



Accent on Worship

Pastor Joseph Crippen

Clinging

They missed the fish, jumping out of the river for free. Also the cucumbers and melons and leeks and onions and garlic. The Israelites (we hear this Sunday) are rescued from slavery by God and traveling to a new place, a promised land. They are free. They have a destination. God is with them.

SUNDAY READINGS

Sunday, September 26

18th Sunday after Pentecost,

Lect. 26 B

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

Psalm 19:7-14

James 5:13-20

Mark 9:38-50

Sunday, October 3

19th Sunday after Pentecost,

Lect. 27 B

Genesis 2:18-24

Psalm 8

Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

Mark 10:2-16

But they're hungry. And all they can think of is how good the food in Egypt was.

We're like that. "We used to eat fish in Egypt for free," they said. We say, "we used to be able to act without thinking and not worry about the consequences. Be ourselves." Our old habits are so comfortable, so basic to who we are, we remember them with fondness. The new ways of following Christ – love of neighbor, offering ourselves, being Christ even when it's hard – are not as easy to embrace some days.

They forgot Egypt's good food came at the cost of slavery, the death of their children, physical and spiritual oppression. If we're honest, the old life we're leaving behind, the habits we need God to help us let go of really weren't life-giving or good after all and cost us and others dearly.

But the new life in Christ has its abundance of fish and cucumbers and melons and garlic, too. That is, love and peace and joy and patience and kindness and gentleness and generosity and faithfulness and self-control. Fruits that satisfy and fill us now and always, and heal the world.

Like the promised land ahead of God's people, living a life of reconciliation and grace in God's love, even if it means learning new ways and facing new challenges, is a much better life. Abundant, even.

Sunday Worship

9:00 am – Eucharist

11:00 am – Eucharist

(Livestreamed)

Blessing of Animals

Sunday, October 2, 2:00 pm

Bring your pets to this annual
service of blessing!

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Wed., September 22

10 am – Staff meeting
 5:30 pm Children's Choir
 (on Zoom)
 7:30 pm – Cantorei
 rehearsal

Thurs., September 23

7 pm – Narcotics
 Anonymous

Sat., September 25

9am – Gardening Day

Sun., September 26

Pentecost 18

9 am – Holy Eucharist

11 am – Holy Eucharist

Tues., September 28

Noon – Bible Study

Wed., September 29

10 am – Staff meeting
 5:30 pm Children's Choir
 (on Zoom)
 7:30 pm – Cantorei
 rehearsal

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

Sunday Morning Schedule

There are **two worship services on Sunday morning, at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.** To be able to continue COVID-related safety measures, we ask the following:

During this time, we will continue to request R.S.V.P responses for each worship in order to allow for physical distancing in the sanctuary. We will continue to require that you wear a well-fitting mask that covers your nose and **mouth**. Please do not move the pew ropes, to help with social distancing, and **please** leave the short pews for those with wheelchairs. This is especially important to protect those who are not vaccinated, including children. Coffee hour has been temporarily suspended.

The link to RSVP for worship is <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/mountolive> . This link will be live each Wednesday for the following Sunday.

Calling All Members!

The usher corps is in great need of additional people to serve at our doors and in our sanctuary. Due to the comings and goings of many of our tenured ushers, we are seeking any member, new or veteran, to serve on the usher corps. Duties have currently changed to accommodate our response to Covid-19, but they overall stay the same in the way we welcome our members and guests.

If you think you could give up your pew once every few weeks and be ready to greet, collect offering, and direct the communion traffic flow, you would be a prime candidate! This job is also really great for families, engaging all individuals while carrying out the necessary tasks.

If you would be interested in this position or if you have any questions about it, please contact Brian Jacobs at 612-251-5942 with a call or text. He will be happy to train anyone interested and would quite possibly have you fill in this coming 4th quarter for some of the people who are unable to be with us. Otherwise, you would be scheduled in the first quarter of next year. The number of times serving per quarter ranges anywhere from two to four times and may involve evening and weekday services, depending on the season.

Worship Hosts Needed!

As you know, we are now checking in before each worship service. It would be great to have a few people who are willing to sit with those lists before every worship service, help people check off their names on the lists and make sure everyone gets a worship folder. This is especially helpful for guests. If you can do that on an occasional Sunday, please contact the church office (612/827-5915, welcome@mountolivechurch.org) or Lora Dundek (651/645-6636, lhdunek@usfamily.net). The primary requirements are that you are able to get to church about 30 minutes ahead of the worship service to which you're assigned and stay near the lists for 5-10 minutes into the service to help latecomers. We'd welcome your help!

Ballot Questions in the City of Minneapolis

While Mount Olive has members and friends throughout the Twin Cities, indeed, throughout the country, I know many of you live in the City of Minneapolis. In addition, we take our role as a part of our own Powderhorn Park neighborhood seriously. To that end, when it is appropriate, I like to provide helpful resources when significant issues face the neighborhood and city we call home. Recognizing also that we are a part of a community with a wide variety of viewpoints, I will not use this or any other official forum to promote particular candidates or positions. But I do hope I can provide resources helpful for you in making your own decisions regarding the complex issues facing our city.

In addition to voting for Mayor, members of the City Council, and choosing commissioners to serve on the Park and Recreation Board, voters in Minneapolis will decide on three questions that propose amendments to the City Charter, essentially the constitution for the City of Minneapolis as governed by the State of Minnesota.

For more information about the process used to amend the City Charter, please visit this link:
<https://tinyurl.com/ysbnwpwb>

Question 1 relates to the structure of city government in Minneapolis, specifically the role of the Mayor. Question 2 will establish a Department of Public Safety within the City, allowing the City Council to decide what shape this Department will take, rather than the City Charter. Question 3 will allow the City Council to regulate residential rent in the City.

At this time, I do not have reliable, non-biased information to share on either Questions 1 or 2. However, the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs at the University of Minnesota has put together an outstanding research study on the topic of rent stabilization, the very type of regulation being considered with City Question 3. This study in no way takes a position on the question; it presents information about rent stabilization programs in other cities, analyzes the rental market in Minneapolis, and then looks at possible economic impacts of such a program. It is an outstanding piece of work and I share it with you in hopes of helping you make an informed decision about this issue. Click on this link to read the study:
<https://tinyurl.com/2tjnaazv>

I will note that those of you in Saint Paul are deciding on a rent stabilization question of your own. The question in Saint Paul is much more specific; they are much further down the road on this issue. The Minneapolis question only allows the City Council to enact a rent stabilization policy; the Saint Paul question is approval of a City Council approved policy. While this study does not specifically address Saint Paul, many of the factors presented will apply to your policy as well.

I will close by making another offer. If you are interested in further conversation about any of these issues, I am available for conversation, either formally or informally. Feel free to stop me if you see me around or email me about a time for conversation, neighborhood@mountolivechurch.org.

There is an on-going conversation about holding an online adult forum type event focused these ballot questions. If such an event occurs, participants would have an opportunity to hear a presentation, ask questions, and discuss one or more of these issues. As the planning of this event is still in progress, we don't have many details, but watch for an update.

- *Jim Bargmann, Coordinator of Neighborhood Ministry*



Missions Committee Update: Bright Stars of Bethlehem

ABOUT: Bright Stars of Bethlehem is a U.S.-based nonprofit that promotes peace and justice in Palestine through Dar al-Kalima University of Arts & Culture; initiatives for youth, families, and older adults; and advocacy for human rights. **MOUNT OLIVE'S SUPPORT STARTED:** 2016 **OUR CURRENT ANNUAL SUPPORT:** \$500 **WEBSITE:** <https://brightstarsbethlehem.org/> **FOR PERSPECTIVE:** Our missions gifts to 11 organizations in 2020 totaled \$32,499.

WHAT'S NEW? On a Sept. 12 webinar, Minnesota Fourth District Congresswoman Betty McCollum had a lively conversation with the Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb, president of Dar al-Kalima University, co-founder of Bright Stars, and former pastor of Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem. McCollum said her bill, Defending the Human Rights of Palestinian Children and Families living Under Israeli Military Occupation Act (H.R. 2590), would, among other things, prohibit Israel from using U.S. taxpayer dollars for military detention, abuse, or ill-treatment of Palestinian children in military detention. Said McCollum: "Israel is an ally, but when a good friend is doing something that you think is wrong, if you're a good friend you say something." The bill has 29 congressional sponsors and is endorsed by more than 150 religious and human rights organizations, including the ELCA. McCollum acknowledged that her bill currently lacks the votes needed to become law and urged supporters to reach out to more members of Congress. **WATCH THE WEBINAR:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7U4zUV9rUH8>

Book Discussion

The Mount Olive Book Discussion group meets on the second Saturday of each month, beginning at 10:00 am. They have resumed meeting at church.

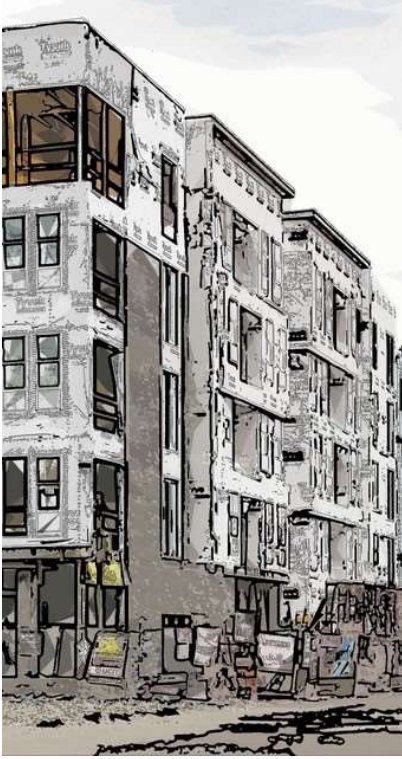
For the October 9 meeting, the book will be *The Darling*, by Russell Banks, and for November 13, the book is *The Little Red Chairs*, by Edna O'Brien.

Tuesday Noon Bible Study: New Link!

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 in person, we will continue to hold the meeting over Zoom as well. Please note that we are no longer using GoToMeeting.

The link for the Tuesday noon Bible study will continue to be the same every week.

To join from your computer, tablet, or smartphone, [click here.](#)



Building Our Home

It's an exciting time as we enter the next phase of Building Our Home, happening concurrently with our continued fundraising efforts. There is advocacy work that needs to be done on behalf of some of these projects. This work can take multiple forms and is happening in communities across the Twin Cities. Are you able to make phone calls to elected officials? What about writing letters? Do you feel comfortable talking with your neighbors about issues facing your community - either by phone, text or in-person? These are just some of the ways we can do some much needed advocacy work on behalf of affordable housing projects in the Twin Cities. If you are interested in learning more, please send Jim Bargmann an email at neighborhood@mountolivechurch.org to learn more.

Along with this new push for advocacy work, the fundraising continues.

We continue to be amazed by the generosity of the Mount Olive community in support of our efforts to make more affordable and supportive housing available in our Twin Cities community. We have made great progress, but still have more to raise. While we know we are just launching a new capital campaign, we believe strongly that we can do both of these great things at the same time. If you have not contributed to this effort, please consider a donation to Building Our Home. We are asking each active member to contribute \$338 - believing that many small contributions can make a big goal possible.

Behind the scenes, we continue to work on establishing partnerships with other Twin Cities congregations. Many are working through their own decision-making processes as they consider joining us in this project. And Jim Bargmann continues making presentations (both in person and by Zoom) to staff members, church councils, Vestry groups and more on a regular basis.

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.



Children's Choir update

Zoom Choir for children in 4-year-Pre-K through 2nd grade will begin on Wednesday, September 22 from 5:30-6:00 pm. (Younger siblings are welcome to join us. Please make a plan that works for your family.) This year we will explore the "God's Children Sing" curriculum entitled "Friends of Jesus." Bible stories will include Jesus Blesses the Children, The Good Samaritan, Jesus Visits Mary and Martha, Jesus Calls the First Disciples, The Beatitudes, and The Parable of the Mustard Seed. Through singing, movement (large motor traveling movement and small motor finger plays and stationary beat keeping), playing small hand-held instruments, and prayer; the children and I make a musical Christian community. I know it sounds impossible when described in print. With our faith, children, and music in the mix, most things are miraculously possible, even on Zoom.

The family materials for "Friends of Jesus" include one CD and/or music download per family and an individual kit of eggs shakes, jingle taps, and movement scarf for each child. Materials are provided and will be available for pick up in the Undercroft on September 19. Arrangements can be made if you need the materials delivered to your home. Please contact Mari at mari.mt.olive@gmail.com.

As singing is such a bio-aerosol intense activity, when the children are vaccinated, we will launch a new in-person Wednesday schedule that includes two choir groups and our singers in Grades 3 and up.

The National Lutheran Choir All Saints Programs

After so many months of distance and turmoil, the National Lutheran Choir is returning to live performances with their annual program of remembrance. Join them in November for "All Saints: We Remember," a live concert, and "Requiem Aeternam," a virtual program, to honor loved ones we have lost this past year through sacred choral music.

Audience-submitted names of those who are no longer with us will be shared during these programs as we each mourn and heal from the loss of important people in our lives. To submit a name, visit www.NLCA.com/all-saints-2021.

All Saints: We Remember (Live Concert)

Friday, November 5th - 7pm @ Central Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, MN
November 7th - 4pm @ St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Mahtomedi, MN
Adults and seniors: \$30 | Students: Pay what you can | 18 and Under: Free

Requiem Aeternam (Virtual Program) Available for streaming November 6-8

Pay what you can; Suggested donation of \$5 per household

For tickets and more information, visit NLCA.com or call 612-722-2301.

In Our Prayers

Please pray throughout the week for the following persons: Julia Adams; Joe & Elizabeth Beissel; Susan Cherwien; Charlotte Erlandson; Nancy Flatgard; Leila Froehlich; Leanna Kloempken; Mary Lee; Carla Manuel; Carolyn Mowery; Rhoda Nelson; Jerry Ostlund; Evelyn Royce; John Salveson; Pariann Schenk; James Wilkes; *Adalyn Lerum*, 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; *Lela Frazier*, sister of Irene Campbell; *Klarrisa Ramirez*, friend of Gretchen Campbell-Johnson; *Kristin Eklund-Johnson, Greg Eklund, Ryan Snelling*, daughter, son, and friend of Harry & Jeanette Eklund; *Susan Bary*, friend of Judy Graves; *David G. Gutierrez, Sr., Chris and David Gutierrez, Jr.*, father and brothers of Consuelo Gutierrez-Crosby; *Carol Halter (missionary in Hong Kong)*, friend of Eunice Hafemeister; *Cat Robinette*, friend of Emily Hellerich; *Tami Huisinga*, relative of Wes Huisinga; *Craig Cunningham*, brother-in-law of Brian Jacobs; *Bob Adamson*, relative of Jerry Jones & Robbie Ross; *Roger Bradford*, friend of Mary Rose Kaliher; *Bill Ruchie*, cousin of Kathy Kruger; *Barbara Dahl*, sister of Carla Manuel; *Dani Olson, Harper Linguist, Steve Camper*, relatives and friend of Julie Manuel; *Jan McCuen*, mother of Matt McCuen; *Brenda Frankman*, friend of Rachel Meuret; *Martha Johnson*, sister of Rhoda Nelson and aunt of Sherry Nelson; *Kathleen Austad*, sister of Jerry Ostlund; *Sue Smith, Steve Swanson, and Mary Peterson* friends of Dwight Penas & Kathy Thurston; *Vince DeLusia*, friend of Cynthia Prosek; *Rudd Rayfield, Jolie Meshbesher Hassler, Katelyn Bowden, Cindy Williams*, father and friends of Robin Rayfield; *Leila Jeffers*, mother of Lynn and Lisa Ruff; *Miranda Ahvis*, niece of Tim Sneer; *Carrie*, friend of Paul & Melissa Stone; *David Duran*, friend of *Kevin Vazquez*; *Andrew Wiechman*, son of Grace Wiechman; *Judy Bonnes, 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: *Ross Chambers*, nephew of Berta & Bob Wick; *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.



Mount Olive Lutheran Church
3045 Chicago Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55407

*A congregation of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America*

Contact Us

Phone: 612-827-5919

Fax: 612-827-4557

Web: www.mountolivechurch.org

Church Staff

Pastor – [Joseph Crippen](#)

Cantor – [David Chernien](#)

Vicar – [Andrea Bonneville](#)

Coordinator of Neighborhood

Ministries - [Jim Barymann](#)

Administrative Assistant – [Cha Posz](#)

Sexton – [James Wilkes](#)

In This Issue

- Accent on Worship – Pastor Joseph Crippen
- ***Blessing of Animals, Sunday Oct. 2 – 2pm***
- City of Minneapolis Ballot Questions
- Worship Hosts and Ushers Needed!
- Missions Committee Update: Bright Stars of Bethlehem