

The Olive Branch

May 29, 2019

Accent on Worship

Rob Ruff

Worship is a physical activity. That is, we worship God with and through our bodies: We use our voices and vocal cords to speak and sing thanks and praise to God. We fold our hands or lift them in the air as we pray. We kneel and stand and sit. We trace the sign of the cross over our body. We bow to the cross, the altar, and one another. We shake hands and embrace those around us to share the peace of Christ. We eat and drink the bread and wine that become for us the body and blood of Christ. We leave to serve God with our lives.

Worship is a physical activity.

Remembering this can help overcome the latent suspicion we've had since Plato that bodies are bad while spirit and soul are good. Contrary to this suspicion, the Christian faith announces that in Jesus, God took on human flesh and thereby blesses our human bodies. As a result Paul asks "... do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you...?" (1 Cor. 6:19).

The culture around us believes that bodies are good and valuable as long as they are beautiful, healthy, and functional. But by faith we hold that our bodies are holy whether young or old, able or disabled, healthy or sick, living or dying.

Worship is a physical activity.

And so with our blessed bodies we worship the God who became flesh and lives among us, full of grace and truth.



Sunday Readings

June 2, 2019

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:1-11

Psalm 47

Ephesians 1:15-23

Luke 24:44-53

June 9, 2019

Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Romans 8:14-17

John 14:8-17 [25-27]

Pentecost Reading of Acts 2 in Many Languages

For a number of years, it has been our tradition at Mount Olive to hear a portion of the Pentecost reading from Acts 2:1-21 read simultaneously in various languages. Some of you have either participated in this joint reading in the past, or are knowledgeable enough in a foreign language that you might be willing to participate.

I would like to invite anyone who can read aloud in another language to participate in this corporate reading at the morning liturgy on Sunday, June 9, 2019. Please contact Susan Cherwien via email at susan.cherwien@gmail.com if you would be willing to participate or if you have questions. Instructions will be sent to all participants, so have no fear!

- Susan Cherwien

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

**The Ascension of
Our Lord
Thursday, May 30
(tomorrow!)
Holy Eucharist at
7:00 pm**

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 June 8 meeting they will read, *A Moveable Feast*, by Ernest Hemingway. For the July 13 meeting, they will read, *The Invention of Wings*, by Sue Monk Kidd.

**Vigil of Pentecost
Saturday, June 8,
2019
7:00 p.m.**

Calendar

Wednesday, May 29

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting
7:00 pm Cantorei rehearsal
8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Thursday, May 30 - Ascension of Our Lord

- 7:00 pm Ascension Eucharist

Saturday, June 1 - Bach Täge

- 9:00 am Bach Täge registration
11:00 am Diaper Depot open
Noon Community Meal
1-3 pm Prayer Shawl Group meets at Blackeye Roasting
4:00 pm Bach Täge Concert: Bach Three Ways

Sunday, June 2 - Seventh Sunday of Easter

- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, followed by coffee and conversation
Noon Theological Discussion

Monday, June 3

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

Tuesday, June 4

- Noon Bible Study
4-6 pm Diaper Depot open
7:00 pm Missions Committee meeting

2019 Graduates – Who Are They?

As we come to the completion of the school year, the Mount Olive community would like to take time to recognize the accomplishments of our graduates (both high school and college) and celebrate the next steps of their journey. Our Graduate Recognition will take place on Sunday, June 9, following the morning Eucharist. If your Mount Olive graduate graduates this spring, please email the following information to Cha in the Mount Olive office (welcome@mountolivechurch.org): Graduate name, the school they graduated from, any special recognitions or honors, and what they are planning to do next, whether that be job, more education, or something else.

Please invite them to be here on June 9!

Sign Up to Serve Summer Coffee Hour!

Coffee hosts are needed to serve coffee and refreshments following our summer liturgies. If you are willing to take a turn, please sign up on the chart provided in the East Assembly Room. Summer is a great low-pressure time to serve for the first time – it's easy!

Not sure about all that is involved? Contact Larry Duncan, who will be happy to see that you receive a tutorial.

Lost and Found

Are you missing something you may have left at church? An umbrella or jacket? A bowl or pan from a recent potluck? Your readers? If so, they might be in the lost and found at church.

Please take a moment to check the items on the table near the coat room and also the Lost and Found basket in the coat room to see if your missing item is there.

The Olive Branch

Summer ACTS

Adults, Children, Teaming to Serve

Summer ACTS is our own Mount Olive jobs program for young people, ages 11-14. Participants will team up to learn about important issues in our south Minneapolis community, work together on important service projects, and earn some income.

This year's program will take on a different schedule than in past years. This year, Summer ACTS will be a two-week program, June 24 to July 3 with participants working Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, with a special closing celebration on July 5. Participants will have the option to sign up for either week or both weeks.

For young people wanting to participate...

Any young person wanting to participate should complete the sign up form, either online at <https://forms.gle/TnbTorwPdZZmHUkBA> - or pick up a paper form from the kiosk in the west assembly area. Sign up deadline is June 13.

For adults - we need you too...

We need people who would be able to shop for food, people to assist preparing lunches, drivers and, most importantly, adults willing to work alongside young people in their learning and service. If you are interested, please contact Jim Bargmann at 612-827-5919 or neighborhood@mountolivechurch.org.

Why Our Nigerian Partnership is so Important

Recently the Mount Olive Mission Committee hosted a gathering of the ELCA churches in the Minneapolis Area Synod who are all partners with the Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria. It was an evening of learning, inspiration and commitment to further work together. In the same week we read an article in *Sojourners* magazine entitled "Christianity's Future Lies in Africa" which stated: "According to the Pew Center, if demography is destiny, then Christianity's future lies in Africa. By 2060, a plurality of Christians - more than four-in-ten - will call sub-Saharan Africa home, up from 26% in 2015. In 1910 there were 2 million Christians in Africa. Today there are 650 million ... The explosive growth of the Church across Africa represents a trend that far too few Christians in the West fully understand and that will likely reshape and over time transform the face of Christianity globally."

The author goes on to state: "Despite my hopefulness, it's important not to gloss over or ignore the significant challenges facing both the African church and continent. The continent has become the epicenter in the fight against extreme poverty and inequality, housing over half of the world's people who are living in the quicksand of extreme poverty. Conflict, corruption, illicit financial flows, gender-based violence, exploitation, the impacts of climate change, among other challenges, have long stunted Africa's growth and suffocated human flourishing. Evangelical churches across Africa continue to be heavily influenced by various forms of the prosperity gospel ... Less than 20 percent of pastors have received seminary training, which poses both a challenge and an opportunity."

Our partnership with Bronnum Seminary will challenge all of us, here and in Nigeria, to grow in faith and understanding. It is an exciting partnership. Stay tuned. You can access the whole *Sojourner's* article at <https://sojo.net/articles/christianitys-future-lies-africa>.

Implicit Bias: The Discussion Continues

As part of Mount Olive's efforts to learn more about implicit bias and identify new ways of listening and speaking with others, Dr. Anne Phibbs facilitated a lively discussion on implicit bias during the 4/28 Adult Forum. A longer, three-hour session to delve deeper into the topic of implicit bias is in the works for this fall. Interested in learning more?

- Podcast: <https://www.sceneonradio.org/seeing-white/> - Scene on Radio host and producer John Biewen, originally from MN took a deep dive into questions of whiteness with an array of leading scholars and regular guest Dr. Chenjerai Kumanyika, in this fourteen-part documentary series
- Books: *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism*, paperback by Robin DiAngelo, and *Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America*, by Ibram X. Kendi
- Article: <https://sojo.net/articles/whats-race-got-do/how-erase-person> - "The Blind Intersection of Race and Gender"
- Videos: <http://kirwaninstitute.osu.edu/research/understanding-implicit-bias/> - Online series on Implicit bias by the Kirwan Institute, and http://www.pbs.org/race/000_General/000_00-Home.htm - "What is race? Power of illusion," A PBS film series centered around defining what race is

The handout from Dr. Anne Phibbs' presentation is on pages 8-9 of this issue of *The Olive Branch*.

Help Needed for Twin Cities Pride

Mount Olive will again partner with Minneapolis Downtown churches to hand out welcoming brochures at the Twin Cities Pride festival on Saturday and Sunday, June 22-23 in Loring Park. This is a great opportunity for us to let our LGBTQ brothers and sisters know that we welcome them into this community of faith. The Downtown Church booth is looking for volunteers to staff the booth in two hour shifts between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Saturday, and between noon and 4 p.m. on Sunday. In addition, they are asking for help with set-up beginning at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, and for take-down at 4 p.m. on Sunday. If you are available to help, please let the church office, Lora Dundek or Andrew Andersen know.

Thanks!



From Pr. Crippen: Meet our new vicar, Bristol Reading

Bristol Reading (last name pronounced “REDDing”) is our vicar for 2019-2020 and she begins her ministry with us on June 5. This is an earlier-than-usual start for us, but she’s completed all her work and had the summer available, and since we were without a vicar, she was willing to start now.

Bristol comes to us from Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC). She needed a placement in the Twin Cities because her husband, Michael, took

a job this past year with Target in Enterprise Risk Management, and they’ve already found housing in St. Louis Park. They’re both excited to be living in the Twin Cities.

Bristol grew up in the Midwest, but she has also lived on both coasts of the United States. She has a BA in Theology from Loyola University Chicago and an MA in Ethics and Social Theory from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, CA. She completed her Lutheran requirements at LSTC. Bristol has held a number of interesting jobs, including canoe/kayak guide, recess coach, and environmental science instructor. She spent five years working in parish-based family ministry in the Boston area before entering the candidacy process through the New England Synod of the ELCA. Her vicar year will be the final year of her MDiv program, and she’s excited to get back to full time ministry. Bristol loves to run and cycle, do crosswords, and read wilderness survival stories.

There won’t be a forum to meet the vicar this year. Instead, a reception for her and Michael will be held after liturgy on Sunday, June 23, where people will get a chance to talk to her and welcome her. The Vicar Committee is sponsoring this reception. Members of the committee for Bristol’s year will be commissioned at the liturgy on Pentecost, Sunday, June 9. They include Elaine Halbardier, John Crippen, Linda Holt, Tim Pipkorn, Allen Dundek, and Al Bipes.

June 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1- BACH TAGE 11 am – Diaper Depot open Noon – Community Meal 1-3 pm – Prayer Shawl group 4 pm – Bach Tage recital, followed by reception
2 – 7th Sunday of Easter FOOD COLLECTION 10:00 am – Eucharist 11:30 am - Coffee Fellowship Noon – Theological Discussion 4 pm – Bach Cantata Vespers	3 7 pm – LOL Board 7 pm – Narcotics Anonymous	4 Noon – Bible Study 4-6 pm – Diaper Depot open 7 pm – Missions Committee mtng	5 10 am – Staff meeting 5:30 pm – Neighborhood Ministries Comm. mtng. 7 pm - Cantorei 8 pm – Narcotics Anonymous	6	7	8 10 am – Book Discussion group 1 pm – Funeral Visitation 2 pm – Funeral Eucharist: Ro Griesse 7pm – Vigil of Pentecost
9 – Day of Pentecost 10:00 am – Eucharist 11:30 am - Coffee Fellowship Noon – Book Study 6:45 pm – Mount Olive serves Our Saviour’s Meal	10 7 pm – Vestry meeting 7 pm – Narcotics Anonymous	11 Noon – Bible Study 4-6 pm – Diaper Depot open	12 10 am – Staff meeting 8 pm – Narcotics Anonymous	13	14 7pm – Recovery & Wellness Support Group	15 11 am – Diaper Depot open Noon – Community Meal
16 – The Holy Trinity 10:00 am – Eucharist, with the Sacrament of Holy Baptism 11:30 am - Coffee Fellowship	17 6:30 pm – ReconcilingWorks 7 pm – Narcotics Anonymous	18 Noon – Bible Study 4-6 pm – Diaper Depot open	19 10 am – Staff meeting 8 pm – Narcotics Anonymous	20	21	22
23– 2nd Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 am – Eucharist 11:30 am - Coffee Fellowship <hr/> 30 – 3rd Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 am – Eucharist 11:30 am - Coffee Fellowship	24 9am-1pm Summer ACTS 7 pm – Narcotics Anonymous	25 9am-1pm Summer ACTS Noon – Bible Study 4-6 pm – Diaper Depot open	26 9am-1pm Summer ACTS 10 am – Staff meeting 8 pm – Narcotics Anonymous	27 9am-1pm Summer ACTS	28 7pm – Recovery & Wellness Support Group	29 11 am – N.A. Speaker event

Mount Olive Lutheran Church

3045 Chicago Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55407

*A congregation of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America*

**Summer Sunday Eucharist:
10:00 a.m.**

Contact Us

Phone: 612-827-5919

On the Web: mountolivechurch.org

Staff

Pastor – *Joseph Crippen*

Cantor – *David Cherwien*

Coordinator of Neighborhood

Ministry – *Jim Bargmann*

Administrative Assistant – *Cha Posz*

Sexton – *James Wilkes*

*Mount Olive is a Reconciling in
Christ congregation.*

In This Issue:

- **Accent on Worship – Rob Ruff**
- **Ascension of Our Lord: Thursday, May 30 (tomorrow!)**
- **Summer ACTS Begins June 24**
- **Graduate Recognition: June 9**
- **Bach Tague Concert and Evening Prayer: Free and Open to the Public**
- **Meet the New Vicar**
- **About Our Nigerian Partnership**