



The Olive Branch

July 19, 2023

Sunday Readings

July 23, 2023

8th Sunday after Pentecost
Lect. 16 A
Isaiah 44:6-8
Psalm 86:11-17
Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 30, 2023

9th Sunday after Pentecost
Lect. 17 A
1 Kings 3:5-12
Psalm 119:129-136
Romans 8:26-39
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

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

Accent on Worship

Pastor Joseph Crippen

Turn it in the light

"I will open my mouth to speak in parables; I will proclaim what has been hidden from the foundation of the world." (*Matthew 13:35, quoting from Psalm 78*)

Jesus taught in parables to reveal what has been hidden. Even though last Sunday's parable of the Sower and this Sunday's parable of the Wheat and Weeds include an allegorical explanation, probably added after Jesus' time, Jesus' parables are not meant to have one singular meaning.

Jesus was perfectly capable of teaching directly and clearly. But he often spoke in parables, which aren't clear. They're jewels to be looked at in all kinds of light, turned to see new things. The best thing to do with Jesus' parables is to listen. Imagine. See if there is something new to find.

Be ready, though. Counting last Sunday, there are 20 Sundays left in the Church Year, and 12 of the Gospel readings in those 20 will include parables of Jesus. Now's the time to get your ears and heart and mind ready to be open to what Jesus is showing.

Because that's really the gift of his parables. They show an image of something hidden in God's heart, in God's reign, and invite you to take that image up to the light and ponder. Each parable can have multiple meanings to see. Maybe you'll see something no one else has before.

To those who have ears to hear, let them listen, Jesus liked to say. So let's listen together. Imagine. Be open. There is grace to encounter, wonder to grasp, truth to lean on, in these images and stories. Come, Holy Spirit, and open our eyes and ears and hearts to your truth.

All-Church Picnic!

When: Sunday, July 30, after worship

Where: Picnic Shelter C, Minnehaha Falls Regional Park

Bring: Bring a dish to share and a serving utensil. Mount Olive will provide beef and veggie burgers, lemonade, and all plates, eating utensils, and cups.

Park: Use any of the designated lots, or the Veterans' Home lot.

For the kids: the picnic shelter is close to the playground and the splash pad.

If you wish, bring lawn chairs. The shelter has bench-style picnic tables.

PICNIC HELP NEEDED! If you can help set-up and/or clean up, or if you would like to join Pr. Crippen in flipping burgers, email conglife@mountolivechurch.org.

Park Map: https://www.minneapolisparcs.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/minnehaha_park_picnic_map_CO_RRECTED_2022.pdf

Our Going Out and Our Coming In

Staff vacation schedules

Jim Bargmann will be on vacation July 14-21 and August 7-14.

Cantor Cherwien will be on vacation July 16-24.

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 31.**

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: 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: property@mountolivechurch.org

Calendar

Wednesday, July 19

10:00 am Staff meeting

6:00 pm Vicar Committee meeting

Thursday, July 20

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, July 21

7:00 pm Recovery Group

Sunday, July 23 - Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Tuesday, July 25

Noon Bible Study

Wednesday, July 26

10:00 am Staff meeting

Thursday, July 27

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, July 28

7:00 pm Recovery Group

Sunday, July 30 - Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Noon **All Church Picnic @ Minnehaha Park**

Tuesday, August 1

Noon Bible Study

Wednesday, August 2

10:00 am Staff meeting

Attention Sunday Servants!

The Mount Olive Servant Schedule for 4th Quarter 2023 (Oct-Dec) will be published at the beginning of September. Please send any requests or questions regarding scheduling conflicts to me by **Friday, August 18**.

Thanks!

- Greg Murphy gregRmurphy@gmail.com

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 August 12 meeting, they will read, *Cloud Cuckoo Land*, by Anthony Doerr. And for their September 9 meeting, they will read *Lessons in Chemistry*, by Bonnie Garmus.

The Mount Olive book regularly 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](#).

From the Congregational Life Committee

Upcoming events:

All-church picnic: July 30 after worship, Minnehaha Park. More info on page 2.

Church camping trip: August 11-13 at Nerstrand Big Woods State Park. If you would like to reserve a site, the link is <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090E4AA9A828A2F94-mount2>. Deadline for reservations is Saturday, July 22. Only four electric sites remain available.

Nerstrand Big Woods State Park is just an hour south of Mount Olive. If you would like to join the group just for the day on Saturday, please email conglife@mountolivechurch.org, or call the church office.

Global Ministry: EPES helps immigrants at Chile's northern border

ELCA missionary Karen Anderson, who works with EPES/Popular Education for Health, writes that many people in Chile are experiencing “disappointing and difficult times.” One reason is the defeat of a proposed new constitution that would have significantly expanded social rights to health care, education, and social security.

Another is a humanitarian crisis along Chile's northern border with Peru – a crisis that in some ways is a Southern Hemisphere mirror image of what's happening at the U.S.-Mexico border. An estimated half-million immigrants, about one-third of them Venezuelans, have found their way into Chile in the last four years. They include some 180,000 Haitians, who often face both language barriers and prejudice.

The situation at the Chile-Peru border – in the Atacama Desert, where it's winter – is described in [the May issue of EPES's newsletter](#): “Since mid-April, 300 mostly Venezuelan, but also Haitian, Colombian and Ecuadoran, migrants and refugees, with backpacks, infants in strollers, and light bags, have been stranded along the sandy wayside of the highway that cuts through the desert. Chilean military are lined up behind them, Peruvian police ahead of them. They are not allowed to remain in Chile or to enter Peru.”

Since early in 2022, both EPES and the ELCA have supported Asamblea de Migrantes y Promigrantes (AMPRO), which helps immigrants in Iquique and Arica, cities in northern Chile. AMPRO provides emergency resources to immigrants, prioritizing women with children.

EPES is one of [ten global ministries](#) supported by Mount Olive Lutheran Church.

Vacation Time!

Now that summer vacation time is here, many are traveling and using hotel and motel accommodations, which often provide complimentary toiletries for their guests. Upon leaving, the unused toiletry items may be kept and donated.

These items are especially useful for people in uncertain housing situations, as they're typically small and easily transported. Please bring these small-sized toiletry items to Mount Olive and place them in the designated bins in the coat room for further distribution.

Property Committee Updates

Sexton Support Needed

With the resignation of our Sexton, we have a need for volunteers who can assist with light cleaning, building opening/closing, and set up for events until we are able to fill the position. The light cleaning involves emptying trash and recycling, cleaning bathrooms, dusting, vacuuming, and mopping floors.

Set up assistance would be required for special events and involves moving tables and chairs. Opening and closing the building, known as a building keeper in the past, involves ensuring that on Sundays the building is properly opened, secured at the end of the day, and that there is someone in addition to the ushers watching the Parish House and entrances during the service. Training for all the above is available!

If you can help, please contact the office: welcome@mountolivechurch.org, 612-827-5919 or Carol Martinson at welcome@mountolivechurch.org, or 612-708-9849.

Supporting our Neighbors

July 25 - Street Voices of Change (a program of Align Minneapolis) is holding a fundraising event at the Global Market from 5:00 – 9:00 pm. Mount Olive is offering the use of our parking lot for those who would want to park for free (without validation) for this event.

Come and support this event. A portion of any purchases made at East Lake Brewery from 5 to 9 pm will go to support this important and vital group!

August 13 - 4:00 pm - 7:00 - Southside Shtetl is a market celebrating Jewish culture and art. It is named "Southside Shtetl" to pay homage to the small Jewish villages in pre-Holocaust Eastern Europe. The markets began a year ago by one of our neighbors on 31st and Elliot and have become point of coming together in the southside Jewish community.

The August market will be held in our South Parking lot. Mount Olive is also supporting the market with the use of our tables and chairs.

July 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.



Congratulations, Rose!

Rose Thompson affirmed her baptismal vows through the rite of Confirmation on Sunday, July 9 (rescheduled from the Day of Pentecost, due to illness.)

Congratulations, Rose!

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

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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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