



# The Olive Branch

## SUNDAY READINGS

**Sunday, March 28**

*Sunday of the Passion*

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalms 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11

Mark 14:1—15:47

**Sunday, April 4**

*Resurrection of Our Lord*

Isaiah 25:6-9

Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24

Acts 10:34-43

Mark 16:1-8

*At this time, all worship services and activities are being conducted online, not by gathering, in the interests of the health of our members, our neighborhood, and the world around us.*

## Accent on Worship

*Pastor Joseph Crippen*

### With a word

Isaiah speaks in the voice of God's servant this Sunday, a voice and truth we recognize as Jesus, the Christ of God, saying, "The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word."

Nearly the first words of Scripture we'll hear Sunday (after the liturgy of Palms), those words lift up a longing and a hope that we desperately need from God. If God has come in Christ to teach us a word that will sustain the weary, let us hear it, O God.

Because we are weary. The whole world is weary. Day after day seems the same, uncertainty and disappointment walk arm in arm around us, and we wonder when it will end.

Sunday begins God's answer to that question. Holy Week is God's answer to that question. Together – though apart physically – we will once more see that the word the God WHO IS gives to the world in Christ is love. Love on its knees washing tired, aching feet. Love deep enough to look in the face of a loved one's betrayal and draw them into an embrace. Love willing to suffer and die to break open the world's heart, your heart, my heart, to the kind of love that can end all weariness.

As you and I live into that love for others, as we are called to do, God sustains the weary of the whole world. Love – God's self-giving love, our self-giving love – strengthens weak knees, lifts up tired arms, heals broken hearts, and we find life. All find life.

*In the presence  
of God.  
Being the presence  
of God.*

#### WEEKLY CALENDAR

##### Wed., Mar. 24

11 am – Staff meeting  
Noon – Lenten Fellowship  
5:30 pm – Children’s Choir  
7 pm – Lenten Fellowship

##### Sun., March 28

##### *Sunday of the Passion*

7 am – Worship at a Distance  
9 am – Virtual Coffee Hour

##### Tues., Mar. 30

Noon – Bible Study

##### Wed., Mar. 31

11 am – Staff meeting  
5:30 pm – Children’s Choir

## Holy Week, Triduum and Easter video schedule

The worship committee and staff have been meeting and talking a great deal about when we can expect to open for in-person worship and will soon send out a longer message about that. But we are approaching Holy Week, and you need to know what will be happening. Because Holy Week, the celebration of the Triduum, and the Easter festival (March 28 – April 4) are the height of our liturgical year, we have decided not to make these days the time when some of us can return while others must wait.

We will be sending videos for the following at home liturgies on these dates. (CDs will be made of all these liturgies and sent to those receiving the Sunday CDs. Let the church office know if you’d like to be added to that list. We hope to get CDs for Passion Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday into the mail by Monday of Holy Week.) Also, palms will be available for distribution, as well as a couple other helps for worshipping in the home during this time. Watch for announcement of that very soon.

*All videos will be sent by email (and on the Mount Olive website) at the time listed here.*

**Sunday of the Passion** – Sunday, March 28, at 7:00 a.m.

**Maundy Thursday** – Thursday, April 1, at 12:00 p.m.

**Good Friday** – The Way of the Cross (noon liturgy), Friday, April 2, at 11:00 a.m.

**Good Friday** – Adoration of the Cross (evening liturgy), Friday, April 2, at 5:00 p.m.

**Vigil of Easter** – Saturday, April 3, 5:00 p.m.

**Resurrection of Our Lord** – Sunday, April 4, 7:00 a.m.

## Worship Materials for Holy Week and Easter

The Worship Committee has decided to assemble and make available packets of liturgy materials to aid parishioners in at home worship for Holy Week and Easter.

Among the materials included in the packets will be Palms, candles, incense, and recipes, as well as multi-age activities related to the liturgies. The packets will be available for pick-up from the north door of the Parish House **this Saturday, March 27 from 10 a.m.-12 noon.**

If you would like to receive a packet but cannot get to the church to pick one up, please notify Dan Hellerich at [worship@mountolivechurch.org](mailto:worship@mountolivechurch.org), and a time will be arranged to drop one off to you.

## Stewardship News

Thank you everyone for your compassion and commitment to Mount Olive. We want to make the process of supporting our church financially easy and convenient for everyone. If you are okay with the delay in the deposit posting to your account, please feel free to continue sending your offering via US mail. If you would like, we have alternative methods for giving that you may want to consider:

- **Bill Pay:** You can set up a regular offering through your bank by calling and talking to someone or by logging in online. You tell your bank how much to send, how often and they will electronically transfer the amount. This service is most often free of charge and already used by many at Mount Olive.

- **Electronic Funds Transfer:** Set up a regular deduction from your bank account through the church's existing account with Vanco Services. Contact the church office to set this up and a form will be mailed or emailed to you. Complete the form and send it back to the church office either by US mail or via email.

- **Mount Olive Website:** You can donate by credit card through the church website. Visit our site [www.mountolivechurch.org](http://www.mountolivechurch.org), go to the very bottom of the home page and a "Donate" link is on the left. This method is good for one-time donations rather than recurring donations as the fees charged to Mount Olive per transaction are higher than the other two methods.

## Words for the Journey: Midweek Lenten Fellowship – Last Day

**On Wednesday afternoons or/and evenings during Lent (Feb. 24 – Mar. 24) from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. or/and 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.,** all are invited to gather online via Zoom to spend time in community and in reflection. Each week, Vicar Bonneville will introduce a word for reflection and provide a centering scripture reading. The time will begin in large group format and then break out into smaller groups for continued discussion/reflection and check-in with others as a way to be in community during this time.

Today is the last day of these fellowship sessions.

Participate in this meeting via Zoom using this information. Either click the link, type in the meeting ID and passcode, or dial in by phone typing and typing in the meeting ID and passcode.

Join Zoom Meeting via Computer

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87426647181?pwd=QkprQ0I5bnVWWUhtNEdGaWxnTjlzQT09>

Meeting ID: 874 2664 7181 Passcode: 031492

Join Zoom Meeting via Phone - Dial: 1 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 874 2664 7181 Passcode: 031492

Note: If you are new to Zoom, contact Vicar Bonneville ([vicar@mountolivechurch.org](mailto:vicar@mountolivechurch.org)) and she will help you set it up.

## A Note of Thanks

Dear Friends at Mount Olive,

We want to express our deep appreciation for the beautiful inurnment for our uncle, Donald Hedman.

Thank you to Andrew for your warm and familiar voice when we made our initial contact. Isn't it something that we met and had dinner a few years ago?

Though we all yearn to get back to traditional funerals, what Pastor Crippen and all of you provided for us was comforting and beautiful. The organ music was special to us, as Don played the organ for our wedding. Thank you.

Thank you to everyone who attended, thanks for your words of comfort, and our fondest wishes for your good health.

God Bless you and your beautiful church home.

*- Dave and Terri Hedman*



**BACH · TAGE**  
MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN  
MINNEAPOLIS

## Bach-Tage Returns!

Unfortunately, Bach-Tage 2021 must come to you virtually (again ☹️!), but we are doing our best to make this year an exciting and meaningful time. We hope you will be there.

Bach-Tage will be released on [www.mountolivechurch.org](http://www.mountolivechurch.org) on Saturday, June 5, including:

A Bach recital with members of the Bach-Tage orchestra and organist David Cherwien;

Art Halbardier's audio/visual presentation on Cantata 85, *Ich bin ein guter Hirt*;

Discussions of the music with Kathy Romey and several of our musicians. Also, Kathy will interview oboists Stanley King and Ellen Rider. Stanley and Ellen decided to retire from performing during the pandemic, but have agreed to return for one more performance with us. Stanley has been with Bach-Tage since our first year, 2007.

Performance by Bach-Tage vocal soloists and orchestra of Cantata 85, and a portion of Cantata 21, the first cantata sung at Bach-Tage in 2007.

Watch your email for more information. Music including music to download will soon be available so you can prepare and participate. Look for this on the Bach-Tage link at [www.mountolivechurch.org](http://www.mountolivechurch.org).

## 3 COVID-19 vaccines are now available in Minnesota.



Johnson & Johnson



Moderna



Pfizer

Each are nearly 100% effective against hospitalization.

Each are highly effective against severe illness.





## Building Our Home

For the past few months, I have published several articles outlining the Building Our Home initiative, highlighted the issue of affordable housing, and featured our three housing partners. Up to this point, I have mostly emphasized opportunities for individuals and families to contribute to our efforts.

This week, I wanted to highlight another option: organizational contributions, specifically from businesses looking to do just what this initiative says - to Build Our Home - the Twin Cities and make it a more livable place for all.

Very early in our initiative we received a generous, year-end contribution from Hope Whispers Counseling in Fort Collins, CO. On the surface, this may seem like a strange place from which to receive a contribution in support of a Minnesota focused project. Hope Whispers Counseling is the counseling practice owned by my sister, Jennifer Bargmann. Her practice regularly makes contributions to projects that seek to better the lives of others, regardless of where they live, supporting its mission to provide support, encouragement, acceptance, and understanding. Having a place to call home is a foundational piece to creating safety which are necessary for health and healing to occur.

Do you own or work for a business looking for a way to further their impact in the community through a life-giving effort? Please consider facilitating a donation to Building Our Home. Detailed project information, case studies, and more are available, as are personalized presentations about Building Our Home. Please

contact me (Jim) at [neighborhood@mountolivechurch.org](mailto:neighborhood@mountolivechurch.org) for more information or to start the conversation about giving opportunities for businesses of any size.

### *The Initiative*

Working with three non-profit affordable housing developers, Beacon Interfaith, Aeon, and Alliance Housing, Mount Olive is working to build over 2100 units of affordable and supportive housing with a funding goal of 21.3 million dollars. Through our Neighborhood Ministry leadership, Mount Olive is seeking partnerships with its Twin Cities sister congregations of the Evangelical Church of America, along with other faith communities, organizations, and individuals.



## Virtual Coffee Hour

Join fellow Mount Olive friends and members for an hour of physically distanced socializing! There will be weekly video chat meetings using Google Meet **every Sunday from 9-10 am (9-9:30 for the kids' room)**. You can join by video on a smartphone or computer, or you can join by phone to participate in the informal conversations. It has been wonderful to see familiar faces and catch up with each other.

There will be three meeting rooms, now with one room dedicated for the youngest of the Mount Olive family – “Cupcakes & Cookies!” You can feel free to move between them to mingle with others as you'd like. The meeting links are below (the names of the snacks are just for fun-- join whichever one you'd like). If you join with a computer, you don't need to install anything or have an account, but if you'd like to join on a phone or tablet, you will need to install the Google Meet app and log in with a Google account. If you have questions about how to join feel free to call Katie Krueger at 419-344-2727 or email [katherinerkrueger@gmail.com](mailto:katherinerkrueger@gmail.com).

### Coffee & Tea

<https://meet.google.com/snm-zssf-dni>

(US) +1 407-545-7381 / PIN: 641 572 935#

Meeting code: snm-zssf-dni

### Summer Sausage & Cheese

<https://meet.google.com/act-expn-hat>

(US) +1 402-509-7747 / PIN: 151 809 692#

Meeting code: act-expn-hat

### Cupcakes & Cookies - Kids' room

9:00-9:30 a.m.

<https://meet.google.com/vep-nyof-fzz>

(US) +1 216-930-8951 / PIN: 766 845 823#

Meeting code: vep-nyof-fzz

## Book Discussion Group

The Mount Olive Book Discussion group will meet virtually on the second Saturday of each month until we can meet again in person.

For April 10 the book is *The Good Lord Bird*, by James McBride, and for May 8 they will read *The Night Watchman* by Louise Erdrich.

They are using the GoToMeeting platform. Just click on the link below. If you prefer, you may join by phone.

Join the discussion from your computer, tablet or smartphone:  
<https://tinyurl.com/y4knn7o3>

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States (Toll Free):  
1 866 899 4679

United States: +1 (571) 317-3116

Access Code: 998-208-989

## Regular link to the Tuesday Noon Bible Study

The link for the Tuesday noon Bible study is the same every week. Copy this text and print it off or keep it on your desk for easy reference each week.

To join from your computer, tablet, or smartphone:

<https://tinyurl.com/y4qs46v5>

You can also dial in using your phone:

United States: +1 (646) 749-3112

Access Code: 179-693-565

New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts: <https://tinyurl.com/y274v5rs>

## In Our Prayers

**Please pray throughout the week for the following persons:** Al Bipes; Evelyn Royce; Julia Adams; Charlotte Erlandson; Nancy Flatgard; Leila Froehlich; Leanna Kloempken; Mary Lee; Lisa Nordeen; Jerry Ostlund; Pariann Schenk; James Wilkes; Sue Ellen Zagrabelny; *Jodi Royce*, daughter of Julia Adams and daughter-in-law of Evelyn Royce; *Kjell Thompson*; relative of Nancy Anderson; *Danna Nelson, Jacques*, friends of Jim Bargmann; *Tom McCarr*, friend of Keith Bartz; *Sara Brunette*, daughter-in-law of CJ Brunette; *Arthur Kaemmer*, friend of David Bryce; *Randy Caverly and Nancy Stelling*, nephew and 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; *Lynn Kernkamp*, friend of Peggy Hoeft; *Tami Huisinga*, relative of Wes Huisinga; *Craig Cunningham*, brother-in-law of Brian Jacobs; *Bob Adamson*, relative of Jerry Jones & Robbie Ross; *Ann Clark*, friend of Mary Rose Kaliher; *Danielle Pitzzen*, friend of Ellen Kormanik; *Barbara Dahl*, sister of Carla Manuel; *Dani Olson, Harper Linguist, Steve Camper*, relatives and friend of Julie Manuel; *Ellen Katsoulis*, friend of Carol Martinson; *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; *Kathryn Glick*, aunt/godmother of Kathy Thurston; *Sue Smith and Steve Swanson*, friends of Dwight Penas & Kathy Thurston; *Rudd Rayfield, Jolie Meshbesber Hassler, Katelyn Bowden, Cindy Williams*, father and friends of Robin Rayfield; *Leila Jeffers*, mother of Lynn and Lisa Ruff; *Miranda Alvis*, niece of Tim Sneer; *Carrie*, friend of Paul & Melissa Stone; *Peg Boyle*, mother of Amy Thompson; *David Duran*, friend of *Kevin Vazquez*; *Andrew Wiechman*, son of Grace Wiechman; *Kianna Crump*, niece of James Wilkes; *Patrick Clark, Sandra Dycus, Becky Groska, Annie Hose-Ryan, Diane Ristrom, Cathy Reid, Karen Swanson, Marcia Van Gorden*, friends of Sue Ellen Zagrabelny; *Anne-Marie Lundberg*, cousin of Eric Zander; *Judy Bonnes and family, Tommie and Susie Hunter; Barbara C. Johnson*, friends of Mount Olive.

**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 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. (*Italics indicates non-member friends of Mount Olive.*)

### ***About our prayer list ...***

*If you have submitted a name or names to be published on our prayer list, please review the list regularly, to make sure those for whom we are praying are still in need of our prayers. Contact the church office with any updates.*