



Accent on Worship

Cantor David Cherwien

Seating for more?

As we continue to ease back into our worship life together again this summer, this Sunday brings with it another adjustment. If the pandemic has taught us anything, it certainly has taught us that we need to remain flexible, responding as we need to meaningfully do what we do together in our liturgy in a safe way.

SUNDAY READINGS

Sunday, July 4
6th Sunday after
Pentecost, Lect. 14 B
 Ezekiel 2:1-5
 Psalm 123
 2 Corinthians 12:2-10
 Mark 6:1-13

Sunday, July 11
7th Sunday after
Pentecost, Lect. 15 B
 Amos 7:7-15
 Psalm 85:8-13
 Ephesians 1:3-14
 Mark 6:14-29

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

Sunday Worship

9:00 am – Eucharist
 11:00 am – Eucharist
 (Livestreamed)

We began coming gradually out of exile with three services, to accommodate distancing. After doing this for one month, we now know that given the number coming to each, we can adjust to two services and still accomplish the distancing. They will be 9 and 11 am, right smack between the former three service times. This schedule will be maintained for the rest of the summer months. We are still asking for the RSVP to help ensure as even a distribution as possible between these two times (yet no one will be turned away). Remembering what I call the magic of our summer liturgy in normal situations, (one service, well attended by many, with singing off the charts strong!) it's important to remember that we're still not quite back to former ways, but we are moving in that direction.

So far no one opts to sit in the front upper balconies (transept balconies). My very first time at Mount Olive was in the late 1970s. I attended a hymn festival on Palm Sunday, led by Drs. Wedel and Manz. What I didn't realize is how early I should have come to get a "good seat." Those of you who remember these have since told me how the church would completely fill up an hour in advance. I wound up in the farthest SW corner of the South Transept balcony. I figured I'd hear little, and not see anything. I was wrong. The sound up there was amazingly clear, even the quietest music. And I could very clearly see the chancel and Dr. Wedel as he read the commentaries between the hymns. I was very much a part of every detail of that program, and it was a deep, highly impressionable experience.

My point is this: give those spots a try! If we seem filled up on the main level, there can be some prime seating up there if steps are not yet an issue for you. I can assure you that sight lines and sound are still very good up there.

What is bringing me such joy is that we are again able to come together. This is the battery charge I took for granted and especially missed. With our ability to distance, wearing masks, we are confident that what we're doing is indeed safe, especially considering a high rate of vaccination among those who come and make up our assemblies. It brings me joy to see the young ones that Chandler Molbert and I met with each week on Zoom during our exile – in person! (And they've grown taller!).

See you Sunday.

- *Cantor David Cherwien*

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Wed., June 30

11 am – Staff meeting

Sat., July 39 am – Gardening Day
1-3 pm – Prayer Shawl group**Sun., July 4*****Pentecost 6***

9 & 11 am – Holy Eucharist, followed by coffee and fellowship

Monday, July 5

Church office closed

Tues., July 6

Noon – Bible Study

Wed., July 711 am – Staff meeting
6 pm – Vicar Committee**Sat., July 10**

10 am – Book Discussion

Sun., July 11***Pentecost 7***

9 & 11 am – Holy Eucharist, followed by coffee and fellowship

Mon., July 12

7 pm – Vestry meeting

Tues., July 13

Noon – Bible Study

Wed., July 14

11 am – Staff meeting

Changes in the Sunday Morning Schedule Effective this Sunday, July 4.

As was previously announced, there will now be **two worship services on Sunday morning, at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.** In addition, the Congregational Life committee will begin serving coffee following each service. In order to continue COVID-related safety measures, we ask the following:

We will continue to request R.S.V.P responses for each worship in order to allow for physical distancing in the sanctuary. In addition, please wear a well-fitting mask that covers your nose and mouth. During the coffee hour, please keep your mask on as much as possible when you aren't drinking your coffee. This is especially important to protect those who are not vaccinated, including children.

We have not yet had to utilize the transept balconies for seating, but this may be needed in the future. Please be aware that if you are able to climb stairs, you may be asked to sit in the balcony. We appreciate your willingness to do this on occasion.

The link to RSVP for worship is <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/mountolive>.

This link will be live each Wednesday for the following Sunday.

Do You Need Communion Brought to You?

As we're now worshipping God together in person, we are now celebrating the Eucharist again, and it's time to organize bringing communion to those who can't be with us on Sundays. This has long been a value for our community, that, if possible, we'd bring the Meal from the altar to share with those who couldn't come in person. With livestreaming now our regular Sunday offering, people can worship from home, but receiving Christ's food of life is not something we can stream.

If you are unable to be here for any reason and would like to be on a list to receive Holy Communion at home from one of your siblings here at Mount Olive, please get in touch with Pr. Crippen at the church number or pastor@mountolivechurch.org.



Through the Mount Olive Missions Committee we are partners with MN Interfaith Power & Light (MNIPL). The national office of Interfaith Power and Light is offering the opportunity to view the new short film, **“Other Side of the Hill.”** This is what they have to say about this film:

"The film is a hopeful, inspiring look at local leaders on the ground in rural America who are leading climate action in their communities. But it is also about coming together, finding common ground and new climate frameworks, and shining a light on rural voices as we envision a path forward."

SAVE THE DATE! The film will be available for free online viewing July 10 - 25. Registration opens July 1.

[You can watch the trailer and sign up to get a registration reminder here.](#)

Individuals are invited to view it at home with family and friends.

An opportunity to support area youth

Our South Minneapolis neighbor, Marvin Applewhite*, owner of Blueline Cleaning and Debris removal has a summer initiative to employ and mentor neighborhood youth. His passion is working with them to give them job skills and provide guidance about 'hard work builds character.' By the end of the summer, they will have volunteered and given back to the community in a productive way. Help Marvin to provide positive and helpful things to do for youth in the community!

Marvin has a GoFundMe Site to help raise funds to pay the youth as they clean vacant lots, homeless encampments, streets, cutting grass, cleaning churches, etc. They will be volunteering with a stipend at the end of each week.

Mount Olive was able to take advantage of their work this past weekend as they picked up brush and hauled out old carpet, lumber, and other miscellaneous things that have collected in the building. See photos of their work for us at [Blueline Cleaning and Debris Removal - Home | Facebook](#)

If you are able, consider supporting this program through his GoFundMe site: <https://gofund.me/401d140f>

*(Some of you may know Marvin from his work this past Thanksgiving. He was the sponsor and energy behind the dinner prepared in our kitchen.)



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 American House. American House is a renovation project led by Beacon Interfaith that will upgrade 70 homes in the lower town area of Saint Paul, making them accessible to residents who require intensive case management services and low barriers to entry. These types of homes have been shown to be the most effective form of housing for people who have experienced repeated or long-term instances of homelessness. American House will serve the most vulnerable in our community.

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.



Tuesday Noon Bible Study

Since Tuesday, June 22, the Tuesday Noon Bible Study has been 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.

Sign Up for Altar Flowers

Have you been thinking about signing up to sponsor flowers for our Sunday liturgies? It's now easier than ever. Naomi Peterson has posted a flower chart for the remainder of 2021 outside the church office.

You may sponsor both bouquets (\$50 per liturgy), or two donors may share the cost (\$25 each). You may request that a person or event be honored or remembered in that day's worship folder

If you can't sign the chart in person, you may call Cha in the church office (612-827-5919) to add your name and other information to the chart. Please call Naomi (612-824-2228) with requests for a certain type or color of flower—requests for which there may be an upcharge.

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*, by Graham Greene, and for August 14 they will read *"The Committed,"* by Viet Thanh Nguyen

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

Access Code: 998-208-989

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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Vicar – [Andrea Bonneville](#)

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