

# The Olive Branch

May 1, 2019

## Accent on Worship

*Susan Palo Cherwien*

*From Augustine's Easter Sermon 272 to the Newly Baptized (ca.408 C.E.):*

What you see on God's altar, you've already observed during the night that has now ended. But you've heard nothing about just what it might be, or what it might mean, or what great thing it might be said to symbolize. For what you see is simply bread and a cup - this is the information your eyes report. But your faith demands far subtler insight: the bread is Christ's body, the cup is Christ's blood. Faith can grasp the fundamentals quickly, succinctly, yet it hungers for a fuller account of the matter. As the prophet says, "Unless you believe, you will not understand." (Is. 7.9) Paul says: "You are the body of Christ, member for member." (1 Cor. 12.27) If you, therefore, are Christ's body and members, it is your own mystery that is placed on

the Lord's table! It is your own mystery that you are receiving! You are saying "Amen" to what you are: your response is a personal signature, affirming your faith. When you hear "The body of Christ," you reply "Amen." Be a member of Christ's body, then, so that your "Amen" may ring true!

But what role does the bread play? Listen to what Paul says about this sacrament: "The bread is one, and we, though many, are one body." [1 Cor. 10.17] Understand and rejoice: unity, truth, faithfulness, love. "One bread," he says. What is this one bread? Is it not the "one body," formed from many? Remember: bread doesn't come from a single grain, but from many. Be what you see; receive what you are. This is what Paul is saying about the bread. So too, what we are to understand about the cup is similar and requires little explanation. In the visible object of bread, many grains are gathered into one just as the faithful (so Scripture says) form "a single heart and mind in God" [Acts 4.32]. And thus it is with the wine. Remember, friends, how wine is made. Individual grapes hang together in a bunch, but the juice from them all is mingled to become a single brew. This is the image chosen by Christ our Lord to show how, at his own table, the mystery of our unity and peace is solemnly consecrated.



## Sunday Readings

May 5, 2019

Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]

Psalm 30

Revelation 5:11-14

John 21:1-19

May 12, 2019

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:36-43

Psalm 23

Revelation 7:9-17

John 10:22-30

## Sunday Adult Forums

*Sunday, May 5: "The Power of Art To Speak the Faith"*

Artist Robyn Sand Anderson, whose paintings are on exhibit in the parish house during the Easter season, will give practical help and insight into discerning theological art more deeply.

*Sunday, May 12: Young Peoples' Recital*

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## Taking Heart: Ramadan Iftar Open House Meals 2019

From the Minnesota Council of Churches (with an invitation from Jim Bargmann, Coordinator of Neighborhood Ministry):

Ramadan is the month of the Islamic lunar calendar during which Muslims abstain from food and drink from sunrise to sunset; in 2019 it falls between the dates of May 5 – June 4. Fasting during Ramadan is one of the "five pillars" of Islam, and is performed to learn compassion, self-restraint, and generosity.

Taking Heart Open Houses is a long-running program coordinated by the Minnesota Council of Churches (MCC) and the Muslim American Society of Minnesota (MAS-MN) to bring Christians and members of other faith communities together with Muslims for food and conversation during Ramadan. Minnesota mosques and Islamic community centers welcome their non-Muslim neighbors for a traditional Iftar, inviting a time of encounter and learning.

Registration is now open so you can sign up for one or more events at: <http://bit.ly/TakingHeartRegister>. These events are free and open to the public.

Note from Jim Bargmann: I am planning to attend the Taking Heart Abubakar As-Sadique on May 25 if you would like to join me, but you are welcome to attend any of the Open House events that work for you.

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## 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 May 11 meeting they will read, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, by James Joyce.

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# The Olive Branch

## Calendar

### Wednesday, May 1

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting  
5:30 pm Neighborhood Ministries Committee meeting  
7:00 pm Cantorei rehearsal  
8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

### Friday, May 3

- 6:00 pm N.A. First Friday social event

### Saturday, May 4

- 9:00 am Confirmation  
11:00 am Diaper Depot open  
Noon Community Meal  
1-3 pm Prayer Shawl group meets at Blackeye Roasting

### Sunday, May 5 - Third Sunday of Easter

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

### Monday, May 6

- 7:0-0 pm LOL Board meeting  
7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

### Tuesday, April 30

- Noon Bible Study  
3:00 pm Longer Table Lending student presentation  
4-6 pm Diaper Depot open  
7:00 pm Missions Committee meeting

## One Palm Plant Left!

One last palm plant from our Easter celebration is available for the taking - free of charge! - in the East Assembly Room.

These plants do well in a sunny window or in a shady spot on your patio or deck for the summer. Re-potting to a larger pot will encourage new growth and make watering easier.

## 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, "Sea Change" - <https://climate.nasa.gov/quizzes/sea-level-quiz/>

## Attention Mount Olive Worship assistants!

The Servant Schedule for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2019 (July - September) will be published at the beginning of June 2019. The deadline for submitting requests is May 11, 2019.

Please email your requests to [peggyrf70@gmail.com](mailto:peggyrf70@gmail.com).

## TRUST News

*Join TRUST Builders this spring!* Work days are on Saturdays: May 11 and June 8. We start at 8:30 a.m. and work until about 3 p.m. To sign up, email John Corlett, TRUST Builders Coordinator at [jrcorlett@comcast.net](mailto:jrcorlett@comcast.net) or call him at 612-839-6566 (evenings only).

*Classics Lost "N" Found Theater Company* presents Oscar Wilde's play "A Woman of No Importance" on May 10, 11, 17, 18 at Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church, 1620 East 46th Street. All performances are at 7:00 p.m. "A Woman of No Importance" tackles issues of importance today, as well as yesterday: unwed motherhood, responsibility, guilt, and resilience. The first half of this concept play reveals the characters' public personas, and then in the second half reveals their inner, more private struggles. In life we are constantly trying to put forward our best image, our most impressive selves. This play shows what happens when these private myths meet up with reality. For reservations please call 612-724-4539.

*The Annual TRUST Open House* will be held on May 14, 2019, 6-7:30 PM, at Lake Nokomis Presbyterian, 1620 East 46th Street, Minneapolis. You will have the opportunity to meet the TRUST Board of Directors and staff, network with coalition members, learn about our programs, and check out TRUST volunteer opportunities. Light snack and refreshments will be served. Please join us!

*The South Minneapolis Coalition for Grief Spring/Summer Series* will run on Thursdays May 16 through July 25, 2019. The series will be held at Richfield Lutheran Church, 8 West 60th Street. Please see the attached flyer for the list of speakers and topics.

*Join the 14th Annual Run & Walk to Benefit Walker Methodist & TRUST Parish Nursing*, on Saturday, June 1, 2019 at the Lake Harriet Bandshell! It's easy...walk and collect pledges for the TRUST Parish Nurse Program! For more information, please contact the TRUST office by calling (612) 827-6159.

## National Lutheran Choir Spring Concert: "Light and Dark"

*Sunday, May 5, 4:00 pm*

*Central Lutheran Church, 333 South 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Minneapolis, MN 55404*

So often a shroud of darkness forms around those living under an iron fist, but music is the light that flickers, maintains, and grows despite the circumstances. Light and Dark explores the music of equatorial regions and the dark north of Europe. Influenced by each culture's unique climate- where cold night breeds mystery and the warm sun imbues a particular colorfulness- music fills the role of storytelling in a unique and fascinating way.

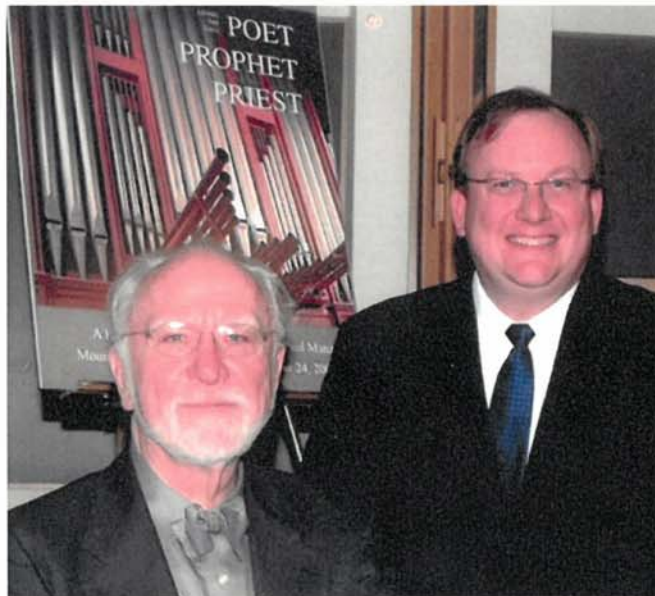
Tickets available at the door or by visiting [www.ncla.com](http://www.ncla.com).

Mount Olive Music & Fine Arts  
presents

# A HYMN FESTIVAL

*MARKING THE 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF  
FORMER MOUNT OLIVE CANTOR PAUL MANZ*

**Friday, May 10, 7:30 p.m.**



*Following the Hymn Festival will be a festive reception,  
with a tribute and toast to Paul Manz,  
given by Michael Barone, Minnesota Public Radio.*

# The Olive Branch

## Neither Rain, nor Snow, nor Sleet . . .

actually showed up last Saturday. But a hardy and enthusiastic group of volunteers did, and what great job they did!



Some had already left before the final photo . . .



Others were camera shy. We leave it to you to identify them.



The results - BEAUTIFUL! Thank you, one and all!!!!

## 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 – *Jim  
Bargmann*

Administrative Assistant – *Cha Posz*

Sexton – *James Wilkes*

*Mount Olive is a Reconciling in  
Christ congregation.*

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