



The Olive Branch

May 17, 2023

Accent on Worship

Vicar Mollie Hamre

"¹⁸ so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power."

- Ephesians 1:18-19

What images come to your mind as the Apostle Paul writes to the Ephesians? With words such as "glorious inheritance," "immeasurable greatness," and "great power," I imagined cartoons where characters were sitting on comical amounts of gold coins, treasure, or being crowned to rule over a kingdom. Despite knowing that a pile of gold coins is not our Triune God's promises, I was surprised that those images came to my mind first.

So what does God really want for us? What if we changed some words—such as riches, to abundance; inheritance, to presence; and power, to deeds? Which means we are instead hearing the Apostle tell us that he prays for the people to have enlightened hearts so that they may have hope, abundance, be present with God, and work for God's deeds.

So instead of money or power, God wants us to have hope in our world and live in a way that connects us with God. Not as glamorous or exciting as the cartoon images, but for our world that we know is in deep need for God's presence and promises—peace, love, and caring for one another sounds like the best treasure one could ever find.

Ascension Of Our Lord
Thursday, May 18
(tomorrow!)
Holy Eucharist at 7:00 p.m.

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

All are welcome.

Sunday Readings

May 21, 2023
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Acts 1:6-14
Psalm 68:1-10,32-35
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
John 17:1-11

May 28, 2023
Day of Pentecost
Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 33:12-22
Romans 8:14-17, 22-27
John 7:37-39

Summer Worship Schedule Begins May 28

Beginning Memorial Day weekend and running through Labor Day weekend, we celebrate ONE Sunday Eucharist, at 10:00 a.m.

***The Olive Branch* Summer Publication**

During June, July, and August, *The Olive Branch* will be published every other week.

Help Needed This Sunday after Second Liturgy

Mount Olive will again offer songs of praise for the journey of Carolyn Mowery into God's eternal realm this Sunday, May 21, at 3 pm.

Some additional help is needed immediately following the second liturgy on Sunday to prepare for the funeral liturgy and lunch following. Can you stay for awhile after church to help?

Specifically, we need a few additional workers to assist with food preparation prior to the 3:00 funeral liturgy, to serve the food after the service, and/or to help clean-up after the luncheon.

If you are willing to help with any of these tasks, please contact Elaine Halbardier as soon as possible. Her phone is 763-639-7702, and email is ech914@comcast.net.

Thank you!!

Calendar

Wednesday, May 17

10:00 am Staff meeting

7:00 pm Cantorei rehearsal

Thursday, May 18 - Ascension of Our Lord

7:00 pm *Ascension Eucharist*

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, May 19

5-9 pm Godly Play Training

Saturday, May 20

9:00 am Gardening Day

10:00 am Book Discussion Group (rescheduled)

Sunday, May 21 - Seventh Sunday of Easter

8:00 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee and conversation

9:30 am Education for all ages

10:45 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee and conversation

3:00 pm *Funeral Eucharist: Carolyn Mowery*, followed by luncheon

Tuesday, May 23

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, May 28, 2023**. 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.

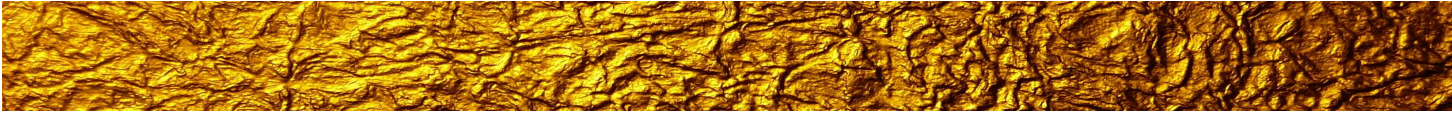
The link for the Tuesday noon Bible study will be the same every week. To join from your computer, tablet, or smartphone, [click here](#).

Book Discussion

For its May meeting, the Book Discussion group will read *Stoner*, by John Williams. At the June 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 21: Vicar Mollie Hamre will lead a discussion on inner faith.

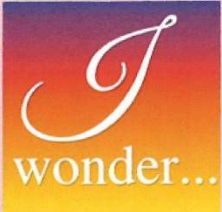
Looking Ahead: June 18 and 25: "The Priestly Culture as Taught in Hebrew Scriptures," presented by Hamline University Prof. Emeritus Earl Schwartz.

We are once again very privileged to have Earl Schwartz join us in the Chapel Lounge on two Sundays, June 18 and 25, following the 10:00 AM liturgy.

Earl has been with us before and responses to his presentations are

always to bring him back as often as

possible. This time Earl will present on the "priestly culture" as presented in the Hebrew scripture which he calls "the underlying 'life force' basis of purity, impurity, and sacrifices." He will explain how Israelite versions of these practices, as described in biblical texts, do and do not appear to resemble similar non-Israelite practices, and then, how the prophetic tradition came to re-contextualize this all in distinctly biblical ways.



GODLY PLAY

This Coming Week, We Will Wonder:

Circle One: The Ascension
Circle Two: The Mystery of Pentecost

I wonder what conversations you will have at home!

This coming Sunday, May 21, is our last Godly Play for the year!
Many thanks to our Storytellers and Doorpersons who so faithfully served among our young people!

Anita is Having a Baby!

Our friend Anita Mohammadi is scheduled to have a baby girl by C-section on Tuesday, May 23. In Afghanistan she wouldn't have even told anyone she was pregnant until the baby was born, but she is getting used to Americans being excited over pregnancies and babies, so she finally said that we could tell you all.

Since the family is Muslim and keeps a halal diet, we'd like to invite you to help the family by providing a "new baby meal" with a gift card from one of the area halal restaurants. Here are some suggestions: Curry in a Hurry uses Bite Squad for their delivery and gifts--

<https://www.curryinahurrymn.com>; Holy Land Deli--<https://holylandbrand.com/gift-certificates/>;

any other Afghan restaurant. The family will then order and pick up their meals.

Anita's email is anitamohammadi209@gmail.com. You may contact the mentor team with any questions at global@mountolivechurch.org.

Help us welcome this new American to the family.



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), or call the church office.

Can you offer a ride?

A Mount Olive member needs a ride home after surgery on Wednesday, May 24. The time of day is not yet known. Pick up at Hennepin County Medical Center and drop off in Brooklyn Park. If you can help, call Lora at 651/645-6636 or email her at conglife@mountolivechurch.org.

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.

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

Hope to see you at *Bach-Tage*!



BACH · TAGE
MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN
MINNEAPOLIS

Attention Bookworms!

Please note! Due to scheduling conflicts with a funeral and Bach Tage, the May and June Book Discussion Group meetings will be held on the **THIRD** Saturday during those two months, **on May 20 and June 17**.

Coffee Hosts Needed!

If you can host Sunday Coffee Hour in upcoming weeks, please sign up on the chart in the East Assembly Room. Hosting is easy - if you have never hosted Coffee Hour before, training is available! Questions? Contact Lora Dundek at conglife@mountolivechurch.org.

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.

Climate Justice: From our Partners at Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light (MNIPL)

Are you interested in electric vehicles (EVs) but concerned about equity in our transition away from fossil fuel-burning vehicles?

[Join us on May 25th, 1 PM CST](#) to hear from a leader in electric vehicle equity advocacy, Kevin Bai of EVHybridNoire! Topics will include the history of transportation inequity, current equity challenges, and just solutions as we move toward cleaner vehicles.

[Register here to sign up for our "EVs and Equity" webinar on May 25th at 1 PM CST!](#)

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

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.*

In This Issue:

- **Accent on Worship – Vicar Mollie Hamre**
- **Ascension Eucharist tomorrow evening: May 18, 7 pm**
- **New Members to be Received June 18**
- **The Time to Register for Bach TAGE is Now!**
- **Summer Worship Schedule Begins May 28: ONE Sunday Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.**