



Accent on Worship

Cantor David Cherwien

Reformation

This Sunday, October 31st, is actually Reformation Day. Normally we transfer it to Sunday, as we also do with All Saints Day, which is November 1. This year, Reformation Day actually falls on Sunday (October 31), but All Saints will be celebrated one week later on November 7. These two festivals, however, are not necessarily related.

SUNDAY READINGS

Sunday, October 31

Reformation Day

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalms 46

Romans 3:19-28

John 8:31-36

Sunday, November 7

All Saints Sunday

Isaiah 25:6-9

Psalms 24

Revelation 21:1-6a

John 11:32-44

There much that can be said about Reformation Day. For so long churches celebrated the person: Martin Luther, and commemorated his nailing of the 95 theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenburg, Germany, thus launching the reformation of the church. These contemporary celebrations seemed to be more about that one event, more about the culture where that event took place (Germany) and focused on looking back. Not to shatter the bubble, but he was not the only reformer, and his hope was not to form a new church body and create a separation. His hope was a call to think about what we believe and do about faith.

What Luther “launched” was an on-going state of being: “in reform.” We can look at “the Reformation” as a continuing aspect of being church, of being people of God. How we understand God, questions we have about God and our faith can be thought about, researched, and we change as a result. If this process stops, I guess, we are no longer people of reformation. So rather than singing German chorales and use Luther’s settings of the Ordinary of the Mass to commemorate this day, over the years we have sung things that give evidence to how God’s people in Christ has spread around all of time and space on earth. We have indeed changed! For some, not fast enough. For others, plenty fast.

Lutheran music, therefore, is not just chorales from the 15th century, although beloved. To me what makes music “Lutheran” is that we all sing it. Not just professionals. This was one of the facets of reform spawned by Luther. This did not mean dumbing down music, but it did mean using the best crafted texts and music which also embodied the language and culture at the time, along with the understanding about God at the time. The German language “flowed” better with the rhythmic dance of the Renaissance music than with Gregorian chant with its melodic fluidity, yet both are important parts of our “tradition.” Our current hymn books give evidence to this process having never stopped, as we have representative songs from all sorts of times and spaces on earth – from most continents. Someday, maybe we’ll add a “Martian” hymn.... (hmmm)

Sunday Worship

9:00 am – Eucharist

11:00 am – Eucharist

(Livestreamed)

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Wed., October 27

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

Thurs., October 28

7 pm – Narcotics
 Anonymous

Sun., October 31**Reformation Day**

9 am – Holy Eucharist
11 am – Holy Eucharist

Tues., November 2

Noon – Bible Study
 7 pm – Missions Comm.

Wed., November 3

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

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. You no longer need to check your name off before proceeding to worship. 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.

Accent on Worship, *continued from page 1*

If anything can be contemplated this Sunday, as always, it would be what the Word of God is telling us. The Gospel says “Continue in God’s Word” – coupled with the Romans second lesson, that faith is a gift from God. We do not need to earn or buy it. It is truly amazing how difficult this still seems to be. Our capitalist culture is so steeped on earning, growth, acquisition – the concept of gift is almost foreign to us except wrapped boxes with bows and a card (which I love too, by the way). Yet there it is, waiting for us to notice. This is also an invitation to the church – do we see our communities of faith as our culture does (thirsting for growth, acquisition, building “equity”), or do we regard church as gift? Receiving a gift is one thing which comes hard for many of us, and for which we should indeed be thankful. Giving the gift away is also our calling. Our delight. To me, giving away (have we heard anything about that recently?) does what the Gospel says: it sets us free.

Perhaps one of my favorite lines in this Sunday’s texts comes from Psalm 46: “Be still and know that I am God. Be still. Be still.

Be still. Know that God is God.”

Now, let’s sing about THAT, and give that gift away.

- Cantor David Chernien

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

Be at the start of the red tulip cycle!

We will be planting 600 red tulip bulbs **this Friday, October 29, 1:00 pm**. Come and join the garden crew as we change seasons and prepare for the spring cycle to begin in 2022.



Names of the Departed Saints Invited

As a part of our All Saints liturgy on Sunday, Nov. 7, worshippers are invited to submit the names of loved ones close to them who have died in the past year, since last All Saints Sunday, who weren't members of Mount Olive. (Members of the parish who have died are always named.)

For those who attend worship in the coming weeks, a book is located at the entrance to the nave where you can write these names. You may also contact the church office with the names. These other names submitted will be included in the prayers of intercession.

Please keep this to just those who have died this past year, so we can have a more manageable list.

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.

Common Hope Sponsorships Matched!

This is it, the final days of Sponsorpalooza! And a Common Hope donor has offered a match! One sponsorship becomes two.

Common Hope set out with a goal to find sponsors for 75 students and are just 7 students away from reaching that goal by the end of the month. These students are working so hard to persevere during the pandemic and stay in school. They could greatly benefit from your support as a sponsor. For the cost of one dinner out per month, you can make a difference. Join others at Mount Olive who are also sponsoring students in this amazing program.

You can select one of the students on display in the West Assembly display or go to the Common Hope site to select your student, or let Common Hope select the student for you.



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 November 13, the book is *The Little Red Chairs*, by Edna O'Brien, and for December 11, *Hamnet*, by Maggie O'Farrell.

Tuesday Noon Bible Study Link

The Tuesday Noon Bible Study is meeting in person, in the West Lounge. For those who are unable to come in person, we will continue to hold the meeting over Zoom as well.

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

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

Oktoberfest Fun!





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; George Oelfke; Jerry Ostlund; Robin Rayfield; Evelyn Royce; John Salveson; Pariann Schenk; John Wall; Berta Wick; James Wilkes; *Adalyn Lerum*, relative of Nancy Anderson; *Danna Nelson*, *Gerry Coleman*, friends of Jim Bargmann; *Tom McCarr*, friend of Keith Bartz; *Cassandra Thompson*, friend of Al Bostelmann; *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; *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; *Norma Pera and Hilde Dobberpubl*, sisters of Eunice Hafemeister and aunts of Linda 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; *Barbara Dahl*, sister of Carla Manuel; *Dani Olson*, *Harper Linquist*, *Steve Camper*, relatives and friend of Julie Manuel; *Jan McCuen*, mother of Matt McCuen; *Brenda Frankman*, friend of Rachel Meurett; *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 Meshbeshier Hassler*, *Katehyn 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.*)

Prayers of thanksgiving at the birth of a child: *Magnolia Grace*, daughter of (former vicar) *Bristol and Michael Reading*.

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.



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