

The Olive Branch

Mount Olive Lutheran Church

May 11, 2022



Sunday Readings

Sunday, May 15
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 11:1-8
Psalm 148
Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35

Sunday, May 22
Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:9-15
Psalm 67
Revelation 21:10, 22 - 22:5
John 14:23-29

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

Accent on Worship

Cantor David Cherwien

It's a season!

We're in the middle of the "party" season: Easter. Often Easter is thought of as being a day - Easter Sunday. However, we as Christians are really Easter people - every Sunday is a mini-Easter. We gather every Sunday because Sunday is the day of the resurrection. And following Easter Sunday we celebrate a "week of weeks" - seven Sundays of the Easter Season during which the risen Christ is revealed to us preparing us to be Christ in the world, united and carried by the Holy Spirit - as Easter people.

So in contrast to Lent, during which our liturgies are more sparse, less accompanied and less celebrative, the Easter season is a week of weeks celebration. This is especially evidenced in our songs. We sing a lot of them during this time! Right away when we gather we begin the liturgy with a burst of singing - a hymn of celebration, for which can draw from the great list of well-known Easter hymns such as last Sunday's "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" (ELW 373) or this coming Sunday's "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds." Following the greeting, we add another celebratory song "This is the Feast" (ELW Setting 9, p. 196) to the entrance portion of the liturgy. That song is in the category called "ordinary."

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WEEKLY CALENDAR

Wed., May 11

10 am – Staff meeting
7:30 pm - Cantorei rehearsal

Thurs., May 12

7 pm – Narcotics Anonymous

Fri., May 13

7 pm – Recovery Group

Sat., May 14

10 am – Book Discussion group

Sun., May 15**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

8 am – Holy Eucharist

10:45 am – Holy Eucharist

(livestreamed)

Mon., May 16

7 pm – Worship Comm. meeting

Tues., May 17

Noon – Bible Study

Wed., May 18

10 am – Staff meeting
7:30 pm - Cantorei rehearsal

Accent on Worship, *continued from page 1*

The list of songs called “ordinary” are those which we sing repeatedly. Think of them as seasonal songs we “ordinarily” sing. For the Easter Season, we sing a set of songs all seven weeks: “This is the Feast,” (with its majestic fanfare like opening in the refrain), “Be Not Afraid” (who doesn’t love hearing the youngest joining us in singing that one?), The Great Thanksgiving of setting 9 (with its energetic high E for the word “hosanna”!), and David Hurd’s lovely chant setting of “Christ our Passover.” In singing these songs each week, they have a chance of going deep into our memory and perhaps can even be sung without music. Even so, it might be helpful to have your book visibly open to that page in case there’s someone near you who might not know where a particular song is found in the book.

Last week someone commented, “That was a lot of singing!” While it might sound like a comment of fatigue, it was quite the opposite. We’ve got something to celebrate, something to really sing about! It actually is fatiguing, but isn’t it worth it?

Let it go!! The more you sing out, the more those around you will too.

Christ is risen indeed!

- Cantor David Cherwien

Youth v. Gov -- The Movie

From our friends at MNIPL:

“**YOUTH v. GOV** is the story of the *Juliana v. The United States of America* constitutional lawsuit and the 21 American youth, ages 14 to 25, who are taking on the world’s most powerful government. Since 2015, the legal non-profit Our Children’s Trust, has been representing these youth in their landmark case against the U.S. government for violating their constitutional rights to life, liberty, personal safety, and property through their willful actions in creating the climate crisis they will inherit.” Here's your chance to see these young people in action: <https://www.youthvgovfilm.com> It is inspiring!

Partner of the Month

Our May Partner of the Month is the **Minnesota Council of Churches**.

“The Minnesota Council of Churches consists of 27 members representing the regional governing and administrative bodies of Historic Black, Mainline Protestant, Peace Church, and Greek Orthodox judicatories.” The Council works to build relations between its member churches and other faith communities. In addition, they coordinate a vibrant refugee resettlement program and work for advocacy at all levels of government for issues of importance to the member churches. While there is much that happens behind the scenes at Minnesota Council of Churches, they are most known for their “Blessed Ramadan” lawn signs and cooperative Iftar dinners, bringing people of differing faiths together for important celebrations and conversation.

Mount Olive has chosen to support each of our Partners of the Month though 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.

For more information about the Minnesota Council of Churches and their work, please visit www.mnchurches.org.

**Summer worship schedule begins on
Sunday, May 29.
During the summer (from Memorial Day
weekend through Labor Day weekend),
Mount Olive celebrates ONE Sunday
liturgy,
beginning at 10:00 a.m.**

Book Discussion

The Book Discussion group meets on the second Saturday of each month at 10 am at church. All readers are welcome! On May 14, they will discuss *The Moon and Sixpence*, by W. Somerset Maugham. On June 11, they will discuss *Little Fires Everywhere*, by Celeste Ng. On July 9, they will discuss *The Unseen*, by Roy Jacobsen.

Attention Mount Olive Servants!

The Servant Schedule for the third quarter of 2022 (July - September) will be published at the beginning of June 2022. The deadline for requests is **this Friday, May 13, 2022**.

Please email your requests to peggyrf70@gmail.com.

A Picnic!

Several Mount Olive members joined five members of the Afghan Family* we are sponsoring to observe Eid Al-fitr, the traditional celebrations to mark the end of Ramadan. A month-long observance featuring fasting, prayer, and study, Ramadan is considered one of the five spiritual pillars of Islam, and is celebrated by Muslims around the world. At its conclusion, there are three days of gathering with family and friends, feasting, and presenting gifts. This time is called Eid.

The family prepared all the food and served a grand feast at Minnehaha Falls Park. In Afghanistan, they would have celebrated with their family, but the mother observed that “[Mount Olive] is their family now!” While the little boy played at the playground and the baby slept in the stroller, the adults enjoyed delicious food and got to hear the family members thank us in their newly acquired English.

**We are unable to share the family members' names and must block out their faces in order to protect their safety.*



Global Ministry update: hunger and war call us to action

Many of us are concerned about hunger, malnutrition, and food insecurity in the U.S. and around the world. A mid-April memorandum from our partner Bread for the World warns it could get even worse – and spotlights proposed and existing policies that need continued citizen advocacy.

The **Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act**, which could improve the lives of tens of millions of women and children around the globe, was passed in the House of Representatives just a few days ago. It's a safe bet that Minnesota's two senators will support the Senate version of the bill – but it never hurts to remind them of our support and thanks.

The **war in Ukraine** is a humanitarian disaster in that country and Europe, but also could lead to the worst global hunger crisis of this century, because Ukraine and Russia have been providing more than a quarter of the world's exported wheat. Bread for the World earlier asked the Biden administration to help provide **international food and other humanitarian aid** to Afghanistan and now is urging the administration to do the same for Ukraine, Ethiopia, Yemen, and some other countries.

Bread for the World also is asking its member churches to again support reauthorization of the **Global Food Security Act** and to extend or make permanent the **Child Tax Credit**. The latter significantly reduced the rate of severe food insecurity for children in the United States.

Mount Olive, like many U.S. congregations, has traditionally conducted its [Bread for the World](#) "Offering of Letters" in the fall. But messages to [senators and representatives](#) – whether handwritten letters, emails, or phone calls – can be effective throughout the year.

Bread for the World, started in 1974, is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's leaders to end hunger at home and abroad. **Mount Olive's supported started:** ca. 1995. **Our annual support:** \$1,000 **For perspective:** Our Global Ministry gifts to 11 organizations in 2021 totaled: \$30,224

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](#).

**Ascension
Of Our Lord
Thursday, May 26
Holy Eucharist at
7:00 p.m.**

All are welcome.

It's That Time of Year – Tulip Watch and Garden Clean Up

As we finally enter spring, it is time to start watching 500 red tulips and dozens of daffodils come up in our gardens at church. The bulbs were planted last year by a very loyal and hard-working group of garden volunteers.

And the time has come for garden volunteers to once again take on the tasks that keep our grounds looking so beautiful. This involves clean up, tree and brush trimming, and mulching of beds. The first clean-up day will be **this Saturday, May 14, 9:00 am**. Beyond this date there will be work days scheduled on a regular basis to weed, trim, and enjoy the beauty of the gardens and the pollinators that they support.

If you would like to join in the fun, please contact Carol Martinson at 612-708-9849, or by email to property@mountolivechurch.org.

All are welcome!





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](#)

Administrative Assistant – [Cha Posz](#)

Coordinator of Neighborhood

Ministries - [Jim Barymann](#)

Sexton – [Jose Moracho](#)

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