



# The Olive Branch

June 21, 2023

## Sunday Readings

**June 25, 2023**

*4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost,  
Lect. 12 A*

Jeremiah 20:7-13

Psalms 69:7-18

Romans 6:1b-11

Matthew 10:24-39

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**July 2, 2023**

*5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Lect. 13 A*

Jeremiah 28 :5-9

Psalms 89:1-4, 15-18

Romans 6:12-23

Matthew 10:40-42

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

## Accent on Worship *Cantor David Cherwien*

*Singing as ... hospitality?*

Yes. I've written about this before, but it's the kind of thing that needs a boost from time to time.

Singing is one of those unusual things the church does. These days there are very few places where people are comfortable singing in public. My all-time favorite is "Happy Birthday" - people are willing to sing that even if there is no piano, director, or if they don't think they are singers (few actually do) - they just sing from the heart to the person to whom it's directed. It may not be as polished as professional singers, but that's hardly the point. Coming from the heart, wishing that person well on that special day is the point.

Yet, here in church, we sing. And we sing a lot. It might even comprise more than 50% of the time we spend together as an assembly at worship. That's a lot!

When YOU sing out, doing so not only gives you the opportunity for deep expression from within to God and each other, it also encourages those around you to join in. Most people's fear is that they would stick out, or sing an intentional solo, so a half-mumble becomes safest. But in a community where singing is strong, it's so much easier to enter in without that fear. And once that gets started, in only grows as more and more people enter in without fear.

*continued on page 2*

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

In addition, there are many of us who read music (far more than popular culture would lead us to believe). Here is an additional responsibility – for the sake of those who do not read, your help is especially needed – to keep that “critical mass” of voices singing who can read what we are to sing. That carries everyone into the song even more.

We've sung a lot of unusual things here – some fairly complicated things, such as the Bach setting of the Sanctus. We need that singing to be strong – because of why we're singing it in the first place (“...with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn ...”), but to help those with less training/reading/singing abilities – and they do get it and find it as meaningful as you do. You readers, for example, can help keep the Lord's Prayer moving – keeping half-notes two beats and not more, which can slow it all down.

So, be encouraged to sing! And pass on that encouragement – through your singing.

- Cantor David Cherwien

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## Mid-year Financial Update

Through the end of May, Mount Olive has received more than \$311,000 in contributions towards our operating fund, which is 22% more than the contributions we received during the same period in 2022. Our operating fund expenses through the end of May totaled over \$400,000. When we factor in additional income that we received, we have a deficit through May of more than \$82,000. While it is not unusual for us to be running a deficit at this time of year, the size of our current deficit is historically large.

We continue to be blessed with incredible generosity at Mount Olive. Please prayerfully consider whether you can help close this year's gap over the remainder of the year.

## *The Olive Branch* Summer Publication

During the summer months of June, July, and August, *The Olive Branch* is published every other week. Deadline for the next issue is **Monday, July 3.**

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## Step Up!

- Volunteers are needed to host Sunday coffee following the morning Eucharist. Just sign up on the chart in the East Assembly room – near the coffee! Contact Lora Dundek with questions: <mailto:conglife@mountolivechurch.org>
- Volunteers are also needed to help with our gardens this summer – first and third Saturdays from 9-11 am (or you can come and pull weeds on your own!) Contact Carol Martinson with any questions you may have: <mailto:property@mountolivechurch.org>

## Calendar

### Wednesday, June 21

10:00 am Staff meeting

### Thursday, June 22

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

### Friday, June 23

7:00 pm Recovery Group

### Sunday, June 25 - Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

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

11:30 am Adult Education: Prof. Emeritus Earl Schwartz

### Tuesday, June 27

Noon Bible Study

### Wednesday, June 28

10:00 am Staff meeting

### Thursday, June 29

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

### Friday, June 30

7:00 pm Recovery Group

### Saturday, July 1

9:00 am Gardening Day

9:00 am Mount Olive Foundation Board meeting

### Sunday, July 2 - Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

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

11:30 am Blood Pressure checks

### Monday, July 3

6:00 pm Vicar Committee meeting

### Tuesday, July 4 - Independence Day holiday

*Church offices closed*

### Wednesday, July 5

10:00 am Staff meeting

## 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.](#)

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## Book Discussion

For its July 8 meeting, the Book Discussion will read *A Lesson Before Dying*, by Ernest Gaines. And for its August 12 meeting, *Cloud Cuckoo Land*, by Anthony Doerr.

The Mount Olive book normally meets on the second Saturday of each month 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 in person or join remotely via Zoom. To join from your computer, tablet, or smartphone, [click here.](#)

## Adult Education

### 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 for one more Sunday, June 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.

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## From the Congregational Life Committee

### *A Village Needed:*

A member of Mount Olive is in need of help due to a cancer diagnosis. She has no transportation and needs rides to her chemo treatments. As time goes on, she may also need help with grocery shopping and meal preparation. If you can help, please email [conglife@mountolivechurch.org](mailto:conglife@mountolivechurch.org).

### *Upcoming events:*

There are still spaces left for the curated tour of The Museum of Russian Art this coming Sunday at 1:30 p.m. Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090E4AA9A828A2F94-museum>, or call the office at 612/827-5919.

Mount Olive church picnic is on Sunday, July 30, at Minnehaha Park. More info is coming!

Mount Olive camping trip is on August 11-13, at Nerstrand Big Woods State Park. To sign up for electric sites, go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090E4AA9A828A2F94-mount2>. For non-electric sites, use the Minnesota State Parks reservation system.

## Looking Good! Thank You!

Every Saturday that the garden crew works on the gardens, people passing by call out “looking good, thank you!”

There is no doubt that our work to keep the grounds at Mount Olive beautiful and well-kept is noticed and appreciated by our neighbors.

It takes a massive amount of work by a team of members to keep the grounds weeded, trimmed and new flowers planted each season. In 2023 alone this group has put in five workdays for a total of 160 hours of work. They have also spread over 10 cubic yards of mulch, with 10 to go in the North parking lot.

But we could use more help – at times it feels like the weeds are winning! Join us on the first and third Saturdays of each month from 9 am to 11 am or stop by and work in the gardens when you have availability. If you are unsure of what is a weed – please reach out to Carol Martinson via email: [property@mountolivechurch.org](mailto:property@mountolivechurch.org), or at 612-708-9849.

Come and practice dirt therapy with us.



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## Our Going Out and Our Coming In

### *Staff vacation schedules*

**Jim Bargmann** will be on vacation June 16-23 and July 14-21

**Pastor Crippen** will be on vacation June 25-29

## **May Neighborhood Ministry Partner of the Month:**

### *Lutheran Social Services*

Lutheran Social Services is a broad-based social service organization that operates more than 20 different programs throughout the state of Minnesota. The services provided by LSS include housing, financial services, counseling, senior care programs, refugee resettlement, disaster recovery, and services for those with disabilities. LSS has been serving as the lead agency for the resettlement of the Afghan family Mount Olive has been sponsoring through the coordination of our Global Ministries Committee.

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 Lutheran Social Services, please visit their website at [www.lssmn.org](http://www.lssmn.org).

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## **Spirit of Water: A Celebration with Mississippi River**

**July 15, 9:00 am - 8:00 pm, Hidden Falls Regional Park, St. Paul**

Join The Leadership Center for Social Justice and partners on July 15, 2023, for a celebration with Mississippi River! Come gather to connect, learn, pray, engage, play, celebrate, and honor the spirit of water. This event is co-presented with our partners: Resilient Indigenous Sisters Engaging (R.I.S.E. Coalition), Rights of Mississippi River, Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light, and Friends of the Mississippi River.

Arrive in the morning at United Campus for education about the importance of water, threats to water, and ways in which we can work to protect water. Then join others at Hidden Falls in the afternoon where there will be a community celebration with speakers, music, information booths, food, art, and play areas for children.

For more information, visit: <https://content.unitedseminary.edu/spirit-of-water-lcsj>  
Contact: Stella Pearce at [spearce@unitedseminary.edu](mailto:spearce@unitedseminary.edu)

## *In Our Prayers*

**Please pray throughout the week for the following persons:** Julia Adams; Joe & Elizabeth Beissel; Brad Holt; Leanna Kloempken; Steve Lenius; Carla Manuel; Jude Mostek; Rhoda Nelson; Renee Ollikain; Jerry Ostlund; Russ Pearson; Robin Rayfield; Pariann Schenk; Rodney Schrank; Marjorie Shifflet; David Tabis; Brenda Turner, James Wilkes; Rhonda Fish, friend of Andrew Andersen; Randy Stiegmann and Gerry Coleman, stepfather and friend of Jim Bargmann; Cassandra Thompson, friend of Al Bostelmann; Sara Brunette, daughter-in-law of CJ Brunette; Arthur Kaemmer, friend of David Bryce; Lela Frazier, sister of Irene Campbell; Mattisyn, friend of Kat Campbell Johnson; Marilyn Volker, sister of Allen Dundek; Greg Eklund, son of Harry & Jeanette Eklund; Jon Jrocki, friend of David Engen; Joyce Schoenfield, sister of Marilyn Gebauer; Joe & Brenda Patnaude, friends of Tom Graves & Ginny Agresti; Carol Halter (missionary in Hong Kong), friend of Eunice Hafemeister; Gina, aunt of Vicar Mollie Hamre; Quentin Hamilton, friend of Judy Hinck; Ethan Holtmeier, grandson of Patsy & John Holtmeier; Steve Horsfield, friend of Mount Olive; Tami Huisinga, relative of Wes Huisinga; the Klapushynski family (of Ukraine), friends of Jim & Judy Johnson; Michael Uthe, friend of Mary Rose Kalihier; Ann Richards, friend of Carol Martinson; Jan McCuen, mother of Matt McCuen; Brad Krider, friend of Rachel Meurett; Martha Johnson, sister of Rhoda Nelson and aunt of Sherry Nelson; Sandy Nelson, daughter of Rhoda Nelson and sister of Sherry Nelson; Stan & Darlene Nelson, parents of Brad Nelson; Tim Gaudineer, relative of George & Marlys Oelfke; Jennie Kobylinski, niece of Dwight Penas & Kathy Thurston; Samantha Hayes and Crixell Shell, godchild and friend of Cynthia Prosek; Jolie Melana Meshbesh, friend of Robin Rayfield; John Seboldt, brother of Gayle & Ken Schulz; Miranda Alvis, niece of Tim Sneer; Greta Sterner, daughter of Martha Sterner and sister of Kate; Pat McCabe, friend of Melissa Stone; Brylee Tabis, granddaughter of David & Shirley Tabis; Keith Van Ee, father of Tricia Van Ee Molbert; David Duran, friend of Kevin Vazquez;

Eileen Weiss, mother-in-law of John Wall; Andrew Wiechman, son of Grace Wiechman; Pat Faunce, friend of Eric Zander; Conrad Kunz, friend of Eric Zander (*and Dennis Bidwell*); Barbara C. Johnson, friends of Mount Olive.

**In hospice care:** Mary Lee.

### *About our prayer list ...*

*If you have submitted a name or names to be published on our prayer list, please review the list regularly, to make sure those for whom we are praying are still in need of our prayers. Contact the church office with any updates.*

## Mount Olive Lutheran Church

3045 Chicago Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55407

*A congregation of the Evangelical  
Lutheran Church in America*

**Summer Sunday Eucharist:  
10:00 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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