



Accent on Worship

Cantor David Cherwien

Lent - a time of liturgical fasting. Our liturgies during Lent also have a sense of fasting.

Of course, we "fast" from the celebration word "Alleluia." In preparation for this particular observance, the children have hidden the "alleluia" banner, which will be pulled out again for the Easter Vigil on April 20. The Gospel, which is usually surrounded by Alleluia's in the Gospel Acclamation is pared down to the verse (an appointed scriptural verse) without alleluias surrounding it. For 8:00, a generic verse is used "Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord..." and at 10:45 the choir sings an appointed verse. All the hymns are scrutinized to be sure there are no utterances of "alleluia."

Sunday Readings

March 17, 2019

Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Psalm 27

Philippians 3:17 - 4:1

Luke 13:31-35

March 24, 2019

Third Sunday in Lent

Isaiah 55:1-9

Psalm 63:1-8

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Luke 13:1-9

Yet there are other types of fasting in the Sunday liturgies in Lent. The prelude is omitted. The assembly gathers in silence - that in and of itself is different and sets up an intensified focus as we transition from "the world" (so to speak) and our coming into a deeper awareness of the presence of God. It is good for all of us to respect this quiet preparation around us as we enter the nave. We ourselves should direct our attention to prayer and preparation - perhaps using the psalter printed in the hymnal for prayer, or even reading the texts of the hymns to be sung in the liturgy.

The procession hymn is even pared down to using either the Great Litany or the Kyrie. The Great Litany, with its vast and extensive set of petitions, often surprises us with its relevance to today. There is always a petition that leaps off the page for me personally. The Kyrie (from Setting 5, pp. 156-157) has a very logical flow in the petitions between our singing "Lord have mercy." They begin very broad and general and get more specific, highlighting again the transition from "the world" to this place and the presence

of God: "In peace, for peace from above, for peace of the whole world and unity of the church," for this specific "holy house," and finally to "help, save, comfort and defend us."

The use of the organ also drops dramatically during this season. Much of the setting we use for Lent (Setting 5) is sung unaccompanied, as is the entrance Litany or Kyrie. Our practice is to even intensify this during Holy Week - the organ is turned off after the Good Friday noon service, and remains off until the Easter pronouncement in the Easter Vigil.

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In music, we talk about how we cannot have “forte” (fullest; loud) without its contrast, “piano” (soft). Always full sound is no longer full sound. Always soft is no longer soft. Each needs its contrast in order to be.

The effect of these Lenten practices is similar. When Easter comes, it really stands out as a big deal as we unleash all these things again, starting with the Easter proclamation when lights, bells, full organ, and loads of “alleluias” make their dramatic return.

May this Lenten journey be one of awareness and blessing.

- Cantor David Cherwien

Sunday Adult Forums

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.

The video is 57 minutes long and begins right at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, March 24: “Paul’s Letter to the Galatians,” part 1 of a 3-part series, presented by Pastor Crippen.

Lenten Prayers Available

Bread for the World offers another Lenten resource for your family. “Lenten Prayers for an End to Hunger” is a six-paneled table tent that can be placed on your dinner table or office desk. Each panel includes scripture readings, a prayer and suggested actions for each week. You may pick up your prayers on the table by the coat room or outside the main office. You might also want to take one to give to another family member or friend. Together we encourage each other to keep our Lenten disciplines.

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 April 12 meeting they will read, *Spirit Car*, by Diane Wilson. For the May 11 meeting, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, by James Joyce.

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.

The Olive Branch

Calendar

Wednesday, March 13

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting
Noon *Midweek Lenten Eucharist*
1:00 pm Soup lunch
5:30 pm Children's Choirs supper
5:30 pm Internship Committee meeting
6:00 pm Children's Choir rehearsals / Soup Supper
6:00 pm Centering Prayer
7:00 pm *Lenten Vespers*
7:30 pm Cantorei rehearsal
8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Saturday, March 16

- 10:30 am Catechism
11:00 am Diaper Depot open
Noon Community Meal

Sunday, March 17 - Second 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

Monday, March 18

- 4:00 pm National Lutheran Choir Board meeting
6:30 pm ReconcilingWorks committee meeting
7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, March 19

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

Wednesday, March 20

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting
Noon *Midweek Lenten Eucharist*
1:00 pm Soup lunch
5:30 pm Children's Choirs supper
6:00 pm Children's Choir rehearsals / Soup Supper
6:090 pm Centering Prayer
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/_raoc1q4vvyo

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, Clouds and Aerosols:

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

An Evening with Lutheran Summer Music (LSM)

Lutheran Summer Music (LSM) is hosting an event at Mount Olive next 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*).

Letter from Idaho - a *Bold Step Forward* Story

This letter arrived in the mail last week. Each person who read it since has commented variously, for example, "Inspiring!" "Amazing!" "How very gracious!" "Wow!"

FEB. 28, 2019

DEAR MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH,

A YEAR AGO I WAS LISTENING TO AN ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM ON NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO. THEY MENTIONED A CHURCH IN MINNEAPOLIS WAS PUTTING IN GEOTHERMAL SYSTEMS TO HELP ADDRESS ADVERSE CLIMATE CHANGE. I SMILED. I THOUGHT THAT I SHOULD DO SOMETHING TO HELP THEM.

SO, TODAY I STARTED TO DIRECT MY THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS TO YOU, MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH. I WOULD LIKE THE MONEY TO BE USED TO WORK ON THE DEBT TAKEN ON FOR THE GEOTHERMAL PROJECTS. THIS FIRST DISTRIBUTION SHOULD BE \$650 FROM THRIVENT.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COURAGE AND FAITH TO MOVE FORWARD ON THIS PROJECT. IT IS MORE THAN "THE RIGHT THING TO DO". IT IS NOW EVIDENT THAT WE SIMPLY MUST MOVE IN THIS DIRECTION, AND FAST. YOU ARE SHOWING THE WAY FOR OTHERS. BEST WISHES FOR ALL OF YOUR WORK.

SINCERELY,
Karl Krueger
KARL KRUEGER
[REDACTED]
COEUR D'ALENE IDAHO 83815

The Holy Spirit has been at work in so many ways throughout this project – vision and planning, the support of you – the Mount Olive Community, through prayer and commitment and your willingness to pledge and give generously. And now, from a gentleman from far away, unknown to us who has come to know us essentially by accident. But he shares our understanding that we must care for the gift of God’s creation, and now has chosen to support us in the hard work of paying off the debt we assumed. Amazing! Inspiring! Gracious! Wow!

The Olive Branch

Every Church A Peace Church Twin Cities

The next regular bimonthly potluck supper meeting will be on Monday, March 18, 6:30 p.m., at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 4537 3rd Ave. S.*; in Minneapolis (*access to parking lot) 612-823-8205, <http://www.stjoan.com>.

The topic for this program is "The Borderlands: Bridging the US/MX Border Through Personal Witness", presented by Rose Grengs.

Southern Arizona and Northern Sonora (Mexico) form a unique area often referred to as the borderlands. Here the borderland people's daily lives are deeply entwined in this country's hostile political debate about migration and border walls. Here borderland people experience the reality and consequences of harsh U.S. policy and political decisions about this region. Rose Grengs will talk about the people and the effect of these policies.

Rose Grengs is a retired immigration attorney and activist. She has been a member of WAMM since the early 1980s and received her law degree in 1991. After 15 years of private practice, she "retired" to do pro bono work and advocate for immigrants, migrants, refugees, and asylees. She is currently the co-chair of the Welcome The Stranger Ministry at St. Joan of Arc Church.

This program is co-sponsored by Women Against Military Madness (WAMM) End-War Committee and the St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church Welcome The Stranger Ministry.



community
conversations:
understanding & addressing
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With Dr. Raj & Manu Lewis

Saturday, March 30th
1:00PM-4:00PM

Mt. Olive Lutheran Church
3045 Chicago Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55407

RSVP
to info@rjca-inc.org
CEUs available

\$10 Donation Requested

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Restorative Justice
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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.*

Update on Former Vicar Jessica Christy

Jessica Christy, who was vicar here from 2017-2018, and now is studying law at New York University in Manhattan, has received a summer offer from Everytown for Gun Safety's litigation department. Everytown is a national organization working on gun safety laws, so Jessica will spend next summer doing research that can help Everytown defend gun safety laws and challenge bad gun laws. Jessica says she's "over the moon" for this opportunity, especially since the Supreme Court recently announced that they'll hear a gun law case this year. Her research could possibly contribute to an amicus brief that Everytown will be sending to the Court.

Kelly Sandin Ordination April 13

Kelly Sandin, who was our vicar from 2016-2017, has received a call as associate pastor at House of Prayer Lutheran Church in Richfield. She will be ordained into the ministry of Word and Sacrament on Saturday, April 13, at 5:00 p.m., at House of Prayer. The Mount Olive community are all invited to share this day with the Church and with Kelly. House of Prayer is located at 7625 Chicago Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55423. It would be wonderful to have a good turnout of Mount Olive folks for this day – we don't always get to see the results of our labors as a teaching parish this directly!