

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Lectionary 23 A

September 6, 2020 + Mount Olive Lutheran Church



Focus on the Season: The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 23 A

Life in Christian community is a precious thing, but it can break down when we begin to treat each other with less than Christly love. In today's gospel, Jesus prescribes a manner for dealing with conflict in community life, a procedure reflected in many congregations' constitutions. While it has too often been used as a way to get people out of the congregation, Jesus' intent, clearly shaped by his parable of the sheep who "go astray", is that through this hard work people can be loved back into the life of the community.

Keep this document open on the screen, to aid in your worship today. The links are embedded in this pdf, so you don't have to return to the email. You can also print these pages and use the links in the email.



Centering and Gathering

Light your candle. [Start the video by clicking here](#); it will continue through the Postlude.

PRELUDE: *The introduction to the hymn serves as the prelude.*

Introduction recorded at Mount Olive on the Third Sunday in Lent, year B, March 4, 2018.

ENTRANCE HYMN: ELW 652, "Built on a Rock"

Sung at Mount Olive on the 17th Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 25 B, September 20, 2015.

Word

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

(Apostolic greeting is on the video)

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

FIRST READING: Exodus 12:1-14; reader – Chuck Gjovig, lector

¹ The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: ² This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. ³ Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. ⁴ If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. ⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶ You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. ⁷ They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸ They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹ Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. ¹⁰ You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹ This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the

passover of the LORD. ¹² For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³ The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴ This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

PSALM: Psalm 149 *Sing along with the leaders in the video; the tone is there.*

Recorded by members of the Cantorei on Wednesday, September 2, 2020.

¹ Hallelujah! Sing to the LORD ¹ a new song, * God's praise in the assembly ¹ of the faithful.

² Let Israel rejoice ¹ in their maker; * let the children of Zion be joyful ¹ in their ruler.

³ Let them praise their maker's ¹ name with dancing; * let them sing praise with tambourine and harp.

⁴ For the LORD takes pleasure ¹ in the people * and adorns the ¹ poor with victory.

⁵ Let the faithful rejoice ¹ in triumph; * let them sing for joy ¹ on their beds.

⁶ Let the praises of God be ¹ in their throat * and a two-edged sword ¹ in their hand,

⁷ to wreak vengeance ¹ on the nations * and punishment ¹ on the peoples,

⁸ to bind their ¹ kings in chains * and their nobles with ¹ links of iron,

⁹ to inflict on them the judgment decreed; * this is glory for all God's faithful ones. ¹ Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: Romans 13:8-14; reader – Judy Hinck, assisting minister

Paul writes: ⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself."

¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW 174, "Celtic Alleluia" *Sung before and after the Gospel reading.*

Sung at Mount Olive on the 11th Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 18 B, August 5, 2018.

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus said to the disciples: ¹⁵ "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ I tell you the truth, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, I tell you the truth, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

SERMON

Together

Pastor Joseph Crippen

Silence for reflection

HYMN: ELW 470, "Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether"

Sung at Mount Olive on the Sixth Sunday of Easter, year B, May 10, 2015.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Our Assisting Minister for today, Judy Hinek, has prepared intercessory prayers for us to pray this morning. As our prayers rise up from all over the metro area and beyond, once more we are joined together in Christ. (Our weekly prayer list is on the last page.)

*Response: **Hear our prayer.***

PEACE *Please greet one another with Christ's peace.*

OFFERING

There are ways to continue to give of your gifts to our shared work at Mount Olive during this time apart. The Olive Branch has suggested ways both electronic and by mail. See:

<https://www.mountolivechurch.org/resources/olive-branch-newsletter/>

Sending

LORD'S PRAYER

Pray the Lord's Prayer together.

BLESSING *Response: **Amen***

HYMN: ELW 836, "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

Sung at Mount Olive on the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany, year C, February 3, 2019.

DISMISSAL *The assisting minister leads the dismissal.*

☒ Go in peace to love and serve as Christ.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: Fugue, from Sonata no. 2 in c minor, op. 65 Felix Mendelssohn

Recorded on the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 19 C, August 11, 2019. Guest organist: Dan Laaveg.



In Our Prayers

- Please pray throughout the week for the following persons: Nancy Flatgard; Leila Froehlich; Victor Gebauer; Leanna Kloempken; Mary Lee; Kandi Jo Nelson; Jerry Ostlund; Pariann Schenk; Sue Ellen Zagrabelny; Jodi Royce, daughter of Dan & Julia Adams and daughter-in-law of Evelyn Royce; Kjell Thompson, Reba Zumberge, relatives of Nancy Anderson; Tommie and Susie Hunter, Danna Nelson, Jacques, friends of Jim Bargmann; Tom McCarr, friend of Keith Bartz; Arthur Kaemmer, friend of David Bryce; Nancy Stelling, friend of Marcia & Dan Burow; Lela Frazier, sister of Irene Campbell; Klarrisa Ramirez, friend of Gretchen Campbell-Johnson; Greg Eklund, son of Harry & Jeanette Eklund; Susan Bary, friend of Judy Graves; Dolores & David G. Gutierrez, Sr., Chris and David Gutierrez, Jr., parents and brothers of Consuelo Gutierrez-Crosby; Carol Halter (missionary in Hong Kong), friend of Eunice Hafemeister; Tami Huisinga, relative of Wes Huisinga; Craig Cunningham, brother-in-law of Brian Jacobs; Asher Strong, friend of Gene Janssen; Donald Johnson, father of Nicholas Johnson; Nicole Sanders and Ann Clark, daughter and friend of Mary Rose Kaliher; Danielle Pitzen, friend of Ellen Kormanik; Barbara Dahl, sister of Carla Manuel; Dani

Olson, Harper Linqvist, Steve Camper, relatives and friend of Julie Manuel; Jan McCuen, mother of Matt McCuen; Martha Johnson, sister of Rhoda Nelson and aunt of Sherry Nelson; Janet Freeburg, friend of Lisa Nordeen; Michael Waechter, friend of Rod & Connie Olson; Kathleen Austad, sister of Jerry Ostlund; Jay Heffern, friend of Gary Pagel; Todd Erickson, friend of Jean & Doug Parish; Rudd Rayfield, Jolie Meshbeshier Hassler, Katelyn Bowden, Cindy Williams, father and friends of Robin Rayfield; Leila Jeffers, mother of Lynn and Lisa Ruff; Scott Kingman, father of Anna Scott; Miranda and Nathan Alvis, niece and nephew of Tim Sneer; Carrie, friend of Paul & Melissa Stone; Norlene Bateman, aunt of Ted Thompson; Jennifer Kobylinski, cousin of Kathy Thurston; David Duran, friend of Kevin Vazquez; Andrew Weichman, Levi Boswell, son and nephew of Grace Wiechman; BJ Wilkes, Joshua Wilkes, LaTrell Wilkes and Julius Underwood, and Lonnell Wilkes, son, nephews, grandson and brother of James Wilkes; Sandra Dycus, Becky Groska, Trisha Niemi-Haapojä, Diane Ristrom, Cathy Reid, Karen Swanson, Patrick Clark, Annie Hose-Ryan, Marcia Van Gorden, friends of Sue Ellen Zagrabelny; Anne-Marie Lundberg, cousin of Eric Zander; Judy Bonnes, Jan Harper (spouse of former Mount Olive vicar, the late Jean Hay); Tommie & Susie Hunter; Barbara C. Johnson, friends of Mount Olive.

- **At the death of:** Ethel Jaarsma, mother of Connie Marty.
- **In hospice care:** Dan Adams.
- **For those celebrating their baptism anniversaries this week:** Daniel Dahl, Evan Peterson, Mona Volden, Holly Wiedenhoeft, and Stephen Nelson.
- **Prayers for all in the health care system here and around the world** who put their lives at risk to care for those infected with COVID 19 and caring for all others who are ill as well.
- **Our continual prayers are offered for peace:** We pray for all of the world's governments, leaders and peoples, especially for those who work overseas toward peace: Solveig & Philip, daughter and son-in-law of Karen Johnson; and Tyson Crosby, relative of the Crosby family.