

# The Olive Branch

October 26, 2022

## Accent on Worship *Cantor David Cherwien*

### Sunday Readings

**October 30, 2022**

*21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after  
Pentecost, Lect. 31 C  
Reformation Sunday*

Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalm 32:1-7

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4,  
11-12

Luke 19:1-10

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**November 6, 2022**

*All Saints Sunday*

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

Psalm 149

Ephesians 1:11-23

Luke 6:20-31

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

### *What (is) Reformation?*

There's something to adore about Lutherans isn't there? Er, perhaps I mean something to "a door." Something like that.

This Sunday is Lectionary 31 (in Ordinary Time) with its assigned lessons which include Psalm 32, and Luke 19 – the story of Zacchaeus climbing into a tree to see Jesus. These will be the lessons read on Sunday. But this is also known as "Reformation Sunday" which we will indeed observe, just in a lesser way.

I believe the date (October 31) commemorates Martin Luther's having nailed his 95 theses to the door of the Schloßkirche in Wittenberg, launching (in his hopes) the reforming of several practices (such as the selling of indulgences), as well as the concept of justification by grace through faith as gift. Instead of reforming the theology of the Catholic Church, a new church body was formed with his name – not his intention. It is this result that we commemorate on the last Sunday of October (the actual date is October 31 and is transferred to the Sunday prior).

How we observe Reformation Sunday has changed during my years serving the church. For years it was a kind of German Fest – we'd sing the favorite chorales, including "A Mighty Fortress," perhaps make use of Martin Luther's setting of the Mass, the "Deutsche Messe." "A Mighty Fortress" itself has had an interesting journey which initially for Luther was a Psalm of comfort, not a battle cry. The hymn has actually been used as propaganda for nationalistic purposes! This was a day of beer, brats and chorales. I even remember a long-time member of Mount Olive dressing up as Martin Luther giving a lecture

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

during education hour! Eventually, I personally became more and more uncomfortable with this day becoming a celebration of looking back to a day over 500 years ago and began to realize doing so was perhaps even antithetical.

The word “reform” is the point, is it not? Preaching concepts and singing hymns from 500 years ago can say we’ve actually gone nowhere. The church should always be in a state of “reform” – asking questions about what we believe, about our practices, even about what we sing. A quick glance through any recent hymnal demonstrates how this has indeed happened – from the start! Nope, our generation cannot take credit for this – it’s always been that way – look at the small print of every hymn and you’ll see a huge diversity of times and places on earth. So, for a while, we observed the day by inserting global songs for our liturgy and hymns, evidence of the church reforming. But that didn’t entirely make sense either.

In this age of ecumenical and cultural sensitivity and respect, some question the appropriateness of “celebrating” the day. After all, it was an event of separation. The reality is, Luther’s German Catholic and ensuing Lutheran Church is from whence we as a church body came, so observing it somehow is indeed appropriate. We will observe it, we’ll add the prayer of the Day for Reformation Sunday to that of Lectionary 31, we’ll sing a chorale or two. We’re even having brats and beer after the second service! But the converse is also true as we look to the future – such as we’ll be led in worship by our 1st through 3rd grade choir in addition to the Cantorei.

What a great journey we’re in, don’t you think? Totally adorable.

- Cantor David Cherwien

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## **Water is Life: The Johnson Symposium on Faith and Society**

***Friday-Saturday, November 11-12***

***Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Minneapolis***

The Johnson Symposium on Faith and Society is an annual event in which a leading theologian, scholar, and/or practitioner leads conversations over a two-day period on important issues facing the church and society today. This year’s conference presenters are Winona LaDuke, an Anishunaabekwe (Ojibway) fighter for climate justice, indigenous and human rights and climate justice, alternative energy, and clean water, and Professor Diane Jacobson, professor emerita of Old Testament at Luther Seminary, who serves on both twin cities synods Care of Creation workgroup, and the leadership team of the NE Synod EcoFaith Network.

For more information and/or to register for the conference, visit <https://htlcmpls.org/johnson-symposium/>

## Calendar

### Wednesday, October 26

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

### Thursday, October 27

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

### Friday, October 28

7:00 pm Recovery group

### Saturday, October 29

9:00 am Gardening work day  
11:00 am Foundation Board meeting

### Sunday, October 30 - Reformation Sunday

8:00 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee & conversation  
9:30 am Education hour for all ages  
10:45 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee & conversation  
Noon CONGREGATION MEETING, followed by Octoberfest

### Tuesday, November 1

Noon Bible Study

### Wednesday, November 2

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

## 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

For its November 12 meeting The Book Discussion group will read *Matrix*, by Lauren Groff, and for December 10, *The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell*, by Robert Dugoni.

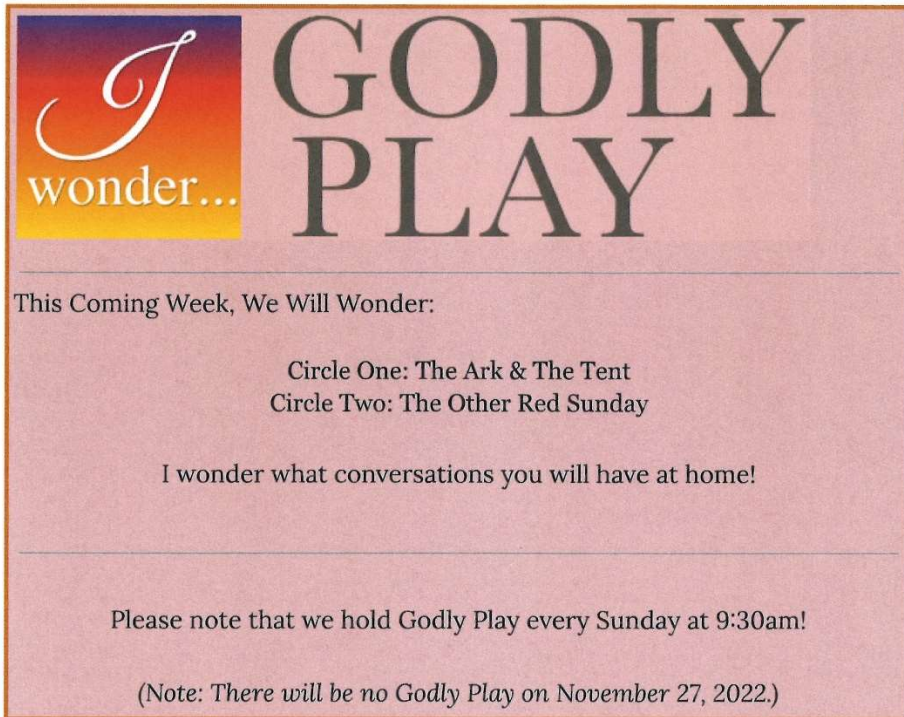
The Book Discussion group meets on the second Saturday of each month at 10 am at church. All readers are welcome!

**Mount Olive Octoberfest - This Sunday!**  
Sunday, October 30, following the Congregation Meeting  
in the Undercroft

*Brats, Beer, and all the fixins'*

Go to the following link to sign up to bring German Potato Salad, Bars, or to help in the kitchen!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F054AAFAF2FABF49-octoberfest>



The poster features a logo on the left with a stylized 'I' and the text 'wonder...'. To the right, the words 'GODLY PLAY' are written in large, bold, serif capital letters. Below the title, the text reads: 'This Coming Week, We Will Wonder:', followed by 'Circle One: The Ark & The Tent' and 'Circle Two: The Other Red Sunday'. A line of text says 'I wonder what conversations you will have at home!'. Another line says 'Please note that we hold Godly Play every Sunday at 9:30am!'. At the bottom, a note states '(Note: There will be no Godly Play on November 27, 2022.)'.

**Semi-annual  
Congregation  
Meeting to be Held  
October 30**

The semi-annual meeting of Mount Olive congregation will be held on Sunday, October 30, following the second liturgy. The primary purpose of this meeting is to adopt a budget for 2023.

Plan to stay for **Octoberfest** following the meeting!

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## Adult Education

*Upcoming Sunday Adult Forums (9:30 am in the Chapel Lounge)*

**Oct. 30:** *“Faith Development for the Youngest in our Community,”* presented by Jim Bargmann, Coordinator of Mount Olive Neighborhood Ministry - There is an overwhelming amount of information available to parents and grandparent about raising children. From medical professionals to psychologists to educators, there is no shortage of research, advise, and recommendations. But what about faith development? Jesus himself lauds a “child-like faith,” but what does that mean? Part of our Lutheran theology and practice is the baptism of babies, but why? Combining information from research in the scientific fields of psychology and medicine with our understanding of faith practices, this Forum will provide an opportunity to learn not only about the foundations of childhood faith but also very practical activities all of whom care about the children in our community can do on a regular basis to encourage parents and support faith development in the youngest among us.

**November 6:** *“The Year of Matthew’s Gospel,”* presented by Pastor Crippen - November 27<sup>th</sup> is the first Sunday of Advent, the beginning of the church year. This year we return to Series A with its focus on Matthew’s Gospel. Pastor Crippen will present for three Sundays on the Matthean gospel, and themes found there.

## Names of the Departed Saints Invited

As a part of our All Saints liturgy on Sunday, Nov. 6, worshippers are invited to submit the names of loved ones close to them who have died in the past year, since last All Saints Sunday, who weren't members of Mount Olive. (Members of the parish who have died are always named.)

For those who attend worship in the coming weeks, a book is located at the entrance to the nave where you can write these names. You may also contact the church office with the names. These other names submitted will be included in the prayers of intercession.

Please keep this to just those who have died this past year, so we can have a more manageable list.

## October Neighborhood Ministries Partner of the Month: Central Lutheran Restoration Center

Central Lutheran Restoration center is an integral part of the ministry at one of our sister congregations. The Restoration Center provides a welcoming place for people in downtown Minneapolis experiencing homelessness and economic insecurity. Those who come to the Restoration Center find a place of hospitality and welcome where they can find emergency rental assistance, employment services, clothing, meals, free-use computers, and basic health care services.

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 Central Lutheran Restoration Center, please visit their website at <https://www.centralmpls.org/community/restorationcenter>



## The National Lutheran Choir's All Saints Concerts

### *Live Concerts: "Life Changed, not Taken Away"*

Through our annual All Saints Program, we will honor those who have passed while recognizing our past, present, and future journeys. This program will feature John Rutter's iconic work, *Requiem*, along with hymns, candles, and the reading of names of our new saints.

**Friday, November 4 - 7:30pm: St. Philip the Deacon Lutheran Church, Plymouth, MN**  
**Sunday, November 6 - 4:00pm: St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Mahtomedi, MN**

Adults and seniors: \$33 | Students (with valid ID): Pay what you can | 18 and Under: Free  
Visit [NLCA.com](http://NLCA.com) to purchase tickets or learn more.

### *Virtual Program: "The Journey Home"*

This program will feature selections from NLC's 1995 recording, *Soul*, with soloist Tom Tipton including Edward Bairstow's "I Sat Down Under His Shadow," David Mennicke's arrangement of "Down in the River to Pray," Charles Stanford's "Beati Quorum Via," and others - highlighting the spiritual connection between heaven and earth, and the hope this connection brings all of humanity.

Available to all beginning Saturday, November 5. Watch at [NLCA.com](http://NLCA.com).

## Thanksgiving Day Eucharist Thursday, November 24, 10:00 a.m.

Bring non-perishable food items to help re-stock local food shelves. Monetary donations are especially welcome (for every \$1 donated, food shelf personnel are able to buy about \$9 worth of food!)

As has been our custom for a number of years, the entire offering received at the Eucharist on Thanksgiving Day will be divided between Sabbathani Community Center and Community Emergency Services food shelves.

## New members to be Received November 13

New members will be received into the congregation on **Sunday, November 13, at the 10:45 liturgy**. If you are interested in becoming a member of Mount Olive, please speak with Pr. Crippen, Vicar Hamre, Eric Manuel (<mailto:evangelism@mountolivechurch.org>), or contact the church office.

## 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.*

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