



The Olive Branch

April 26, 2023

Accent on Worship

Pastor Joseph Crippen

Guidance, restoration, water, bread and wine

“The baptized devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.” (Acts 2:42, from next Sunday.) That was the life of the growing new Church after Pentecost. It still is ours. We gather to hear the apostles’ teaching, and Jesus’, and the Hebrew prophets and writers, in the Word. We break bread, sharing Christ’s meal. We pray for the world and each other. We do all this as the baptized children of God.

This is the life in the Good Shepherd’s care that David sang about in his beloved 23rd Psalm. Our Shepherd, the risen Christ, guides us and restores us on good pathways through the Word of God that lives in our hearts and speaks from Scripture. We are washed in the still waters of baptism which continue to refresh and renew us. We find a table of grace spread before us in a world of shadows of death and enemies, and, wonder of wonders, those enemies are even at God’s table with us in Christ’s new reign.

Everything we need to find joy and hope and purpose and direction in our lives, everything we need to handle whatever difficulty or pain exists in our lives and the world, everything we need to be filled in our spirits and strengthened in our love, everything we need for this life and the next are all given us by Christ Jesus, our Good Shepherd, who, raised from death, is with us always and in all things. Let that goodness and mercy follow you all the days of your life!

In Jesus’ name,

Congregation Meeting

The semi-annual meeting of the Mount Olive congregation will be held **this Sunday, April 30, following the second liturgy**. The primary purpose of this meeting is to elect leaders to the Vestry.

Please note! The Congregation Meeting will be in-person only. We will not host an online Congregation Meeting as we anticipate reaching quorum with those attending.

All voting members are encouraged to attend!

Picnic Time!

The second annual all-church picnic will be on Sunday, July 30, at Minnehaha Park.

If you're interested in helping with the planning and logistics of this fun event, please contact Lora at conglife@mountolivechurch.org.

**Ascension Of Our Lord
Thursday, May 18
Holy Eucharist at 7:00 p.m.**

**Vigil of Pentecost
Saturday, May 27
7:00 p.m.**

All are welcome.

Sunday Readings

April 30, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47

Psalm 23

1 Peter 2:19-25

John 10:1-10

May 7, 2023

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

1 Peter 2:2-10

John 14:1-14

Left Behind

Dishes, bowls, pots, and pans which have been left at church in recent months are on display in the coat room, waiting to be claimed by their owners.

Please take a moment to see if any of the kitchenware which has been left behind at church happens to belong to you!

Unclaimed items will be donated to Goodwill.

Calendar

Wednesday, April 26

- 10:00 am Staff meeting
5:30 pm Childrens Choirs Party
7:00 pm Cantorei rehearsal

Thursday, April 27

- 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, April 28

- 5-9 pm Godly Play Training

Sunday, April 30 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

- 8:00 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee and conversation
9:30 am Education Hour for all ages
10:45 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee and conversation

Noon **Congregation Meeting**

Monday, May 1

- 6:00 pm Vicar Committee meeting

Tuesday, May 2

- Noon Bible Study
7:00 pm Global Ministry Committee meeting

Church Camping Trip

Love to camp? Several campsites have been reserved for August 11-13 at Nerstrand Big Woods State Park, about an hour south of Mount Olive.

Watch for more information soon.

Tuesday Noon Bible Study Link

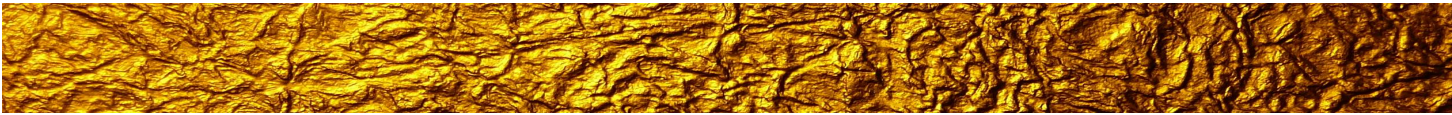
The Tuesday Noon Bible Study is meeting in person, in the **East Assembly Room** For those who are unable to come in person, we will continue to hold the meeting over Zoom as well.

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 May 13 meeting, the Book Discussion group will read *Stoner*, by John Williams. At the June 10 meeting, they will discuss *The Sentence*, by Louise Erdrich.

The Mount Olive book group has been meeting once a month for 20 years, usually on the second Saturday from 10am to noon. Lately the group has been using Zoom to provide remote access to the sessions. If you would like to participate in the group, you can either attend the monthly sessions which meet at the church or join remotely via Zoom. To join from your computer, tablet, or smartphone, [click here](#).



Upcoming Education Topics

April 30: No Forum this day.

May 7: Lora Dundek - "Truth Seeking and Truth Telling: Lutheran Involvement in Native American Boarding Schools."

Many church bodies are now in a process of soul-searching regarding historical support of placing Native children in boarding schools in order to remove any trace of their heritage. Thankfully, the ELCA has embarked on this process as well. Mount Olive member Lora Dundek is actively working on this project and will present this forum.

This Coming Week, We Will Wonder:

Circle One: Thomas Touches Jesus (John 20:24-30)
 Circle Two: The Good Shepherd & World Communion

I wonder what conversations you will have at home!

(On May 14, 2023, there will be no Godly Play. Instead, the Mother's Day Recital will be held in the Chapel Lounge.)

Align Minneapolis Furniture Drive at Mount Olive

Do you have gently used furniture such as tables, chairs, sofas, end tables, lamps, and dressers that could use a new home? Clothing and housewares? If so, you are cordially invited to donate them at the annual Align Minneapolis Furniture Drive on **Saturday, May 13, from 9:00 am to Noon** at Mount Olive in the south parking lot.

Furniture collected will then be given to guests of Align Minneapolis outreach ministries to assist in furnishing new apartments for those residing in our area, many of whom are exiting homelessness.

Questions? Contact Julia Freeman at the Basilica of Saint Mary at (612) 317-3413 or jfreeman@mary.org . If you are unable to attend the furniture drive but would still like to donate, you can call (651) 602-0478 for furniture pick up within a limited area. Please, no beds, large office desks, appliances, or construction materials.

And, if you would like to learn more about the life-changing, dynamic work of Align Minneapolis, visit www.alignmpls.org .

April Neighborhood Ministry Partner of the Month: *Lake Street Council*

The Lake Street Council is a non-profit organization built to support the diverse community of residents and businesses that call Lake Street home. They do this through a variety of programs that support entrepreneurs starting new businesses, grant programs to help existing businesses thrive, work to beautify the streetscape, and engage local businesses in policy work that affects the corridor. The Lake Street Council has been instrumental in helping local businesses, many of them family and BIPOC owned, recover from the civil unrest of 2020, giving out 5.5 million dollars in grants to over 300 businesses.

Mount Olive has chosen to support each of our Partners of the Month through a yearly contribution from our budget, and often, like our partners this month, we also volunteer in support of their work. On top of those financial and labor contributions, we encourage any member who wishes to donate 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 work of the Lake Street Council, please visit their website at lakestreetcouncil.org.

Synod Assembly Worship Friday

A Festive All-Synod Worship Service will be held **7:00 p.m., this Friday, April 28**. Bishop Ann Svennungsen will preach and Dr. Phillip Schoultz, associate artistic director of VocalEssence and cantor at Westwood Lutheran, will lead the music for worship, as well as conduct the Synod-Wide Volunteer Choir. [Click here to sign-up for the volunteer choir](#).

A light reception will follow the worship service, which will be held at St. Andrew Lutheran Church, 13600 Technology Drive, Eden Prairie.

Calling All Younger Performers!

The annual Mother's Day Recital will be on Sunday, May 14, during the education hour. Any younger performers interested, contact Cantor Cherwien! We welcome anything you are learning - piano, any instrument, singing, dance, perhaps even storytelling!

Come One, Come All – It's Garden Season!

Each year our grounds and gardens are tended by volunteers from our congregation. Not only does this make our property an oasis in the neighborhood, but it gives the volunteers a chance to practice dirt therapy.

The work begins with an initial clean-up day on Saturday, May 6, from 9:00 am to noon, and then continues through October on the first and third Saturdays from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. Join us for an hour, a day a month, or on every workday as your schedule allows you to participate. In addition to cleaning up and tending of the grounds around the church and the pollinator garden in the south parking lot, we will be taking on some special projects this year. Those projects include cleaning up and removal of partially dead bushes and ground cover in the north parking lot and mulching, splitting the lilies and grasses on the south side of the church, and trimming bushes and trees across the property.

Bring your own hand tools if you have them. If not, we have a few extra garden tools available.

If you have questions, reach out to Carol Martinson at property@mountolivechurch.org , or 612-708-9849.



Mount Olive Lutheran Church

3045 Chicago Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55407

*A congregation of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America*

Sunday Eucharist:

8:00 & 10:45 am

Contact Us

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Web: www.mountolivechurch.org

Staff

Pastor – *Joseph Crippen*

Cantor – *David Cherwien*

Vicar – *Mollie Hamre*

Coordinator of Neighborhood Outreach
and Ministry – *Jim Bargmann*

Administrative Assistant – *Cha Posz*

Sexton – *Jose Morocho*

*Mount Olive is a Reconciling in Christ
congregation.*

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