



Accent on Worship

Jim Bargmann

In the next two weeks, three of our chosen readings highlight, among other things, God’s ability to influence and alter the natural world. In Job 38, God forcefully reminds Job of his own inability to influence creation, contrasting that not only with God’s own ability to do just that, but God’s very presence at the origin of the creation. In Mark 4, we see Jesus commanding a storm to cease its affects on a boat occupied by himself

and the disciples. And in Mark 5, Jesus heals a woman “who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years” and restores Jairus’ twelve year old daughter to life.

It seems to me there are two all too prevalent tendencies for those of us seeking to live within God’s reign when reading stories such as these. One, to simply state that since God has the ability and power (omnipotence anyone?) to so affect the natural state of creation, even calming storms, healing disease, and raising the dead, we should just let God take care of things. God has the power to do it, so why not simply let God be God and do it? If it doesn’t get done, it must not have been God’s will (or any other similarly dangerous propositions). Two, although not illustrated by these passages, another tendency is to begin to think that it’s all on us. In what we sometimes perceive as God’s silence or failure to act in the face of climate change, racial injustice, economic disparities, and any number of other issues, we (or me - this is highly autobiographical here) tend toward thinking it’s on us to find solutions to any number of issues and problems.

But neither of those tendencies are supported by Scripture when read in its entirety.

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SUNDAY READINGS

Sunday, June 20
4th Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 12 B
 Job 38:1-11
 Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32
 2 Corinthians 6:1-13
 Mark 4:35-41

Sunday, June 27
5th Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 13 B
 Lamentations 3:22-33
 Psalm 30
 1 Corinthians 8:7-15
 Mark 5:21-43

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

Sunday Worship

8:00 am – Eucharist
 10:00 am – Eucharist
 (Livestreamed)
 12:00 pm - Eucharist

In-person worship

There will be 3 Eucharists in Mount Olive’s Nave on Sundays, at 8:00, 10:00, and Noon. In keeping with our COVID protocols, **only 60 (masked) worshippers will be able to attend each service.** [Sign up by clicking here!](#)

The 10 am service will be livestreamed each week. A link to the livestream will be available on the home page of our website: www.mountolivechurch.org.

Please note that the link to sign up will not be live until Wednesday of each week. If you don’t have access to a computer to sign up, please call the church office beginning Wednesdays and Cha will reserve a spot for you, if available.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Wed., June 16

11 am – Staff meeting

Sat., June 19

9 am – Gardening Day

Sun., June 20***Pentecost 4***8, 10, and Noon –
Holy Eucharist, followed by
outdoor coffee hour**Tues., June 22**

Noon – Bible Study

Wed., June 23

11 am – Staff meeting

Sun., June 27***Pentecost 5***8, 10, and Noon –
Holy Eucharist, followed by
outdoor coffee hour**Tues., June 29**

Noon – Bible Study

Wed., June 30

11 am – Staff meeting

Parish House Repair Continues

Advanced Masonry Restoration (AMR) has been contracted to repair the damage caused by water to the exterior walls of the Parish House. The work will include removal of the stone cap, putting a membrane in place, and then replacing the cap. Then they will be repairing/replacing damaged brick and the mortar.

While the work is in progress, **please do not park in the North Parking lot during the week.** The lot will be available for worship services on Sunday mornings.

Flowers for Mount Olive Liturgies

As our congregation prepares for in-person worship, we look forward to many familiar sights, sounds, and, yes, fragrances. You may once again sign up to sponsor flowers for our Sunday liturgies.

You may sponsor both bouquets (\$50 per liturgy), or two donors may share the cost (\$25 each). There may be an upcharge for special requests, such as a certain type or color of flower.

Please call Naomi Peterson (612-824-2228) to let her know what date(s) you would like to sponsor. You may also tell her if you want a person or event to be remembered in that day's worship folder.

Powderhorn Art Fair

The Powderhorn Art Fair is hosting a mini pop-up market on Chicago Ave. and Lake Street on June 22-24 and June 29-30, July 1. The PAF Pop-up market will have a sampling of artists and entertainers, that will bring this slice of Lake Street to life!

Important Details:

Pop-up Previews will take place from 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. on June 22, 23, 24, and June 29, 30, & July 1.

There will be live music, artists and plenty of shopping. All are invited!



Sad News from Bethania

It is with very heavy hearts we share the news from Bethania Kids of the death of Eduman Isaac due to complications related to COVID-19. Eduman was someone that our Bethania Partnership Team got to meet when we visited in 2019 at the Dayavu Home for Boys in Kannivadi, the first Bethania site that we visited. Eduman joined Bethania Kids in August 2018 as Director of Dayavu Home for Boys.

We all agree with Bethania's own announcement: "Eduman was a man with a true servant's heart, grounded in his great love for his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He loved the boys at Dayavu Home with a fierce passion, ensuring they knew firsthand God's love for each of them and the bright future God has in store for them. He instilled in them a strong work ethic and compassion for others. We give thanks to God for Eduman's remarkable life and for our time with him. May Eduman rest in peace and rise in glory."

We at Mount Olive hold Eduman's family and his Bethania family in our prayers.

Accent on Worship, *continued from page 1*

God very clearly gives the command and the ability to heal and raise the dead to the apostles - and to us. The Holy Spirit gives that very power, and the ability to do so much more.

But it isn't all on us either. It is God that gives us the very power to affect change in our world and the lives of others. It is God who gives us the resources to make a difference. And God who gives us the wisdom to know what to do and what to say.

The process of discerning where my action ends and God's action begins, or vice versa, and where the overlap occurs, is a tricky one. I am in no way saying it is or will be easy. But God gives us yet another gift - that of prayer. Whole, complete prayer where we speak our concerns, seek wisdom, and hear from God through that very same Spirit. Dear friends, may we all learn to find this oh so important middle ground.

- *Jim Barymann*



BACH · TAGE
MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN
MINNEAPOLIS

Bach Tage 2021 Available for Viewing

BachTage 2021 includes three video segments which can be accessed [HERE](#).

If you would like a score of Cantata 85, *Ich bin ein guter Hirt*, you may download a copy from the [BachTage section of the Mount Olive website](#). A translation of the German text is also available there.

There are three segments to BachTage 2021:

1. Presentation on the Music and theology of Cantata 85, *Ich bin ein guter Hirt* - Arthur Halbardier; interview of Stanley King and Ellen Rider, with Kathy Romey and Arthur Halbardier
2. Performance of Cantata 85, and movements from Cantata 21 - the BachTage Orchestra and soloists
3. A recital by the baroque ensemble Flying Forms: Marc Levine, baroque violin; Tami Morse, harpsichord; Tulio Rondón, cello and piccolo cello.

Each segment can be viewed independently. **HOWEVER, BE SURE TO VIEW SEGMENT #2 PRIOR TO SEGMENT #3.**

A Dose of Climate Hope and Solar Resources

Our friends and partners at Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light offered some words of encouragement as well as practical help for your journey toward climate justice.

First, the practical help: MNIPL can help you or your business access solar power. As they say, "MNIPL works to make this energy equitable to all and hire solar installers who have been vetted to commit to hiring minorities." It was MNIPL who helped Mount Olive apply for the grant that funded the solar panels on our roof as well as connecting us with our installers. They would love to help you! Check out this website <https://www.mnipl.org/take-action/just-solar/residential-solar/> or give them a call at 612-217-2693.

And the words of hope that MNIPL shared from Rebecca Solnit's article "Dare We Hope? Here's my Cautious Case for Climate Optimism": "If we see how impossible our current reality might have seemed 20 years ago – that solar would be so cheap, that Scotland would get 97% of its electricity from renewables, that fossil fuel corporations would be in freefall – we can trust that we could be moving toward an even more transformed and transformative future, and that it is not a set destination but, for better or worse, what we are making up as we go. Each shift makes more shifts possible. But only if we go actively toward the possibilities rather than passively into the collapse. Three things matter for climate chaos and our response to it – the science reporting on current and potential conditions, the technology offering solutions, and the organizing which is shifting perspectives and policy. Each is advancing rapidly." You can read the whole article here: [this article](#).

We have done a lot at Mount Olive to support climate justice, but we know that we can do more. Let's make this the summer to take another step forward.



Building Our Home

The series highlighting some of the specific properties that will be funded in part by the Building Our Home initiative continues this week. It is hoped that this will make the work more concrete (literally and figuratively).

Please note, a glossary of some basic terms will be included at the end of this section for each week of this series since there are some terms used in the property descriptions that may not be familiar to all readers. This section will repeat each week.

Our featured property this week is Emerson Village, being developed by our partner Beacon Interfaith in north Minneapolis. Emerson Village will provide housing for 50 families making less than 30% AMI. Supportive services will be provided on-site, tailored to the needs of each individual family. Currently, Beacon is raising funds and advocating on behalf of Emerson Village, seeking land use and zoning approvals for the project.

Commonly Used Terms and Abbreviations

AMI: Average Median Income; the average amount made by households in a given area; currently, the AMI for the Twin Cities metro area for a family of four is \$103,400 (one earner making \$49.71 per hour). As one example, 30% AMI, often a measure of housing considered to be the most affordable, would be \$31,000 (one earner making \$14.90 per hour), making a three-bedroom apartment affordable at \$806 per month. For comparison, the average rent for a three-bedroom unit in the Twin Cities in 2019 was \$1,624.

Affordable Housing: Defined as housing that can be obtained and maintained for 30% or less of a household's monthly income. By definition, housing costs include all costs related to maintaining a home - utilities, trash disposal, insurance, and the like - not just rent or mortgage.

Supportive Housing: Affordable, long-term, community-based housing with on-site support services such as employment counseling, addiction recovery support, etc. for people with multiple barriers to getting and keeping housing.

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.



Christ in Our Home

The *Christ in Our Home* devotional booklets for the next quarter (July-September) have arrived at church and are in the narthex for anyone to pick up. If you received them by mail during the last year while the church building was closed and can pick yours up if/when you are at church for Sunday Eucharist, please do! If you still need or want your copy mailed to you, just call the church office and we will be happy to send it out.

Regular link to the Tuesday Noon Bible Study

Starting Tuesday, June 22, the Tuesday Noon Bible Study will begin meeting in person again, in the West Lounge. For those who are unable to come, the link will still be active, and you can join from home.

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

Stewardship News

Now that we are back to in-person worship, your continued faithful support of Mount Olive is more important than ever.

In addition to placing your offering in the plate if you are able to be at worship in person on Sundays, you can continue to donate to Mount Olive via bill pay (a regular, scheduled check from your bank), via electronic funds transfer (a scheduled paperless transaction from your bank to Mount Olive's bank), and via the "Donate" button on Mount Olive's website: www.mountolivechurch.org.

If you have any questions about contributing to Mount Olive in any of these ways, please call Cha at the church office, 612-827-5919.

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 July 10, they will read *The End of the Affair*, also by Graham Greene, and for August 14 they will read *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek*, by Kim Michele Richardson.

The group is 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

CaringBridge Updates

Susan and David Cherwien have established a page on CaringBridge as a way to help keep folks updated regarding Susan's current medical situation. That page can be viewed at

<https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/susanpalocherwien>.



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Pastor – [Joseph Crippen](#)

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