



The Olive Branch

October 2, 2019

Accent on Worship

Jim Bargmann

3 I am grateful to God – whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did – when I remember you constantly in my prayers night

and day. 4 Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. 5 I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. 6 For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; 7 for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.
- 2 Timothy 1:3-7

Our Epistle reading for this Sunday contains many verses that are oft quoted in a variety of contexts and for many purposes. Paul expresses many powerful and meaningful thoughts in very few words. This is a very personal letter between mentor Paul and his mentee Timothy.

In preparation for writing this article, I read this passage again and I was struck for the first time by what isn't written. There is context here.

Paul reminds Timothy that he is being prayed for. Paul comments on remembering Timothy's tears. Paul recalls the foundation of Timothy's faith, his mother and grandmother. And

Paul reminds Timothy to "rekindle the gift of God that is within" him. The words Paul uses to encourage Timothy are not words used when everything is going well. The tears shed were likely not tears of joy. A fire that needs rekindling is one that is nearly out. It is a fire that needs a gentle hand and lots of care to bring back.

We don't know what has occurred to bring Timothy to this place, but we see Paul's response. God has shown great love to Paul and now Paul's great love for Timothy moves him to respond. I know I am daily presented with opportunities to care for others. I regularly encounter others who are in tears over something or many somethings that have occur in their life. I come across many a fire that is nearly out and needs a gentle hand to bring back to flame.

I would imagine you are no different. Sometimes, all that is needed is to look in the eyes of a friend, a coworker, a child. To listen to the words, to listen between the words. Perhaps the tears are there, barely being held back. Perhaps the fire that burned brightly is just a faint glow.

What opportunities do you have to care for, to love, to encourage, to express God's great love in a very tangible way to another?

Sunday Readings

October 6, 2019

17th Sunday after Pentecost

Lamentations 1:1-6

Psalm 137: 1-6

2 Timothy 1:1-14

Luke 17:5-10

October 13, 2019

18th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

Psalm 66:1-12

2 Timothy 2:8-15

Luke 17:11-19

Upcoming Adult Forums

See brochures in the Chapel Lounge for detailed information about these forums.

- **October 6/13** – “Romans: A Backward Glance,” (2-part series) presented by Pastor Joseph Crippen
- **October 20** – “Eucharistic Commitments to Justice and Peace,” presented by Dr. Samuel Torvend of Pacific Lutheran University
- **October 27** – “Masterpiece of Sacred Music: Mozart’s *Requiem*,” presented by Art Halbardier

Blessing of Animals This Sunday, October 6, 3:00 p.m.

For many years, Mount Olive has celebrated the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi (Oct. 4) with a liturgy giving thanks for and blessing the animals and creatures God has made. We sing Francis’ hymn of praise for the creation, read Scripture, pray for animals and those who care for them, and any who bring pets to the liturgy bring them forward for a blessing. We’ve always done it on the actual day, in the evening, but this year, in hopes of making it easier for families who find a 7:00 p.m. weeknight liturgy a challenge for their schedule, we’ve moved the Blessing liturgy to this **Sunday, Oct. 6, at 3:00 p.m.** That gives time for people to go home, eat, and bring back their beloved friends. All are welcome!

Organ Recital: This Sunday, October 6, 7:00 pm

An organ recital will be offered by Jacquelyn Magnuson this Sunday, October 6, at 7:00 pm. Jacquelyn is a Masters in Church Music candidate from Concordia University, Mequon, WI, and is also currently studying with Cantor Cherwien. She will be playing works by Bach, Buxtehude, Howells, Durufle, Cherwien, and Vierne.

The recital is free and open to the public. All are welcome.

Adult Forum Follow Up

Thanks to all who came to Sunday's adult forum led by Vicar Reading addressing the ELCA's new Social Statement: “Faith, Sexism, and Justice: a Call to Action.” If you'd like to read the Statement or learn more about it, you can visit: <https://www.elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Current-Social-Writing-Projects/Women-and-Justice> . We'll also have some copies of the short version of the Statement available in the Chapel Lounge this week.

In order to continue the questions and lively discussion that followed Vicar Reading’s forum this past Sunday, she has agreed to lead a “Part II” of her forum on Sunday, November 10, at 9:30 a.m.

Let's keep the conversation going!

The Olive Branch

Calendar

Wednesday, October 2

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
5:30 pm Children's Choir supper
6:00 pm Children's Choir rehearsal
7:00 pm Cantorei rehearsal
8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Thursday, October 3

No Bible Study this week.

Saturday, October 5

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

Sunday, October 6 ~~3~~ -- Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

- 8:00 am *Holy Eucharist*
9:30 am Sunday Church School / Adult Forum
10:45 am *Holy Eucharist, with the Sacrament of Holy Baptism*
3:00 pm *Blessing of Animals*
7:00 pm Organ Recital: Jacquelyn Magnuson

Monday, October 7

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

Tuesday, October 1

- Noon Bible Study
4-6 pm Diaper Depot open
7:00 pm Housing Task Force meeting

Longer Table Lending Has Launched!

LTL started giving out loans in September and is already up to 12 clients and growing. It's been a very gratifying process as we hear peoples' circumstances and help alleviate their stress. Many of them are amazed that a program finally exists that meets their needs without putting them at greater risk.

We look forward to sharing more as we continue along.

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!

On October 12 the group will discuss Toni Morrison's *Beloved*, and on November 9 they will discuss *There There*, by Tommy Orange.

Forging Common Ground for Justice

Our mission partner Karen Anderson in Chile and EPES/ Action for Health in the Americas are featured in the September edition of Living Lutheran. Check it out:

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2019/09/forging-common-ground-for-justice/>

As Karen shared with us this summer, their health education training model is now internationally recognized and sought after.

Bethlehem Besieged

Following her presentation at the Adult Forum, Jo Lucas gave us a copy of Mitri Raheb's short book *Bethlehem Besieged, Stories of Hope in Times of Trouble*. The book is now in our library, giving you the chance to learn the history behind Bright Stars of Bethlehem, our newest mission partner. The work began at Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem and has now expanded into the Diyar Consortium. The Consortium includes the k-12 Dar al-Kalima School, the Dar al-Kalima University College, the Health and Wellness Center, International Center of Bethlehem, Guesthouse, and the dining room and art galleries. All of these programs are designed to bring hope to the Palestine and Christian population while working for a life of peace between Palestinians and Israelis. As Dr. Raheb concludes, "Holding to a hopeful vision in the context of war gives hope a new meaning. It is no longer something we see but rather something we practice, something we live, something we advocate, something we plant."

Krisis of Faith? Thursday Bible Study Continues

John's Gospel has perplexing questions about judgment and grace. Sometimes it seems as if God's grace in Christ is for all; other times it seems to have an exclusive turn. The Greek word *krisis* means "judgment," and that word and related forms occurs throughout John. In the first Thursday Bible study series of this year Pr. Crippen will lead an exploration of what judgment and grace means in John.

The study runs through Oct. 24. Meeting in the Chapel Lounge from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., there will be the usual light supper when we begin.

All are welcome to this study opportunity!

National Lutheran Choir All Saints Concerts

The centerpiece of the National Lutheran Choir's 16th annual All Saints concert is the timeless and colossal *Requiem* by W.A. Mozart. In keeping with the tradition of this concert, a reverent musical event will provide the backdrop to remember, by name, those who have died. Performed with chorus, orchestra and soloists.

- Saturday, November 2, 7:30pm - Wayzata Community Church, Wayzata, MN
- Sunday, November 3, 4:00pm - St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Mahtomedi, MN

Tickets: Adults and Seniors \$42 | Students and Children FREE | Discounts available for groups of 10 or more. For tickets and additional information, go to NLCA.com or call (612) 722-2301.

Schedule Your New Photo Directory Photo Session Now!

Does your Mount Olive picture directory photo need updating? Perhaps you've added a child or two (or more?) to your family since your last photo. Are the young children in your last photo now in high school? Maybe you just want a more recent picture. Whatever the reason, this is your chance to have a new, updated photo taken for the pictorial directory!

You may schedule your photo shoot in three different ways.

- 1.) Online, follow the link to choose an appointment time.
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090E4AA9A828A2F94-photo>
- 2.) On Sunday morning, check for the sign-up desk in the hallway outside the Chapel Lounge. Please have your calendar with you, and be ready with two or three possible times. Someone will be there with a computer to get you signed up for a time slot.
- 3.) If you are unable to schedule your appointment electronically and unable to sign up at the desk on Sunday mornings, call the church office and Cha will help you sign up.

The following are the general times available:

Saturday, Oct. 12, Noon to 4 PM
Monday, Oct 14, 1:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Tuesday, Oct 15, 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Thursday, Oct 17, 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Saturday Oct. 19, 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Tuesday, Oct 22, 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Thursday, Oct 24, 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Friday, Oct 25, 1:00 to 5:00 PM

If you are unable to make any of those times work, please contact Paul Nixdorf directly to arrange an alternate time. Paul's contact info is pnx@paulnixdorf.com, or 612-296-0055.

If you would rather submit your own photo for the directory, here are the requirements. The photo must be in jpeg format, high resolution. Please email the photo to the church office (welcome@mountolivechurch.org) and include the names of all the people in the photo, in order as they appear.

News from TRUST

Grief Support

TRUST's South Minneapolis Coalition for Grief Support is offered to anyone in the community who is experiencing a loss. There is no pre-registration, no fee, no expectations. Just come and listen. Chances are you will hear one thing that will help you through the next week. The Fall Series began on September 26 and continues through December 12. See attached flyer for schedule, topics, and speakers.

Flu Shot Clinics

TRUST, in partnership with MVNA/Hennepin Healthcare, is once again sponsoring flu shot clinics this fall. If you want a flu shot, please make a reservation at the church where you want to get your shot. There are sign-up sheets at all the host churches.

Monday, 10/7, 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Bethel Lutheran Church, 4120 17th Ave. S., 612-729-5499

Wednesday, 10/9, 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 4100 Lyndale Ave. S., 612-312-3400

Sunday, 10/13, 9:45 am - 12:15 pm

Richfield UMC, 5835 Lyndale Ave S., 612-861-6086

Sunday, 10/13, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Judson Baptist Church, 4101 Harriet Ave S., 612-822-0649

Sunday, 10/13, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

Lutheran Church of Christ the Redeemer, 5440 Penn Ave S., 612-926-5414

Sunday, 10/20, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Living Spirit UMC, 4501 Bloomington Ave S., 612-721-5025

Sunday, 10/27, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

St. John's Lutheran Church, 4842 Nicollet Ave S., 612-827-4406

TRUST Auction

Save the date! The Great TRUST Auction is on Friday, October 25 at 6 PM at St. Joan of Arc, 4537 3rd Avenue South. TRUST's biggest fundraiser will include food, silent and live auctions, entertainment, and more! Tickets are \$25 in advance or with reservations, \$20 for seniors 65+/youth, free for kids 12 & under, or \$30 at the door. For reservations, contact 612-827-6159 or trust@trustinc.org. Reserve a table for eight! Proceeds support the programs of TRUST.

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*

Vicar – *Bristol Reading*

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 – Jim Bargmann**
- **Blessing of Animals – This Sunday, Oct. 6, 3:00 pm**
- **Pictorial Directory Photo Updates – Schedule Yours Now!**
- **Organ Recital – This Sunday, Oct. 6, 7:00 pm**
- **Thursday Evening Bible Study Continues Through Oct. 24**
- **News From TRUST**