



# The Olive Branch

September 14, 2022

## Accent on Worship

*Vicar Mollie Hamre*

### Sunday Readings

**September 18, 2022**

*15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after  
Pentecost, Lect. 25 C*

Amos 8:4-7

Psalm 113

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Luke 16:1-13

**September 25, 2022**

*16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after  
Pentecost, Lect. 26 C*

Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Psalm 146

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Luke 16:19-31

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

*Who is like the LORD our God, who sits  
enthroned on high, but stoops to behold the  
heavens and the earth? (Psalm 113:6)*

Over the summer, I was with my two nieces who are four and ten years old. As they were playing together, my four-year-old niece fell with a “thunk.” Her older sister was mortified as I rushed to check in on her. She teared up, as she feared the idea of being a bad sister. Quickly, the younger one jumped up and rushed to her older sister saying, “I’m okay! It’s okay, no need to cry.” The youngest had sensed that her older sister was sad and suddenly taking care of her became the priority. I took a sigh of relief and chuckled – my youngest niece had both endured the fall and now was taking care of her sister.

The psalm for this week praises that we have a God that is both in heaven and on earth with us. A God that both “lifts up the poor” and is “high above all nations.” A God that stumbles with us and catches us when we fall. Sometimes I forget that while we hope for the world to come, God also dwells with us amidst all the world’s struggles. God can be found in the difficulties of our lives and in the comfort of the tears that come after.

May you be walked alongside in all aspects of life, reminded that we worship a God whose glory is above the heavens and who leans down to touch us on Earth, too.

Thanks be to God.

## September Neighborhood Ministries Partner of the Month

### *Simpson Housing*

Simpson Housing is a multifaceted organization, providing an emergency shelter, single adult supportive housing, and family supportive housing across the Twin Cities metro area. They provide along with developmental and educational services for children of families in their family shelter program and “work across the metro area partnering with landlords and developers to find sustainable housing for families and individuals.” In addition, Simpson operates the Adult Shelter Connect program for the City of Minneapolis, providing a single point of contact for those seeking shelter in the city.

In 2020, Simpson began the process of raising funds to rebuild their shelter and office building to become the Simpson Community Shelter and Apartments. “Plans for the [new] five-story facility include two floors of permanent supportive housing (42 efficiency units), two floors of emergency shelter (70 beds), a commercial kitchen capable of serving 100 people, a 24-hour front desk, and offices and clinic space...”. They expect to begin construction in late 2022 or early 2023.

For more information about Simpson Housing, please visit their website at [www.simpsonhousing.org](http://www.simpsonhousing.org).

## 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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## Book Discussion

For its October 8 meeting, the Book Discussion group will read the trilogy *The Forsyte Saga*, by John Galsworthy, and on November 12 they will read *Matrix*, by Lauren Groff. The Book Discussion group meets on the second Saturday of each month at 10 am at church. All readers are welcome!

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## Ride to Church Needed!

Two of our Mount Olive family need a ride to church on Sundays. They live in Bloomington, just south of 494, between Hwy. 100 and Hwy. 169. If you can offer them a ride on Sunday, either occasionally or on a regular basis, call the office or email [conglife@mountolivechurch.org](mailto:conglife@mountolivechurch.org).

Thanks!

## Calendar

### Wednesday, September 14 - Holy Cross Day

- 9:00 am Staff Meeting  
5:30 pm Children's Choir Supper  
6:00 pm Children's Choir rehearsals  
**7:00 pm Holy Cross Eucharist**  
8:15 pm Cantorei rehearsal (note time change!)

### Thursday, September 15

- 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

### Friday, September 16

- 7:00 pm Recovery group

### Saturday, September 17

- 9:00 am Gardening Day  
9:00 am Altar Guild cleaning day

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

~~Noon — Community Meal~~

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

### Sunday, September 18 ~~3~~ - 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

- 10:00 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee & conversation

- 12:30 pm Y4 Confirmation

### Monday, September 19

- 7:00 pm Vicar 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, September 20

- Noon Bible Study  
6:00 pm Neighborhood Ministries Committee meeting  
7:00 pm National Lutheran Choir rehearsal

### Wednesday, September 21

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting  
5:30 pm Children's Choir supper  
6:00 pm Children's Choir rehearsals  
7:00 pm Cantorei rehearsal

## New Phone System at Mount Olive

As part of the continuing upgrade of our technology, we are moving away from our land line to a new phone system that takes advantage of our upgraded internet and WiFi systems.

The transition is scheduled for today, September 14. Members and friends of Mount Olive will still call the same number: 612-827-5919, and will still be able to talk to a real person or leave a message. You may have to listen carefully since the extension numbers will be three digits instead of two, but otherwise, no changes. Many of the features will make it easier for staff to receive and respond to messages - a change they are all looking forward to.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about the new system, please contact the office.

## Chancel Dusting and Polishing Day

The Altar Guild is hosting a chancel-cleaning event **this Saturday, September 17**, beginning at 9:00 a.m. until about noon. Come when you can; stay for as long as you like.

Questions? Contact Beth Gaede ([bethgaede@comcast.com](mailto:bethgaede@comcast.com)).

## Adult Education Opportunity

### WHAT? - Readings and Conversations about the Feminine Divine

Join us for a series of nine conversations about the Feminine Divine. Together we will read selections from the two texts listed below, then gather together once a month for two hours.

The first hour will be spent engaging our minds with the readings, and the second hour engaging our hearts and souls, exploring how God may be moving in us in response to our shared reading and conversation. These texts also allow us to explore how Black, Asian, Hispanic, and Indigenous women theologians think differently about these issues as compared to the dominant White feminist voices.

The books we will use are:

*She Who Is: The Mystery of God in Feminist Theological Discourse*, by Elizabeth Johnson

*Transformative Lutheran Theologies: Feminist, Womanist, and Mujerista Perspectives*, edited by Mary Streufert

The texts run just under \$50 total. Scholarships are available if purchasing the texts is a hardship. We encourage you to ask for one if the cost prevents you from being part of this event. Those who identify as women, as men, or as non-binary are most welcome!

### WHEN?

The offering will track the traditional academic year with fall, winter, and spring “quarters.” Dates are listed below (all Tuesdays), and times will be mutually determined once the list of those interested is complete.

Fall: October 25; November 22; December 20

Winter: January 24; February 21; March (TBD)

Spring: April 18; May 23; June 20

### WHY?

I (Teresa) crave a deepening of connections made at Mount Olive! Recently, several of you have gifted me with your observations about the Feminine Divine as it has been gently flowing into our shared worship at Mount Olive over the past couple of years. As someone who has thought and written about this a lot, I am interested in exploring these conversations further within my beloved faith community. This is also an opportunity for me to contribute, based on my ongoing study of the Feminine Divine and my experience facilitating relational learning both as a professor who specializes in learning for adults with considerable life experience and with specialties in wisdom and inclusion, and as a spiritual director.

I have a great deal of experience facilitating learning discussions on challenging material, so you can be assured that the environment will be highly respectful and relational. If you want to know more about me, a short bio is here: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/teresarothausen>

If you are interested, please respond by September 30 at [teresa@wiserwilderleadership.com](mailto:teresa@wiserwilderleadership.com). This will give us the necessary time to acquire books and complete the first reading by October 25th.

*David Engen and Teresa Rothausen*

## Mount Olive Choir School Begins This Week!

**Choir School Dinner 5:30-6:00, beginning Wednesday, September 14.**

**Lower Elementary in-Person Choir:** Grades 1-3\*, Wednesdays, 6:00-6:45,

**Upper Elementary in-Person Choir:** Grades 4 and up\*. Wednesdays, 6:00-6:45

**Mount Olive Family Music** – For families with young people from age 0 through Kindergarten. This is an online (Zoom) session, Monday evenings from 5:30-6:00 pm beginning Monday, September 19, 2022.

RSVP to [welcome@mountolivechurch.org](mailto:welcome@mountolivechurch.org) – or just come!

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## Afghan Family Needs--Can You Help?

Right now two items are at the forefront of needs for this family:

-Two members of the family have passed their driving permit tests and are hoping to take their road tests soon. We are now looking for a possible car donation, though the family would not be in a position to take possession until licenses are issued, so something that doesn't require immediate pickup.

-AND until they have better transportation, help is always appreciated with occasional driving--to the grocery store, for medical appointments, etc. Just email your availability to [global@mountolivechurch.org](mailto:global@mountolivechurch.org).

**All advocacy is still needed for the Afghan Adjustment Act! This act is ESSENTIAL for this family to receive their green cards and a route to citizenship. The act has been introduced, but much work is needed in the next few months, and there is some opposition to this bi-partisan act in Congress.** Many thanks to all who signed our petitions. You can continue to advocate with you representatives at <https://lutheranimmigrationrefugeeservice.quorum.us/campaign/42258/>

Finally, this family again and again wants us to convey their GREAT THANKS for all that you have done in the last eight months to make them feel welcome in America.

- *Your Afghan Family Mentor Team*

## Notes from the Cantor

### *Music and Fine Arts 2022-2023 Series*

A varied and interesting series of events is planned for the Mount Olive Music and Fine Arts Series this year! It begins with a concert of early music with Consortium Carissimi on October 16, 4:00. A full list of concerts is on Mount Olive's website ([www.mountolivechurch.org](http://www.mountolivechurch.org)). A table will be set up the next two Sundays (September 18 and 25) to receive donations for your ongoing support of this series. This support allows Mount Olive to offer these concerts free of charge. Your partnership in support is greatly appreciated!

### *Mount Olive Cantorei*

The Cantorei has resumed rehearsals and participation in Sunday liturgies. Any and all interested singers are encouraged to sing with us! There are no auditions or requirements beyond the time involved. Contact Cantor Cherwien for more information, or simply come! Cantorei meets Wednesday evenings at 7 pm.

## Walk for Hope

Common Hope in Guatemala is one of Mount Olive's supported missions.

Common Hope's Walk For Hope keeps kids learning by raising funds to provide

essential academic support like tutoring and homework help for students in Guatemala. Only 2 in 10 children in Guatemala graduate high school. Over half of the population lives in poverty; so many families must sacrifice education to provide other basic needs. Common Hope is fighting poverty with diplomas, helping students reach high school graduation.

This year, Mark and Lisa Ruff will be doing the Walk for Hope in Guatemala on September 22. They are part of the Board of Directors' team and will be in Guatemala for the Executive Board meeting. They have been involved with Common Hope for over 25 years and Mark is the current Chair of the Board. If you would like to donate to the Walk for Hope, please do so at this link:

<https://give.commonhope.org/fundraiser/4095345>



## Mount Olive Lutheran Church

3045 Chicago Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55407

*A congregation of the Evangelical  
Lutheran Church in America*

### **Sunday Eucharists: 8 & 10:45 am**

#### **Contact Us**

Phone: 612-827-5919

On the Web: [mountolivechurch.org](http://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.*

### **In This Issue:**

- **Accent on Worship – Vicar Mollie Hamre**
- **Holy Cross Eucharist: This Evening at 7:00 pm**
- **Can You Help with a Ride to Church?**
- **Flood Victims Need our Help**
- **Choir School Starts Today!**
- **Support Common Hope's Walk for Hope**
- **Music & Fine Arts Series Support Drive: Sept. 18 and 25**