



# The Olive Branch

May 3, 2023

## Accent on Worship

*Cantor David Cherwien*

*We're in the party season!*

I suspect you've heard it said many times: Easter is more than a day. In fact, it is a "week of weeks" – seven weeks of celebrating the resurrection – celebrating who we are as Easter people of God. Personally, I enjoy observing various religions with similar cycles – a period of introspection followed by celebrations which "remember" and rehearse who they are: Ramadan and Passover, to give two examples. It's possible that many of our "religious" observances might have had different origins, such as a harvest festival in ancient times being adapted and transformed into something new such as the Triduum for Christians. Whatever the case, we do have a way of celebrating as Christians that reminds us that death does not have the last word: Christ is risen! (Notice the verb tense there...)

Like any good celebration, we put our best efforts forward if what we are celebrating is of high value – the best china and flatware, linens, and we cook feasts with love and grace to share together – all bringing us as community together in what we believe in common. Christ is Risen! We no longer fear death.

After hosting a feast for friends or family, it makes sense that we get kind of tired. In the Cantorei, I call it a "happy tired" – grateful for the experiences with no regrets for all the work. Sure, we could use paper plates (figuratively), not worry about formalities, do things in a less expensive or extensive manner, but what would that say about how important the values are that we are celebrating?

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

So for seven weeks leading up to Pentecost, we celebrate. We “wear ourselves out” with songs of joy and praise during this time. The entrance rite includes two songs – the opening hymn, and then the hymn of praise, “This Is the Feast.” We sing as the Gospel Procession carries the Good News to be read in the center of the assembly, and then again as the procession returns. We sing almost all of the responses in the Great Thanksgiving. There are a lot of full-bodied, exuberant songs/hymns to sing during this time and we sing them whole-heartedly!

Then, there is the genius of the liturgical year: about the time we’re reaching the point of being done with the extreme party, we arrive at “Ordinary Time” and things settle back down. Perfect.

In the meantime, four more weeks of celebrating. Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

- Cantor David Cherwien

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

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

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*All are welcome.*

## Sunday Readings

**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

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**May 14, 2023**

*Sixth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 17:22-31

Psalm 66:8-20

1 Peter 3:13-22

John 14:15-21

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## 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, May 3

10:00 am Staff meeting

7:00 pm Cantorei rehearsal

### Thursday, May 4

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

### Friday, May 5

5-9 pm Godly Play Training

### Saturday, May 6

9am-Noon Garden Work Day

9:00 am Foundation Board meeting

### Sunday, May 7 - Fifth 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

12:15 pm Blood Pressure checks

### Monday, May 8

7:00 pm Vestry meeting

### Tuesday, May 9

Noon Bible Study

## Pentecost Reading of Acts 2 in Many Languages

For a number of years, it has been our tradition at Mount Olive to hear a portion of the Pentecost reading from Acts 2:1-21 read simultaneously in various languages. Some of you have either participated in this joint reading in the past, or are knowledgeable enough in a foreign language that you might be willing to participate this year.

Anyone who can read aloud in another language is invited to participate in this corporate reading at the morning liturgy on Sunday, June 6, 2022. Please contact the church office if you would be willing to participate and we will be in touch 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.

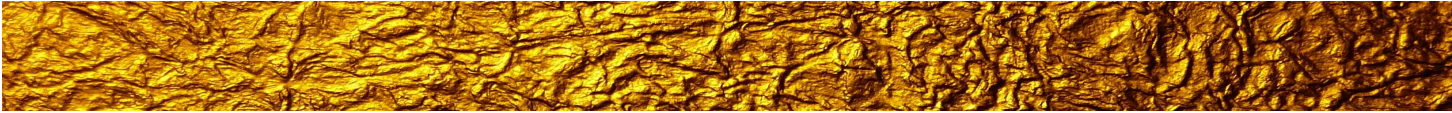
The link for the Tuesday noon Bible study will be the same every week. To join from your computer, tablet, or smartphone, [click here](#).

## 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

**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: Jesus Makes a Meal (John 21:1-14)  
 Circle Two: Saul Changes

*I wonder what conversations you will have at home!*

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

*May 21 will be our last Godly Play for the year! Many thanks to our Storytellers and Doorpersons who so faithfully served among our young people!*

**May 14:** Mother's Day Recital! Performances by Mount Olive's young members.

## 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](mailto: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](http://www.alignmpls.org) .



## New Members to be Received June 18

New members will be received into the congregation **on Sunday, June 18, at the 10:00 liturgy**. If you are interested in becoming a member of Mount Olive or you have any questions about becoming a member, please speak with Pr. Crippen, Vicar Hamre, Eric Manuel ([evangelism@mountolivechurch.org](mailto:evangelism@mountolivechurch.org)), or call the church office.

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## 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!

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## Attention Sunday Servants

The Mount Olive Servant Schedule for 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2023 (July - September) will be published at the beginning of June 2023. Please send any requests or questions regarding scheduling conflicts to me by Friday, May 12.

Thanks!

Greg Murphy

[gregmurphy@gmail.com](mailto:gregmurphy@gmail.com)

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## Register for Bach Tage!

Reservations for *Bach-Tage* June 10 & 11 are arriving at the church office daily. In a few days, music will be mailed to all who register, whether you're attending as a full participant or only for the Saturday morning presentation. A downloadable brochure with all of the information you need, including agenda and registration form, can be found [here](#).

Additional questions? Please call (612) 827-5919 or email [welcome@mountolivechurch.org](mailto:welcome@mountolivechurch.org).

If you're planning to attend, please get the registration form to the office very soon. Only five weeks away now!!!

Hope to see you at *Bach-Tage*!

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BACH · TAGE  
MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN  
MINNEAPOLIS

## **May Neighborhood Ministry Partner of the Month: *Minnesota Council of Churches***

Minnesota Council of churches seeks to “build strong communities that are made up of meaningful relationships and guided by our deepest values. They seek to partner organizations and individuals in living out faith in their communities. They do this through refugee services programs, social justice work, justice advocacy work, and fostering interfaith connections. In addition, through their Respectful Conversations program, they facilitate respectful conversations between people of varying backgrounds and train others to lead those conversations.

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 Minnesota Council of Churches, please visit their website at [www.mnchurches.org](http://www.mnchurches.org) .

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## **Affordable Housing and Homelessness Adult Forum Follow-Up**

On April 16, in our Adult Forum, we had the opportunity to hear from six members of our community connected to the related issues of affordable housing and homelessness. A plethora of topics to discuss and the incredible knowledge of our guest speakers meant we ran out of time and were not able to address questions submitted by you, the audience. After our time together, though, I did submit your questions in writing to our guests. Two of them have responded, Katie Dillon, Executive Director of Align Minneapolis, and David Hewitt, Director of Housing Stability for Hennepin County. The submitted questions and their answers, with some minor edits for length and clarity, are available [here](#).

For those without internet access who are interested, copies of this information are available upon request to the church office.

## 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](mailto:property@mountolivechurch.org), or 612-708-9849.

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## Celebrate with National Lutheran Choir This Weekend!

Join the National Lutheran Choir (NLC) for the conclusion to its 37<sup>th</sup> season with a Hymn Festival, the annual Gala, and Spring Concert! This weekend of events will celebrate everything the NLC has accomplished under David Cherwien's leadership as he completes his tenure with the choir.



### *Hymn Festival: God Has Called Us*

7:30 p.m.; May 5

St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Bloomington

Tickets at [NLCA.com/Hymn-Festival-2023](https://www.nlca.com/Hymn-Festival-2023).

### *Annual Gala: From Strength to Strength*

2:30 p.m.; May 6

The Westin Galleria in Edina

Registration at [NLCA.com/Gala](https://www.nlca.com/Gala). Registration deadline is April 21. *Free-to-all livestream also available!*

### *Spring Concert: Ventures Known and Unknown*

4:00 p.m.; May 7

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Mahtomedi

Tickets at [NLCA.com/Spring-Concert-2023](https://www.nlca.com/Spring-Concert-2023). *Free-to-all livestream also available!*

## 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**

Phone: 612/827-5919

Fax: 612/827-4557

Web: [www.mountolivechurch.org](http://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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