



The Olive Branch

SUNDAY READINGS

Sunday, February 6

*Fifth Sunday after
Epiphany*

Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]

Psalm 138

I Corinthians 15:1-11

Luke 5:1-11

Sunday, February 13

*Sixth Sunday after
Epiphany*

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Psalm 1

I Corinthians 15:12-20

Luke 6:17-26

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

Accent on Worship

Jim Bargmann

We all have something.

"Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

"For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God."

"Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!"

We all have something, either in our own internal dialog, or something identified and pointed out by others, that could or should exclude us from a calling by God.

At least according to the human mind.

Each of these phrases are a part of our readings for this upcoming Sunday. Spoken by Isaiah, Paul, and Simon Peter, respectively, they represent people who came face to face with God and worried that they were unworthy not even of a calling, but to be in the very presence of God. And yet, all were called into service under God's reign to do great things.

I would posit that many if not all of you have felt the same at some point in your lives. I know I have. Many times. But take comfort in these recountings of callings, friends. All are useful in God's reign, in God's work. Like Isaiah, Paul, Simon Peter, and so many others, God does the work of cleaning, purifying, and preparing. And the Spirit herself calls us all to service. It is with those eyes, the eyes of God, that we can begin to see ourselves and each other, as vital parts the work of God.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Wed., February 2
Presentation of Our Lord
 10 am – Staff meeting
 5:30 pm - Children's Choir
 (on Zoom)
7pm – Holy Eucharist
 8:10 pm – Cantorei
 rehearsal

Thurs., February 3
 7 pm – Narcotics
 Anonymous

Fri., February 4
 7pm – Recovery Group

Sun., February 6
5th Sunday after
Epiphany
9 am – Holy Eucharist
11 am – Holy Eucharist
(livestreamed)

Tues., February 8
 Noon – Bible Study

Wed., February 9
 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 each 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. 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.

Help Needed!

Are you willing – **only once each year** - to help make dinner for residents of Our Saviour's Shelter?

Our Saviour's Shelter:

- is the ministry we've been praying for each Sunday in January;
- is the ministry with whom we have partnered in the mission of caring for the homeless;
- and is the ministry which serves our neighborhood on Chicago Avenue.

Mount Olive has served these dinners for more than a decade! If you would like to know more about what this project entails, or if you can help with this, please contact Elaine Halbardier by email to <mailto:ech914@comcast.net>.

Attention Mount Olive Sunday Servants

The Servant Schedule for the 2nd quarter of 2022 (April – June) will be published at the beginning of March 2022. **The deadline for requests is February 11, 2022.** Please email your requests to peggyrf70@gmail.com.

The Presentation of Our Lord Wednesday, February 2 (TONIGHT!) Holy Eucharist at 7:00 p.m.

Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/PresentationEucharist>

Neighborhood Ministries Partner of the Month

Walk-In Counseling Center provides “free, easily accessible mental health counseling to people with urgent needs and few service options.” Counselors work with people struggling with depression, anxiety, chemical dependency, domestic violence, and many other emotional and interpersonal concerns. Walk-In Counseling is an active and vital part of our neighborhood, operating out of a beautifully converted house at 24th and Chicago. Through the pandemic, Walk-In has continued to provide their vital services through electronic means, protecting both the physical and mental health of their clients and staff.

Mount Olive has chosen to support each of our Partners of the Month through a yearly contribution from our budget, but on top of that, we encourage any member who wishes to contribute over and above our budgeted amount to those partners doing work in their areas of passion and concern. You can do this using your pink offering envelopes or through our online giving system. All additional contributions to our partner of the month will be distributed to the partner for the month in which the contribution is received.

For more information about Walk-In Counseling, visit <https://walkin.org>.

The National Lutheran Choir Winter Concert: *Touch the Earth Lightly*

Join the National Lutheran Choir on Sunday, February 20 for a program of music and hymns celebrating creation and the call to be stewards of the earth. The concert will feature guest conductors, Tom Trenney and NLC's tenor section leader, Shaun Halland, alongside artistic director, David Cherwien at the organ.

Sunday, February 20, 4 p.m.
Roseville Lutheran Church, 1215 Roselawn Ave. W., Roseville, MN 55113

Tickets may be purchased online at NLC.com.
Masks and proof of vaccination are required.

Benefit Concert

with the Uptown Brass and Cantor David Cherwien

Sunday, February 27, 3:00 pm
Saint Philip the Deacon Lutheran Church
17205 County Road 6, Plymouth, MN

The Uptown Brass from the Minnesota Orchestra and renowned organist David Cherwien will present an eclectic and virtuosic program featuring songs of joy from all around the world.

This concert is in partnership with Circle Rock Concerts for Community, with proceeds supporting Mental Health Connect. Mental Health Connect provides resources, support, and education to improve access to mental health services. Vicki Elliott, Executive Director of Mental Health Connect, will be on hand to offer a few words about this important ministry.

The concert is free and open to the public – no tickets required. A free-will offering will be received, with a suggested donation of \$20 per person.

The Uptown Brass features Douglas Carlsen, trumpet; Charles Lazarus, trumpet; Michael Gast, horn; R. Douglas Wright, trombone; and Steven Campbell, tuba.

Book Discussion

The Mount Olive Book Discussion group meets on the second Saturday of each month, beginning at 10:00 a.m., at church.

On February 12, they will discuss *The Seed Keeper* by Diane Wilson. For March 12 they will read *Moby Dick*, by Herman Melville.

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.](#)

Learning About Afghanistan

As our Afghan family is learning about life in the United States, this is a wonderful opportunity for us to learn more about Afghanistan - its history, culture, language, food.

A short lesson on Afghanistan's early history:

The land that is now known as Afghanistan has a long history of conquest and tribal warfare. Archeological evidence indicates human habitation at least 50,000 years ago. Some of the earliest human farming activity took place in the area. Indigenous herders and farmers may have formed tribal connections and established small local kingdoms. Urbanization may have begun as early as 3000 BCE. Early recorded history involved the Persians, who conquered the area in about 500 BCE. Alexander the Great of Macedonia followed in 329 BCE. The establishment of the Silk Road in the second Century BCE enabled trade to flourish between China and Europe, and this route crossed present-day Afghanistan, bringing silk and spices from Asia to Europe, and wool, gold, and silver in the opposite direction. This trade route was followed by Greek and Roman as well as Europeans such as Marco Polo. It is also thought that the Silk Road allowed the bacteria responsible for the Black Death pandemic in the 14th century to travel this route westward from Asia.

For more information on the Silk Road, see <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Silk-Road-trade-route>



The Fifteenth Annual Bach-Tage

After two years without gathering in person due to the Covid pandemic, we are planning an in-person Bach-Tage June 4/5, 2022. Full vaccination against COVID 19 will be required of all participants. Prevailing conditions later this spring will determine what other measures we may need to put in place for safety.

Over the two days, June 4 & 5, we will study, rehearse and perform Bach's Cantata #78, *Jesu, der du meine Seele*, as well as a beautiful setting of the *Magnificat* by Johann Pachelbel during the Service of Evening Prayer Sunday, June 5. Yes, this is the program planned for Bach-Tage 2020! At last, we will get to sing this wonderful music!

Conductor John Eliot Gardner declares the opening chorus of Cantata 78 an equal of the opening choruses of Bach's settings of the Passion "in terms of scale, intensity, and power of expression."

The Pachelbel Magnificat is an elegant choral setting of the canticle.

Kathy Salzmann Romey will again be our conductor, with the musicians of the Bach-Tage orchestra and vocal soloists.

Following rehearsals on Saturday afternoon June 4, a program titled "Trios!," featuring Heather Cogswell, soprano; David Ross, baroque flute; Tulio Rondón, cello, piccolo cello and gamba; Marc Levine, violin; and Tami Morse, harpsichord will be presented.

Plan to attend. More information will be coming your way this spring. But put the dates on your calendar now!



BACH · TAGE
MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN
MINNEAPOLIS

In Our Prayers

Please pray throughout the week for the following persons: Julia Adams; Joe & Elizabeth Beissel; Nancy Flatgard; Leila Froehlich; Leanna Kloempken; Mary Lee; Carla Manuel; Carolyn Mowery; Rhoda Nelson; George Oelfke; Jerry Ostlund; Russ Pearson; Robin Rayfield; John Salveson; Pariann Schenk; John Wall; 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; Scott Spooner, son of Cathy Bosworth; Sara Brunette, daughter-in-law of CJ Brunette; Arthur Kaemmer, friend of David Bryce; Lela Frazier, sister of Irene Campbell; Mattisyn, friend of Kat Campbell Johnson; Kristin Eklund-Johnson, Greg Eklund, Ryan Snelling, daughter, son, and friend of Harry & Jeanette Eklund; Aimee Engebretson; Juls and Nel Clausen, friends of Darrell & Mary Golnitz; Joe & Brenda Patnaude, friends of Tom Graves & Ginny Agresti; 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 Dobberpuhl, sisters of Eunice Hafemeister and aunts of Linda Hafemeister; Cat Robinette, friend of Emily Hellerich; Maribeth, 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; Kevin Lyndsley, former Mount Olive member; 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; Dn. Steven Arnold, friend of Andrew Stoebig; Sue Smith, Steve Swanson, and Mary Peterson friends of Dwight Penas & Kathy Thurston; Vince DeLusia, friend of Cynthia Prosek; Rudd Rayfield, Jolie Meshbeshier 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; David Duran, friend of Kevin Vazquez; Rachel Wall, daughter of John Wall; Andrew Wiechman, son of Grace Wiechman; Rachel Wilkes, former wife of James Wilkes; Judy Bonnes, Tommie and Susie Hunter; Barbara C. Johnson, friends of Mount Olive

For those in hospice care: Evelyn Royce.

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.

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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*A congregation of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America*

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Church Staff

Pastor – [Joseph Crippen](#)

Interim Cantor – [Dietrich Jessen](#)

Vicar – [Andrea Bonneville](#)

Administrative Assistant – [Cha Posz](#)

Coordinator of Neighborhood

Ministries - [Jim Bargmann](#)

Sexton – [Jose Moracho](#)

In This Issue

- Accent on Worship – Jim Bargmann
- Help Needed: Meals for Our Saviour's Shelter
- Learning About Afghanistan
- Early Announcement: Bach Tage 2022
- Presentation of Our Lord: **This Evening**, Wednesday, February 2 – Holy Eucharist at 7:00 p.m.