available on YouTube at the following links:

Part 1: Feb. 10, 2019

<https://youtu.be/ED4kh8qN1Gg>

Part 2: Feb. 17, 2019

https://youtu.be/_raoc1q4vyyo

Test Your Climate Knowledge

The Missions Committee would like to challenge you on your understanding and knowledge of our beautiful Earth. NASA Global Climate Change web site offers quizzes to help us learn about vital signs of the planet. One quiz each week will be offered here until Earth Day to assist you in growing your stewardship of the Earth and all living things. Click the following link to take this week's quiz, The Ocean:

<https://climate.nasa.gov/quizzes/ocean-quiz/>

Music and Fine Arts' Lent Procession

This Sunday, March 10, 4:00 pm

Mount Olive Music & Fine Arts cordially invites all to this annual contemplative service of lessons and carols for Lent.

An Evening with Lutheran Summer Music (LSM)

Lutheran Summer Music (LSM) is hosting an event at Mount Olive on Sunday, March 24, at 4:00pm, that will feature a recital of alumni, past & current faculty, and staff members. Following the recital, there will be the Service of Evening Prayer replicating a typical evening during the summer program. This event is open to everyone, so please invite guests!

This event is designed to help spread the word about the transformational power of this faith-based music academy for high school students. Please join LSM Faculty, Staff, Alumni, and Friends for a wonderful evening of music, prayer, and fellowship. A reception will follow the evening's activities.

Please reach out to Mount Olive Member, Dietrich Jessen, by email at dietrich@dwjessen.com or by phone at 952-666-9759 with any questions. For more information about LSM, visit online them online at www.lsmacademy.org.

Lutheran Summer Music (LSM) is the nation's premiere faith-based music academy for high school students. In addition to advanced musical instruction and numerous performance opportunities, LSM students form an intentional community, living together for four weeks on a Lutheran college campus. Since 1981, this unique and immersive program has guided the lives of young musicians, who credit LSM as the starting place for their future careers and vocations.

March is Minnesota Food Share Month

During the week at Mount Olive, we commonly have neighbors coming in to see if we have food. Thanks to many of you, we often do have some pantry items or ready-to-eat options that we can offer to people to tide them over. The grocery cart in the coat room keeps re-filling with food as does the corner of hygiene supplies. This is a small but meaningful way that we can provide needed and appreciated items for those in a hardship situation, but we also recommend our partners at Community Emergency Services to provide the rest.

March is Minnesota Foodshare Month and CES is asking for our support. They want to gather a total of 40,000 pounds of food and raise \$125,000 during March. We can help! Bring food pantry items or hygiene supplies to drop off in our grocery cart and/or give a financial gift to help CES make purchases.

*Items suggested: Cooking oils, sugar and flour, toilet paper, hygiene products (deodorant, toothbrushes and paste), canned chicken, tuna & chili.

9.5% of Minnesotans live below the poverty level (*U.S. Census Bureau*).

Over 3,000,000 visits were made to MN food shelves each year, 2011-2017. Over 3.4 million visits in 2017 (*Hunger Solutions*).

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News from the Neighborhood

Highlight Reel from Anna - Take 2

Over the years I've collected a colorful, powerful array of memories. Here are some more of my favorites.



Marking Lent in the Home

Lent is a forty-day period of reflection, discernment, assessment, and prayer preceding and preparing for the feast of Easter. The word comes from the Anglo-Saxon "lenct," referring to springtime and to the lengthening of daylight as spring approaches. The forty days do not include Sundays, which are always considered to be little Easters. The traditional disciplines of Lent have been prayer, fasting, and acts of charity. For a helpful article on Shrovetide and Lent, visit:

<https://www.ncronline.org/news/spirituality/scripture-life/fasting-feasting-embracing-lent>

(Gertrud Mueller Nelson, "Fasting to Feasting: Embracing Lent," *National Catholic Reporter*, March 4, 2019)

To keep Lent in the home, consider doing some of the following:

- Create a place for prayer.
- Veil a cross or icon with purple cloth.
- Take on a practice of morning or evening prayer. Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer, and Compline are in the front of the ELW. If you don't have one in your home, consider buying one. For an online resource for the prayer offices, visit: <http://www.missionstclare.com/english/>
- Consider fasting for one meal each week, and put the money saved into a container at your place of prayer, to be given to those in need at the end of Lent.
- Begin praying for blessing for those who have hurt you in the past. If you have photos, place them at your place of prayer.
- Begin a daily reading of scripture. Choose one book to read over Lent.
- Read a Psalm daily.
- Practice lectio divina, a meditative form of scripture reading. For basic instructions, visit: https://www.contemplativeoutreach.org/sites/default/files/private/lectiodivinabrochure_2018_0.pdf
- Plant a spring bulb in your home; begin to water it sparingly. Place it in a sunny window.
- Bake pretzels, a traditional food of Lent. The shape is supposedly from the shape of a monk's arms (Brezeln), folded across the chest in prayer.
- For more suggestions, go to: <http://fullhomelydivinity.org/>
- Volunteer at a food shelf, nursing home, the Sheridan Story, or other places that serve those in need.



Wonderful Connections

Mount Olive-supported ELCA missionary Karen Anderson of EPES (Education for Health in the Americas) (second from left) congratulates Mount Olive-supported Common Hope employees, Dr. Walter Estrada and Patty Ramirez, as they complete EPES's International School on Popular Education in Health.

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

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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.*

In This Issue:

- Accent on Worship – Pastor Joseph Crippen
- Ash Wednesday Eucharist: TODAY (Noon)/TONIGHT(7 pm)
- Farewell and Thank You to Anna Scott This Sunday
- MFA Lent Procession: Sunday, March 10, 4 pm
- Take the Climate Quiz!