

# The Olive Branch

## Accent on Worship

*Cantor David Cherwien*

Lent.

We're halfway to Holy Week. How is your Lent journey going? Is anything different?

For some reason when I think of Lent I remember growing up getting scrambled eggs at Central Lutheran Church for supper on Wednesday evenings before going to the extra church service. What did we accomplish by doing that? Was there a "measurable outcome"? As an adult looking back, I would argue, yes - beyond a doubt. At the time, just seemed like an extra trip downtown to church in the middle of the week, and a fun quirk to have breakfast food for supper. But we did know that the time during Lent was different.

And I remember well various years of entering a Lenten discipline- giving up something important to me, one year tithing 10% (even though my income was only \$35 a week - I agreed to give \$3.50 back right away), committing to read scripture more, pray more, and the list goes on.

The word "discipline" can have a negative connotation - like a punishment or something. But put the word "disciple" next to it, and you get a different picture right away, right? The word comes from Latin - *discere* (learn) and *discipulus* (learner). It may be difficult to see how that word went from "learner" to us thinking it as something that happens when we do something wrong! However, it means we're doing something right: learning!

Making the trip in for the extra services on Wednesdays and Holy Week, and whatever practices or disciplines any of us may have taken on extra this Lent all can bolster our desire to grow deeper - to learn more about God and what it means to be a follower of Jesus. *(continued on page 2)*



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

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

**Wed., March 16**

9 am – Staff meeting

**Noon – Midweek Eucharist**

5:30 pm - Children's Choir (on Zoom)

**7:00 pm – Lenten Vespers**

7:45 pm – Cantorei rehearsal

**Thurs., March 17**

7 pm – Narcotics Anonymous

**Fri., March 18**

7pm – Recovery Group

**Sun., March 20****Third Sunday in Lent****8 am – Holy Eucharist**, followed by coffee & fellowship**10:45 am – Holy Eucharist***(livestreamed)*, followed by coffee & fellowship**Mon., March 21**

7 pm – Worship Committee meeting

**Tues., March 22**

Noon – Bible Study

**Wed., March 23**

9 am – Staff meeting

**Noon – Midweek Eucharist**

5:30 pm - Children's Choir (on Zoom)

**7:00 pm – Lenten Vespers**

7:45 pm – Cantorei rehearsal

## Mount Olive Music & Fine Arts to Present Organist David Hurd

**Sunday, March 27, 2022 – 4:00 pm**

David Hurd is widely recognized as one of the foremost church musicians and concert organists in the United States, with a long list of awards, prizes, honors, and achievements, and immeasurable expertise in organ performance, improvisation, and composition.

David Hurd is the composer of dozens of hymns, choral works, settings of the liturgy, and organ works published by a number of major houses. From 1998 to 2013 he was music director and organist at Church of the Holy Apostles (Episcopal) in New York City. He is now organist and choirmaster of the famed Church of St. Mary the Virgin at Times Square.

David will play a program of eclectic music with improvisations.

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### Accent on Worship, *continued from page 1*

They help us bolster a healthy set of priorities toward charity and love, priorities that love and serve others as well as our sense of wholeness every day throughout the week.

So we're half way. Perhaps it's time to be sure the Holy Week liturgies are on your calendar – step one. Then consider attending the remaining Wednesday services. Then consider what else can you do to put "God in my (your) head" ALL THE TIME. When we pray "God be in my head" we're not asking God to make the move – we're asking ourselves to be still and let God... (you fill in that blank).

Sometimes it's just that simple.

- Cantor David Cherwien

## Join in Supporting Our Brothers and Sisters in Ukraine

Your Missions Committee has donated \$2,500 of Mount Olive's mission tithes to the ELCA Disaster Response earmarked for the disaster through which our brothers and sisters are living. Here is what will be done with our funds: "Lutheran Disaster Response is accompanying our companion churches in Ukraine, Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia, as well as such ecumenical partners as the Lutheran World Federation and Church World Service, in their humanitarian responses to the crisis. These partners provide refugees with immediate support and supplies such as food, blankets, water, and hygiene kits."

You may join the effort by giving through the link provided or by donating through your blue envelope, marking your donation "For Ukraine," and we will forward your gift on to ELCA Disaster Response. We will forward any gifts received to the ELCA over and above our \$2,500 donation.

[Your gifts will support Ukrainians and others. Gifts to "Eastern Europe Crisis Response" will be used in full \(100%\) to assist those affected by the crisis in Ukraine and neighboring countries.](#)

Our prayers abound for the loss and devastation experienced in Ukraine and Eastern Europe.

### SUNDAY READINGS

**Sunday, March 13**  
*Second Sunday in Lent*  
 Genesis 15:1-2, 17-18  
 Psalm 27  
 Philippians 3:17 – 4:1  
 Luke 13:31-35

**Sunday, March 20**  
*Third Sunday in Lent*  
 Isaiah 55:1-9  
 Psalm 63:1-8  
 1 Corinthians 10:1-13  
 Luke 13:1-9

### Paschal Garden

Donations are currently being received for this year's Easter Paschal Garden.

If you would like to donate to flowers for Easter, please be sure your contribution is clearly designated for this purpose. Gifts can be given any time between now and Easter.

Contributors may take a flower home following the second Easter liturgy.

## New Members to be Received March 27

New members will be received into the congregation on **Sunday, March 27**, at the 10:45 liturgy.

If you are interested in becoming a member of Mount Olive, please speak with Pr. Crippen, Vicar Bonneville, Lora Dundek (evangelism@mountolivechurch.org), or call the church office.

## Coffee Hour and Midweek Soup and Bread Meals

Mount Olive is moving forward, "in the presence of God and being the presence of God."

Vestry President Gretchen Campbell-Johnson sent a message to the congregation on March 7 regarding important information about face coverage at Mount Olive. Facemasks are now optional for the vaccinated. The Congregational Life Committee will also return to coffee hour after each Sunday liturgy, starting immediately. Snacks will be added after Easter, with a sign-up sheet in the East Assembly Room.

**Additionally, effective this week**, we will return to simple meals of soup and bread around our midweek liturgies at 1:00 (following the noon liturgy) and 6:00 pm (before Vespers). Sign up to provide these meals in the East Assembly Room.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during the pandemic. We can hope, as joy does await each of us today as we open our eyes to each other. Some who we have not seen in a couple years, we need each other, just as seedlings of joy sprout, the hurdles of our experience have stretched us and these pandemic times have made us stronger. It is a sacrifice we all have made and through it, the light of Christ is ever present. Thanks be to God.

- Larry Duncan, Director of Congregational Life

## 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 April 9, they will discuss *The Moon and Sixpence*, by William Somerset Maugham, and for May 14 they will read *Little Fires Everywhere*, by Celeste Ng.

## 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.](#)

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## Neighborhood Ministries Partner of the Month

### *Community Emergency Services and Sabathani Community Center*

Both of these organizations work to alleviate hunger and food insecurity in our south Minneapolis community and beyond. They work to do this through food shelf locations, food delivery programs, pet food programs, and a relationship with Meals on Wheels.

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 offering envelopes or 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.

In addition to financial contributions, Mount Olive will collect donations of non-perishable food in support of the MN Food Share March Campaign. Please leave all donations in the shopping cart located in the West Assembly area.

Some of the most needed items include:

*Dry lentils*

*black-eyed peas*

*Great Northern and black beans*

*fish sauce*

*Jasmine rice*

*cooking oils*

*jars of pasta sauce*

*diced tomatoes*

*honey*

*pork & beans*

*baked beans*

*canned tuna, sardines, and chicken*

*ground coffee*

*snack crackers*

*peanut butter*

*canned ravioli*

*and canned chili.*

For more information about our partners of the month, please visit [www.cesmn.org](http://www.cesmn.org) and [www.sabathani.org](http://www.sabathani.org).



## E-Newsletter 3.14.2022

- TRUST INC. Grocery Service, in partnership with Harvest from the Heart Resource Center, is offering rides to their food center on Thursday and Friday mornings from 9:00-10:00 a.m. Please call Sandy at 612.437.1132 for more information and to schedule a time for a ride.
- What does the TRUST Chore Program offer? Household cleaning, snow removal, lawn care, and minor home repairs at a low cost rate. Do you know someone who could benefit from these services? Contact 612.827.6150
- In transition? Moving? Estate closing? TRUST's estate sale program will advertise, sort, price, and conduct the sale for you. Contact Jan 612.269.1865
- Donate to the MN FoodShare Campaign with [GiveMN](#) or [PayPal](#)

### Minneapolis Public School Teacher Strike

Join The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) is prepared to provide extended hours and activities for elementary school-age youth at 10 recreation centers while Minneapolis Public School teachers strike. The 10 "hub site" recreation centers will be open Monday-Friday, 12-9 pm. 12-3 pm: Each hub site will offer free, fun, engaging and structured activities for up to 45 youth in grades K-8. Registration is required, with in-person registration available, and online registration found here. 3-9 pm: Youth not registered for the 12-3 pm activities can drop in any time after 3 pm.

### Minneapolis 2022 Annual Tree Sale

Minneapolis property owners can snag trees at a steep discount from the city this spring. Residents who live in designated "green zone s" can order up to three trees starting at 8am on March 7. Sales open to rental property owners and home owners who haven't gotten a tree before starting March 16. [Learn more.](#)

### Minnesota FoodShare Campaign

This Campaign takes place from February 28th-April 10th this year and our goal is to raise \$15,000 and collect 25,000 pounds of food for the food shelf. To reach this goal, Sabathani is asking our local businesses and community organizations to each raise a minimum of \$100 and donate 1 pound of food for every dollar you raise. Minnesota FoodShare is a great way to maximize a gift — all donations of food and funds will be matched during the campaign! TRUST will be accepting donations through April 9<sup>th</sup>.

### Welcome to 2022

**3/12-4/10** Parade of Homes

**3/17** St. Patrick's Day Parade downtown MPLS Nicollet Mall

**3/24-29** MN Fashion Week buy [tickets here](#)

**3/25** Urban Stargazing @ Woodlake Nature Center

### Covid-19 Update

Mask mandates are lessening but COVID is still here. Order your [free test kit](#) today. Each household can receive 1 order of 4 tests. Need a test sooner? Find free testing sites [here.](#)



## Mount Olive Lutheran Church

3045 Chicago Avenue  
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*A congregation of the Evangelical  
Lutheran Church in America*

### **Contact Us**

Phone: 612-827-5919

Fax: 612-827-4557

Web: [www.mountolivechurch.org](http://www.mountolivechurch.org)

### **Church Staff**

Pastor – [Joseph Crippen](#)

Cantor – [David Chernien](#)

Vicar – [Andrea Bonneville](#)

Administrative Assistant – [Cha Posz](#)

Coordinator of Neighborhood

Ministries - [Jim Bargmann](#)

Sexton – [Jose Moracho](#)

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Next Sunday, March 27