



The Olive Branch

August 17, 2022

Accent on Worship

Cantor David Cherwien

Sunday Readings

August 21, 2022

11th Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 21 C

Isaiah 58:9b-14

Psalm 103:1-8

Hebrews 12:18-29

Luke 13:10-17

August 28, 2022

12th Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 22 C

Proverbs 25:6-7

Psalm 112

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Luke 14:1, 7-14

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

The Memory Bank of Song

A wonderful aspect of a balanced assembly at worship is when all the various spectrums of ages are represented. Each contribute important elements to the balanced whole! For the more life-experienced, memory can play a far more important role. For the less-life-experienced among us, the wide-open receptivity of developing the memory can be infectious! Those in between help us stay connected to both concepts as it's still so possible to relate to both. The older we get, the harder it might be to learn new things. The younger we are, the harder it might be to relate to things that are not new. Both are important.

There are some things I want to say about this issue as your Cantor, the steward of our song.

For one, this creates a challenge. Hymns/songs people know from the collective past need to continue to be included. At the same time, we must continue to add new things with the wide-opened-eyes-eagerness of the very young. And each must respect the other. But that doesn't mean for the memory folk that everything in the memory bank must be carried forward - as our understanding of God can and perhaps should change, and some hymns/songs don't remain appropriate and time discards them. There has to be a value to continue carrying a song or hymn forward in time. And it's equally important that what we add to the memory (new things) and ask: is good enough to stand the scrutiny of time - i.e., how quickly will it be discarded? Thank goodness we don't just assume that young people only relate to cutesy music, otherwise when they mature there would be nothing of value to them to keep in the memory. When planning every liturgy I think about the questions (among many other considerations, actually): Is there a memory-bank-nourishing hymn? Is there something newer the very young can sing? Are any of those of enough value to take the precious time to include?

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There is a responsibility for all of us to help create that memory bank for our younger folks, however. For one thing, that's why it is so important for them to be a part of our weekly assembly in liturgy, and not kept from it for whatever reason. (I personally love it when I hear the activity and sounds of the very young among us.) That's one reason there are some songs in liturgy we sing for many weeks in a row (the "Ordinary"). The choir school we are offering is also so important in contributing to their growing memory banks. We help them to learn new songs, and we help them understand their individual importance as a part of the assembly. My hope always is that whatever we take the time to teach them will still be around years from now.

Finally, it is important that there are many balances in a liturgy regarding the songs we sing. We must move from a sense of "me" to a sense of "us." It's a collective set of individuals that make up the assembly, with many forms of diversity. Individuals might not connect to every single song, but can join in someone else's delight, or perhaps the assembly's delight in it?

- Cantor David Cherwien

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](#).

Book Discussion

The Book Discussion group meets on the second Saturday of each month at 10 am at church. All readers are welcome!

For August 13, they will read *Jailbird* by Kurt Vonnegut, and for October 8, they will read the trilogy *The Forsyte Saga*, by John Galsworthy.

Room to Rent?

A Mount Olive member is looking for a room to rent in the Mac-Groveland, Highland Park, or St. Anthony Park areas of St. Paul.

If you know of someone who has a room to rent in this area, please call the church office and we will put you in touch with that member.

The Olive Branch

Calendar

Wednesday, February 27/August 17

10:00 am Staff Meeting

August 18

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

August 19

Church office closed

7:00 pm Recovery group

Saturday, August 20

9:00 am Gardening Day

~~9:00 am — Neighborhood Ministries meeting~~

~~Noon — Community Meal~~

~~1:00 pm — Prayer Shawl group meets at Blue Ox~~

Sunday, August 21 3– 11th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am *Holy Eucharist, with the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, followed by coffee & conversation*

Monday, August 22

7:00 pm Worship Committee meeting

~~5:00 pm — Jobs After School~~

~~Saturday, February 23~~

~~10:00 am — Confirmation~~

~~Sunday, February 24 – Second Sunday in Lent~~

~~8:00 am — Holy Eucharist~~

~~9:30 am — Church School/Adult Forum~~

~~10:45 am — Holy Eucharist~~

~~5:00 pm — Jobs After School~~

Tuesday, August 23

Noon Bible Study

Wednesday, August 24

~~10:00 am — Staff Meeting~~

Treats Needed for Sunday Morning Coffee Hour

We are in need of folks to sign up to supply treats for Sunday morning coffee hour after worship. You don't have to make coffee - our wonderful Sexton, Jose, does that and he even washes the dishes afterwards! What's needed are treats - and store-bought cookies are just fine! It doesn't need to be fancy! Your job would be to bring the treats, arrange them on our platters/plates, and put them out for people to take.

Look for the sign-up near the coffee line in the East Assembly Room, or call the office to get your name and date in.

Questions? Email: conglife@mountolivechurch.org

Summer Office Hours

For the remainder of the summer, the church office will be closed on Fridays.

Join In a Conversation about Congregational Life

Sunday, August 28

The Congregational Life at Mount Olive works to foster connections in this community of faith - everything from hosting celebrations to providing transportation to corresponding with college students. After worship on Sunday, August 28, everyone is invited to bring your ideas about Congregational Life. Are there activities that we could sponsor? Creative ways to provide meals, transportation or simply "connection" with members who may need those things? Or have you been the recipient of services from Congregational Life and you'd like to tell your story? We'll meet in the Chapel Lounge with our coffee and treats and talk for an hour. All ideas and suggestions are welcome. If you have ideas that you'd like to share but are unable to join us on August 28, contact Lora at 651-645-6636 or by email at conglife@mountolivechurch.org. Thanks!



Dr. Kathryn Nixdorf Memorial

To create a long-lasting memorial to my daughter, Dr. Kathryn Nixdorf, I decided to donate several artworks to the Mount Olive Lutheran Church permanent art collection in honor of Katie. One artist we did not have represented in the collection was the renowned Christian Chinese artist He Qi (pronounced “he she”). I began researching He Qi’s work via his website and Facebook page and was able to chat with the artist. I explained that I wanted to purchase prints of his works that would represent Katie’s life and passions.

As a pain management physician, Katie was passionate about her patients – people dealing with pain and looking for a doctor who understood what they were dealing with on a day-to-day basis. For many, Katie was that doctor. She advocated for all people, especially those who were disenfranchised in any way. Not surprisingly, Katie consistently received high praise for her devotion to patients’ care, and they loved her. In addition, as a leader in her field, Katie always took charge if something needed to get done. And she was also a strong advocate for women in leadership positions in all walks of life.

Two of He Qi’s works clearly represent Katie: *The Good Samaritan* and *Martha and Mary*. I chose to have them prepared as artist proofs, which means the artist takes the prints back to his studio, where he adds personal paint strokes and then signs and numbers the images.

The Good Samaritan depicts someone caring for another’s medical needs and pain, even after he was ignored and avoided by others. The Samaritan even makes sure care will be provided until the patient is healed.

Martha and Mary depicts two powerful women and apostles who were a major force in sharing Christ’s message at a time when it was not safe to do so. The gospel of John tells us that it was Mary who poured perfume on Jesus’ feet and wiped them with her hair – clearly improper behavior, given prohibitions against women letting their hair down in public. We also hear that Martha was not afraid to assert herself before Christ. Luke tells us she said to him, “Would you please tell Mary she needs to help me prepare for our guests.” Again in John, we read that she pointedly says after the death of Mary and Martha’s brother Lazarus, “If you had been here, Lazarus would not have died.”

The qualities and ideals represented in these artworks represent Katie and all she stood for. These qualities also represent the goals and mission of Mount Olive Lutheran Church, a congregation that is always advocating for the care and health of our neighbors and reaching out to support global partners in mission. Additionally, Mount Olive clearly advocates for women in all aspects of ministry, including leadership.

I pray that this art memorial for Katie will inspire others to care for those in need and inspire women to take on leadership roles in our church and society.

- Paul Nixdorf





Neighborhood Ministries News

Partner of the Month: Every Meal

Every Meal (formerly known as Sheridan Story) coordinates the delivery of food to families struggling with food insecurity through partnership schools throughout Minnesota during the school year. When children have breaks from school, including spring breaks, in the winter, and summer, Every Meal works with schools and other community organizations like the YMCA to continue food distribution to families. Pre-pandemic, Mount Olive volunteers partnered with Jefferson Community School to distribute food to children attending that school for their families. We are currently assessing what our volunteer involvement with Every Meal will look like in the future.

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.

Neighborhood Picnic This Sunday

Mount Olive host a picnic lunch for our neighbors and all who are a part of the Mount Olive community after liturgy this Sunday, August 21 in the north parking lot. We are excited to partner with Afro Deli on this effort - who will be catering our picnic.

Some have asked: "Is this a picnic for our neighbors or for people who belong to Mount Olive?" The answer is YES! It's both! This picnic was planned as a gift to our neighbors - but also as a gift to our Mount Olive community - and a chance for members of both groups to meet one another.

Please join us - you are wanted and welcome!

Also, we are looking for a few volunteers to help set up tables immediately after liturgy on Sunday. We will have them staged and ready - they only need to be carried out to the parking lot and set up. Please email Jim Bargmann at neighborhood@mountolivechurch.org if you are able to help on Sunday.

A Note of Thanks from Pr. Heisley

Dear Friends at Mount Olive Lutheran Church and Sts. Luke and James Episcopal Church,

Many of you joined me recently for the Committal of + Victor Price's + ashes to their resting place in the columbarium at Mount Olive Lutheran Church. I expected that a handful of folks would attend. Instead, there were 50 - 70 of you, friends from as early as 1996 through all the intervening years. You prayed with me for + Victor + and you prayed for me. You wept with me and you held me up. I cannot thank you enough for your faithfulness in ministry. While you are two distinct and different congregations you both and all nevertheless understand that Christian love and service is of the essence for those of us who walk in the faith of Jesus. Blessings and thanks to all of you, whether you were able to attend or not. Blessings and thanks as you walk the walk of the Beloved.

Mount Olive Choir School 2022-2023

Our young are not just the church of tomorrow, they are an integral part of the church today! The choir school not only celebrates the joy of music and singing together, this tremendous gift is applied to our liturgies – helping the young be full participants as part of the assembly, or as leaders in our weekly liturgies. They are taught a variety of things to sing: plain fun-to-sing things, psalm settings and antiphons, small liturgical leadership roles, hymns, up to full anthems. Names for the Lower and Upper Elementary Choirs will be decided upon by the groups themselves.

Mount Olive Family Music – For families with young people from age 0 through Kindergarten*. This is an Online (Zoom) session offered Monday evenings from 5:30-6:00 pm beginning September 19, 2022. The curriculum used will be “Friends in God’s World” of Musikgarten. Each household will be given a packet of hand-instruments, a CD, and other visual materials which will be used. Led by Mari Espeland.

Choir School Dinner 5:30-6:00, beginning Wednesday, September 14. Enjoy handy culinary art for supper before rehearsal, anticipating the dinner-time journey here for in-person choir. All family members of both Lower and Upper Elementary choirs are invited to partake, grown-up or not. Meals are prepared in one of three ways: Families host an evening (sign-ups will be out) and would bring and prepare everything, families have food brought to Mount Olive, Chef Cantor Cherwien prepares, or the church provides everything. Menus have included child friendly delights such as: frozen pizza, chicken nuggets and tater-tots, wienie wrap, mac and cheese and kielbasa, capped off after rehearsal with our famous Mount Olive Oreo Cookies.

Lower Elementary in-Person Choir: Grades 1-3*, Wednesdays, 6:00-6:45, beginning on September 14. Sing, say, dance, and play as beloved children of God learning how to be worship participants and worship leaders. Music literacy will be approached with an active rote to note process. This choir will sing in the 10:45 Liturgy approximately every 6 weeks and will combine with the Upper Elementary choir on Christmas Eve for the 4:00 pm service. This group will be led by Mari Espeland.

Upper Elementary in-Person Choir: Grades 4 and up*. Wednesdays, 6:00-6:45, beginning on September 14. (upper limit can be determined by the interest of the singer – helper/leadership roles are helpful and often appropriate for singers on the older side of school age). This group includes many activities including singing, rhythm, story time, and learning about reading music from a score. This choir will sing approximately every 6 weeks and will combine with the Lower Elementary Choir on Christmas Eve for the 4:00 pm service. This group is led by Rebekah Schulz.

**We have used “grades” instead of ages. This is to match typical learning of those grades in school – such as reading capability. We realize precise ages vary depending on many factors – our hope is to focus on cognitive abilities appropriate to the group’s activities.*

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Meet the Choir School staff!



Mari Espeland: I love children and music. I am happiest when I can help children love music! I have taught singing to children in churches, schools, and community choirs for 36 years!



Rebekah Schulz: I am Bekah and I am so excited to make music with your special young people at Mount Olive! There is no more beautiful sound than young people singing together. I have been making music with young people (and Mari and Cantor Cherwien!) for a long time and it is my favorite thing. Together, we will create a beautiful, safe community.



David Cherwien: loves music, children, and cars. He has been a church musician for a long time and really enjoys getting to know you! His favorite Choir Dinner is Wienie Wrap.

Parents and Caregivers of Godly Play Age Children!

After over 2 years of no classes due to the pandemic, Godly Play is back! **September 18 will be the kickoff for all classes.**

Godly Play is for all children ages 3 - 12 and is a creative, imaginative approach to Christian formation and spiritual guidance. It follows the church year so your child will be able to make the connection between what he or she hears in Godly Play and what takes place in the sanctuary.

The storytellers and doorkeepers who work with your child have been trained in this unique and powerful way of learning.

If you'd like to see a sample of how a Godly Play class is conducted, come to the adult forum on September 11 at 9:30 AM. There we will demonstrate how a class is conducted, demonstrating the methods and interactions that make this type of Christian education so effective.

Classes start at 9:30 AM Sunday mornings following 8:00 AM liturgy. If you have not yet indicated you would like your children to be part of Godly Play, please send an email with your name and phone number to education@mountolivechurch.org. We will reach out to you immediately to make sure your children are ready to be welcomed on September 18.

The Olive Branch

Church Picnic Fun



Mount Olive Lutheran Church

3045 Chicago Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55407

*A congregation of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America*

Summer Sunday Eucharist: 10 am

Contact Us

Phone: 612-827-5919

On the Web: mountolivechurch.org

Staff

Pastor – *Joseph Crippen*

Cantor – *David Cherwien*

Vicar – *Mollie Hamre*

Coordinator of Neighborhood Ministry –
Jim Bargmann

Administrative Assistant – *Cha Posz*

Sexton – *Jose Morocho*

*Mount Olive is a Reconciling in Christ
congregation.*

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