

The Olive Branch

April 3, 2019

Accent on Worship

Jim Bargmann

- ¹⁸ Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
- Isaiah 43:18-19

It would be easy to think that I chose this passage from the readings for the Fifth Sunday in Lent for my first time writing in this forum as a reflection on my new position here at Mount Olive. And while I am excited for this new position, and expect God will do great, new things in this community, choosing this passage for that purpose would be a rather cruel and disrespectful commentary on the work of my

predecessor and friend, Anna. I would never encourage you or anyone to put aside the work that God has done through her in this place. I can only hope that God would use me to do a fraction of what has already been done through her.

In looking at the entirety of the chosen reading for this Sunday (Isaiah 43:16-21), God first recounts the people's deliverance from Egypt. But then God invites, no directs, the readers "do not remember the former things" - in other words, do not dwell on the things I have done in the past. God asks them to perceive, to recognize, to become aware of, a new thing. The words of the prophet here are often recognized as a foretelling of another chapter in God's redemptive work, namely the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

But the prophet's words were not written only for the people of Israel. We too, can reflect on God's work in the past. We can reflect on and give thanks for God's many deliverances throughout history. It is entirely appropriate and important to mourn as we remember Jesus' death and the sin that made that death necessary. And we will celebrate new life with shouts of Alleluia.

But the story doesn't end there. We too, are directed by the words of God written by Isaiah to "not remember the former things" and to look for the new thing that God will do. What is that new thing? Perhaps it is a renewing of the church on earth brought about by the Holy Spirit. Perhaps the new thing will be a realization of God's justice in the places where injustice is all that has been known in the past.

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Sunday Readings

April 7, 2019

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Isaiah 43:16-21

Psalms 126

Philippians 3:4b-14

John 12:1-8

April 14, 2019

Sunday of the Passion

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalms 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11

Luke 22:14 – 23:56

Sunday Adult Forums

Sunday, April 7: "Paul's Letter to the Galatians," part 3

Sunday, April 14: Passion Sunday – *No forum this day*

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.

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, "Precipitation and the water cycle."

<https://climate.nasa.gov/quizzes/water-cycle/>

New Vicar Assigned for 2019-2020

Mount Olive's next vicar is Bristol Reading (pronounced like the railroad and the Pennsylvania city, not like the leisure activity), a student at Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. She was assigned to us via LSTC because her husband, Michael, has taken a job with Target locally. Bristol has her BA in theology from Loyola University, Chicago, and an MA in ethics and social theory from Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley. Bristol will begin her vicar year earlier than we usually experience, the first week of June, since we have an opening, and since she'll be in the Twin Cities looking for something to do this summer.

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.

Paschal Garden

Volunteers will be on hand for three Sundays (March 31, April 7, and April 14) before, between, and following the liturgies to receive your donations to purchase Easter flowers for this year's Paschal Garden.

The Olive Branch

Calendar

Wednesday, April 3

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting
Noon **Midweek Lenten Eucharist**
1:00 pm Soup lunch
No Children's Choir rehearsals this evening
6:00 pm Soup Supper / Centering Prayer
7:00 pm **Lenten Vespers**
7:30 pm Cantorei rehearsal
8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, April 5

- 6:00 pm N.A. First Friday social event
6:00 pm Beating Guns Tour event (parking lot)

Saturday, April 6

- 9:00 am Church cleanup day
10:00 am Foundation Board meeting
11:00 am Diaper Depot open
Noon Community Meal
1-3 pm Prayer Shawl group meets at Blackeye Roasting

Sunday, April 7 - Fifth 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 Theological Discussion group

Monday, April 8

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

Tuesday, April 9

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

Wednesday, April 10

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

Easter Parking

Just a reminder to members that there is another parking option available on Sundays in addition to the church lot across 31st St. Lots of spaces are available in the lot behind the Workforce Center on the southwest corner of Lake and Chicago. Several of us already park there, and it's very convenient. Please think about this option, especially for the upcoming Sundays around Easter, when we will have lots of guests at Mount Olive. The Workforce Center lot is available for public parking on Saturdays, Sundays and any legal holiday.

An Invitation From Our Former Vicar

Dear Mount Olive Friends,

*It was truly heartwarming to be back on March 3, 2019 to see and talk with so many of you! As you might have read in last week's Olive Branch, my ordination and installation is on **Saturday, April 13, 2019, at 5:00 p.m., at House of Prayer in Richfield** (7625 Chicago Ave. South). I've been called as their associate pastor.*

I'm excited to announce that both Pastor Crippen and Cantor Cherwien have been busy working behind the scenes helping to plan this service and will be sharing their gifts on this most blessed day! I would be honored if you could attend.

All clergy are joyfully welcomed to vest and process. The color of the day is red. We'll be lining up at 4:50 p.m.

For all who like to sing, a "drop in" choir will rehearse at 3:30 p.m. the day of the service. I would love to hear Mount Olive voices!

Following the service, there will be an appetizer/dessert reception.

Thank you for being a part of my journey and sharing this joy with me.

- Kelly Sandin

Property Committee Announces a Party, and You're Invited!

OK. The headline was only to get your attention, a cheap trick to get you to read the following:

The weather is warming, the birds are singing, the snow is melting. . . revealing bare ground and the ugly accumulated litter from a long winter. We need to tend to our grounds to make them beautiful for Easter and the summer. Help is needed. Here is the plan:

Saturday, April 6, 10 am to noon - clean up litter, raking, tidying up. Free lunch provided for all who come . . . at the regular Community Meal.

During the week following, a contractor will apply pre-emergent weed treatment, and deliver mulch for all the beds.

Saturday, April 13, 9 am to noon - spreading mulch on beds, tidying up, other chores to be designated, depending on how many workers are available. Refreshments? Yes. Lunch? Sorry.

There is a contingency plan just in case, but let's have no mention of "b___ w_____r." Don't want to jinx the enterprise.

So the committee can stay in touch with willing helpers, please call or email the office to indicate which day you can come.

A big, big THANK YOU, in advance.

Accent on Worship, *continued from page 1*

Perhaps the new thing will be healing of broken relationships. Or the new thing will be an invitation for all people to return to a life of love for fellow human and the earth. The reality is we don't know. What we do know is that God has done great things throughout history. It is good for us to remember - but not dwell - on those past things. At the same time, we look forward to the new thing God will do. In all likelihood, God is already doing it.

- Jim Bargmann



BACH · TAGE
MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN
MINNEAPOLIS

THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL BACH-TAGE

June 1&2, 2019

Bach - Three Ways

Saturday, June 1 - 4:00 pm

Tami Morse, Tulio Rondón, and David Cherwien perform solo selections for harpsichord, cello, and organ, demonstrating the diversity of Bach's genius.

Evening Prayer with Cantatas 37 and 44

Sunday June 2, 4:00 pm

This year *Bach-Tage* falls in the three days between the Feast of the Ascension and the Seventh Sunday of Easter.

The two cantatas for this year's *Bach-Tage* were composed and performed for these occasions in Leipzig in the year 1724.

Bach Tage Chorus, Orchestra and Soloists

Kathy Saltzman Romey, conductor Cantor David Cherwien, organist

Bach-Tage and You: A Bit of Clarity?

You've probably seen the brochures at church the past two Sundays. Is Bach-Tage for you? Yes, of course, if you can devote the time that weekend, and have the ability to learn the music on your own, in advance.

This is important. Coming to Bach-Tage prepared means the time in sessions with

Kathy Romey can be more valuable for everyone. There are helpful tools available to help with the note learning. Information about learning the music will come with the scores about four weeks in advance.

Registration Fees for members of the Mount Olive community? Since Bach-Tage is now supported by the annual budget, the \$75 registration fee for you is waived. Of course, Bach-Tage is costly to present, even with additional grants from the Mount Olive Foundation and Music and Fine Arts. Realizing the cost, many participants from Mount Olive send a check anyway, as a contribution to keep the program strong. Most registrants from outside the community also add an extra donation as well. As a result, the basic fee has not been raised for the past 13 years.

If you include a donation with your registration, the full amount is regarded a contribution, and will be recorded on your giving statement for the year.

Holy Week at Mount Olive

Sunday, April 14: *Sunday of the Passion / Palm Sunday*

+ Holy Eucharist, 8 & 10:45 am

Mon.-Wed., April 15-17: *Monday-Wednesday in Holy Week*

+ Daily Prayer at Noon, in the side chapel of the nave,
near the columbarium

Thursday, April 18: *Maundy Thursday*

+ Holy Eucharist, Noon

+ Holy Eucharist, with Washing of Feet, 7:00 pm

Friday, April 19: *Good Friday*

+ Stations of the Cross, Noon

+ Adoration of the Cross, 7 pm

Saturday, April 20: *Holy Saturday*

+ The Easter Vigil, 8:30 pm, followed by a festive reception in the Undercroft.

Sunday, April 21: *The Resurrection of Our Lord/Easter Day*

+ Festival Holy Eucharist at 8:00 and 10:45 am

+ Easter Carry-in brunch at 9:30 am

Kingman Family Fire Relief

As most of you know, Anna Scott's parents and sister experience a devastating house fire a couple of weeks ago. They have lost everything in the house, but has asked that until insurance coverage is sorted out and they know what their future living arrangements are, we should hold off on any specific donation of items that they could use. Therefore, they are asking people to give through an online fund that has been set up in their name. To donate, go to www.gofundme.com, search for Scott and Heidi Kingman's page, and make your donation through the website. If you prefer, leave a donation marked "Kingman family" in the church office, and we'll see that it gets to the right place. If and when the Kingmans identify other needs, the congregation will be informed.

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 - *Jim
Bargmann*

Administrative Assistant - *Cha Posz*

Sexton - *James Wilkes*

*Mount Olive is a Reconciling in
Christ congregation.*

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