



# The Olive Branch

September 27, 2023

## Sunday Readings

**October 1, 2023**

*18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

*Lect. 26 A*

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Psalms 25:1-9

Philippians 2:1-13

Matthew 21:23-32

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**October 8, 2023**

*19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

*Lect. 27 A*

Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalms 80:7-15

Philippians 3:4b-14

Matthew 21:33-46

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

## Accent on Worship *Cantor David Cherwien*

### *About our hymnody*

The “Choir Handbook” provided to the Cantorei includes a section about our various practices in singing hymns. It seems appropriate to share that information with all of you in this article.

The hope, (assumption? expectation?) is that everyone sings with “full and conscious participation” borrowing a phrase from the Roman Catholics following Vatican 2, with an awareness of meaning, and with a lack of inhibition – we’re all engaged together in song as one, a unique sound each time we gather.

You may have noticed that we sing all stanzas of every hymn, keeping the texts complete. It would have to be a reason better than time to not sing all stanzas. We have the time, we make the time!

There are some things we do to help that maintain a sense of vitality, hospitality, and meaningfulness for multiple stanzas. This is mostly through “alternation” – where different subgroups sing a stanza while others rest. Just as an orchestral instrument rarely plays 100% of the time, there are moments of rest which help energize the non-rest sections.

Here are some practices we’ve developed with our hymn singing:

1. Singing out full voice encourages others to join in!  
Sing without fear – remember it’s for God more than anyone else.

*continued on page 2*

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

2. The first and last stanzas are usually unison – this is to strengthen the melody, especially to help the non-note reader who would be drawn to the melody more than harmony parts.
3. Rarely do we sing two stanzas in a row the same way. Some options for alternations have been: treble voices (sopranos and altos)/low voices (tenors/basses. This has to do with octaves), harmony/unison, sometimes we'll have choir, all, organ, pulpit/lectern sides, etc. sing a stanza while the others rest.
4. If there are no instructions (often 3 stanza hymns) the middle stanza can be sung in harmony if the harmonies are printed in the hymnal.
5. If a hymn is printed in *ELW* with a harmonization, those harmonies are intended to be vocal. That was not always the case with the previous hymnal, *Lutheran Book of Worship*.
6. When singing in canon, always be listening to where help is needed most – if a part sounds weak, jump to it! The first entrance of a canon is the most vulnerable, as many want to “wait” for a next entry point.
7. This is true for anything – always jump to whatever needs help! IF the organ drops out, step up the game to be sure the singing remains strong.
8. Sopranos and tenors: when strong hymns end in a low register, the last note(s) can be doubled an octave higher.
9. Note-readers have an important responsibility to help.
10. If we run out of hymns during distribution, I sometimes pick another one and begin the introduction. If you recognize it (indexes are wonderful, aren't they?) jump to it, and visually communicate that to those around you.

I have wondered if these things could happen spontaneously. There was a time at Mount Olive when that was the case, although consistent patterns were observed (Stanza 2 by choir, for example), but for clarity's sake, and for hospitality's sake, these alternations are clearly identified in the service folder.

If you ever have questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

- Cantor David Cherwien

## Calendar

### Wednesday, September 27

10:00 am Staff meeting  
5:30 pm Children's Choirs supper  
6:00 pm Children's Choir rehearsals  
7:00 pm Y2 Confirmation  
7:00 pm Cantorei rehearsal

### Thursday, September 28

6:00 pm Bible Study  
7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

### Friday, September 29

Noon Bible Study  
7:00 pm Recovery Group

### Sunday, October 1 - Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee & conversation  
9:30 am Education for all ages (Godly Play, Adult Forum)  
10:45 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee & conversation  
2:00 pm *Blessing of the Animals* (bring your pets!)

### Monday, October 2

5:30 pm Family Music Time (online)  
7:00 pm Global Ministry Committee meeting  
7:00 pm Worship Committee meeting  
7:00 pm Monday Night WAVE (N.A. group)

### Tuesday, October 3

Noon Bible Study

### Wednesday, October 4

10:00 am Staff meeting  
5:30 pm Children's Choirs supper  
6:00 pm Children's Choir rehearsals  
7:00 pm Y2 Confirmation  
7:00 pm Cantorei rehearsal

## Ride Needed from the Richfield Area

Transportation help is needed on Sunday mornings for Melba Smrcka, long-time member who turned 105 years old last Sunday. She is mobile and walks to and from the car.

Coming to church is one of the few times Melba gets out of her house, so this is an important ministry! She lives on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 72<sup>nd</sup> Street. If you can help, even if only a Sunday each month, that would be great! Email [conglife@mountolivechurch.org](mailto:conglife@mountolivechurch.org) to help, or for more information.

## 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

Book Discussion group will skip their October session to leave more time to read Fyodor Dostoevsky's great novel, *The Brothers Karamazov*, which they will discuss on November 11. For December 9, they will read *St. Thomas Aquinas*, by G. K. Chesterton.

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 smart phone, [click here](#).

## Wear Your Name Tags!

As is customary for us when a new Vicar arrives, we ask that everyone wear their nametags at church for at least the next several weeks, to help Vicar Lauren get to know us all a little faster.

If your name tag is damaged or missing, contact the church office and a new one will be prepared for you.

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## Altar Flowers

Thanks to all who provide altar flowers for the beautification of our liturgies!

**PLEASE** take your flowers home with you following the second liturgy! It is such a waste if they sit in the sacristy refrigerator all week and aren't able to be enjoyed by anyone, and sad when we have to throw them out.

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## Coffee Hour Hosts Needed!

The coffee hour sign-up is seriously undersubscribed! Can you help? Hosting coffee hour is easy, and training is provided! [Contact Lora Dundek](#) with any questions you may have.

The sign-up is located in the East Assembly Room, right next to the serving window.

## *On Earth As In Heaven: Thursday-Friday Bible Study Continues (Zoom, too)*

A five-session Bible study led by Pr. Crippen continues, with identical sessions on Thursday evenings at 6:00 p.m. and Fridays at noon. The topic is "On Earth As In Heaven," a deep look at the reign of God as Jesus proclaimed it and created it, and as Paul and others understood it.

This first session we'll be looking at the classic Law/Gospel categories of Lutheran theology and how their intersection (or conflict?) with Jesus' proclamation might play out, and introduce the themes of the future sessions. Thursday night will include our usual light supper when we begin. For Friday, feel free to bring your lunch along. All are welcome to this study opportunity!

[Click here to join the Zoom meeting for either the Thursday or Friday sessions.](#)

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## Disaster Relief

Mount Olive's Global Ministry Committee has donated to Lutheran World Relief to help those impacted by the earthquake in Morocco and the flooding in Libya.

[You can also make a personal donation at Lutheran World Relief.](#) LWR works with vulnerable communities when disaster strikes. In the weeks after the disaster, they help to meet people's immediate needs. And in the months and years following, they work with communities to ensure they can rebuild and prepare for future disasters.

Please keep the people of Morocco and Libya in your prayers.



## Our Life Together

### Save the Date

Sunday, October 29: Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting following the second liturgy, followed by **Octoberfest!** Come to the meeting - stay for enjoy brats and all the fixings.

### Save This Date, Too!

Sunday, November 12, 2:30 p.m.: Minneapolis Institute of Arts tour, led by Bill Wilson, friend of Mount Olive and MIA Docent. This tour will focus on items in the MIA collection that showcase how artists use interior space that often causes us to look in awe and wonder. Included will be both large pieces and small chapel and private art. The tour is free, but a donation to MIA is encouraged.

### Thanks!

Thanks to Erica Johnsen-Buss, Vestry Director of Youth and Family, and her crew of helpers for the lovely coffee hour treats this past Sunday. There are lots of blank spaces for Coffee Hour volunteers. Please consider signing up to help. For questions, call Lora at 651-645-6636 or email [conglife@mountolivechurch.org](mailto:conglife@mountolivechurch.org).

### From the ELCA's Truth and Healing Initiative

This Saturday, September 30, is National Day of Remembrance for Indian Boarding Schools. Sept. 30 is the National Day of Remembrance for Indian Boarding Schools. We will be participating in this National Day of Remembrance by wearing orange shirts!

This year we encourage you to support the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition (NABS) by purchasing a NABS branded orange t-shirt from their online store. [Order yours TODAY](#), while supplies last! Otherwise, any orange shirt will work.

For more resources on this important work, see the [ELCA's Truth and Healing Initiative](#) website.

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## Library Donations on Hold Until Further Notice

Lately we have found several boxes of books which have been left in or near the church library as a donation.

We appreciate your thinking of the library, but for the time being, we ask you to hold off on such donations until we have a chance to review what is here and determine library needs.

Thank you.

- Dave Engen  
Director of Education

## **“Year B” of *The Feminine Divine***

*Organization Meeting October 5*

I hope you will consider joining me and other Mount Olive sisters, brothers, and siblings for a joy-filled engagement with the Feminine Divine during the 2023-24 education year. We are finalizing readings and our schedule at an inaugural meeting Thursday, October 5, at 5:30 pm, in the lower level lounge at Mount Olive.

I am deeply grateful to the members of the “Year A” Feminine Divine 2022-23 group, who significantly enriched my experience of this community, and my life! Others asked if they could join or if I was offering it again in the future, so we will see if there is enough interest for Year B. Please join us as you are interested and moved by the Spirit! You no more need Year A to participate in Year B than you do for the lectionary.

This year, Year B, we will consider and contemplate the Feminine Divine as She manifests as Woman Wisdom in the Hebrew Scripture / Old Testament, as Shekinah (the Spirit of God that dwells within), and ChristoSophia from the tradition’s roots, alongside the Christian mystics. We will likely use three or so texts; scholarships are available. We will prepare individually and meet as a group to engage with the texts and ideas intellectually, and also emotionally and spiritually.

Please contact me to let me know of your interest! I facilitate the group and can be reached at [teresa@wiserwilderleadership.com](mailto:teresa@wiserwilderleadership.com) or text/call me at 612-275-7468 and feel free to leave a message. You may also contact David Engen, Mount Olive Director for Education, at [education@mountolivechurch.org](mailto:education@mountolivechurch.org). Hope to see you October 5!

- Teresa Rothausen

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## **Upcoming Adult Forums**

**October 1 and 8:** “Climate Change and Jesus' Three Temptations: Energy in human history as viewed through the lens of Matthew 4:1-11,” presented by Professor Frederic L. Quivik, retired professor of history at Michigan Tech, and presently serving as part of the Saint Paul Area Synod Care of Creation.

**October 15:** As is done every year, the vestry will present the Mount Olive budget proposal for the coming year. This will give you the opportunity to learn more regarding the financial needs in order to fulfill our mission.

**October 22 and 29:** The Rev. Dr. William Russell will present a 2-part series on the historical and theological impact of The Smalcald Articles. The Smalcald Articles or Schmalkald Articles, are a summary of Lutheran doctrine, written by Martin Luther in 1537 for a meeting of the Schmalkaldic League in preparation for an intended ecumenical Council of the Church. Dr. Russell has focused his study on the importance of this document in the formation of Lutheran theology.



## Align Mpls Fundraiser

Our partner organization, Align Mpls, is holding a fundraising event, "An Afternoon at the Mansion," on Sunday, October 8 from 11:30 am to 3:00 pm.

Align member organization, The Dignity Center, itself a part of Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church, does it's work out of the former Walker family mansion located on the property of HUMC and that actual mansion will serve as the site for this fun event with snacks, mocktails, lawn games, tours, and opportunities to hear about the work of Align Mpls.

The website for reserving tickets for this event is now live and can be found at <https://www.alignmpls.org/fundraiser>.

And we still need people who are able to make desserts for this event. Ideally, we would have 8-9

more desserts from people at Mount Olive. If you are able to prepare a dessert of some kind, please email Coordinator of Neighborhood Ministry Jim Bargmann at [neighborhood@mountolivechurch.org](mailto:neighborhood@mountolivechurch.org) and he can share details with you.

## Blessing of the Animals

This Sunday, October 1, 2023

2:00 p.m.

*Bring your pets to this annual  
service of blessing!*

## September Neighborhood Ministry Partner of the Month:

### *Simpson Housing*

Simpson Housing is a multifaceted organization, providing an emergency shelter, single adult supportive housing, and family supportive housing across the Twin Cities metro area. They provide along with developmental and educational services for children of families in their family shelter program and “work across the metro area partnering with landlords and developers to find sustainable housing for families and individuals.” In addition, Simpson operates the Adult Shelter Connect program for Hennepin County, providing a single point of contact for those seeking shelter throughout the county.

In 2020, Simpson began the process of raising funds to rebuild their shelter and office building to become the Simpson Community Shelter and Apartments. “Plans for the [new] five-story facility include two floors of permanent supportive housing (42 efficiency units), two floors of emergency shelter (70 beds), a commercial kitchen capable of serving 100 people, a 24-hour front desk, and offices and clinic space...”. Earlier this year, the temporarily relocated their shelter operations to the former Zion Lutheran Church building. They are in the final phase of their fundraising campaign and groundbreaking is planned for Fall 2023. For more information about Simpson Housing, please visit their website at [www.simpsonhousing.org](http://www.simpsonhousing.org).

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## Announcing Mount Olive Music and Fine Arts - 2023-2024 Series

As a gift to the community, it is our honor and pleasure to offer these musical events, free of charge! All concerts are on Sunday afternoons, at 4:00 pm. We invite you to join us for these unique experiences, each glimpses of beauty.

For full information, please use the QR code or visit the web page at:

[www.mountolivechurch.org/music/music-fine-arts-series/](http://www.mountolivechurch.org/music/music-fine-arts-series/)



- **Sunday, October 15, 2023, 4 pm:** Ruth McKenzie and Friends. “Kalevala favorites,” American folk songs that tell stories
- **Sunday, December 3, 2023, 4 pm:** Advent Procession Service. A service of lessons and carols in the time of waiting.
- **Sunday, January 28, 2024, 4 pm:** Music for Trumpet and Organ. Charles Lazarus and Cantor David Cherwien team up for an eclectic program, including a reprise of “American Nomad’ by Steve Heizig.
- **Sunday, February 18, 2024, 4 pm:** Lent Procession Service. A service of lessons and carols as we enter the season of Lent.
- **Sunday, April 14, 2024, 4 pm:** Choral Concert: Angelica Encore Choral Ensemble, Nancy Grundal, conductor. An eclectic program of music about the earth.
- **Saturday, Sunday, June 1,2, 2024- Seventeenth Annual Bach-tage:** Sing with the choir as it learns a cantata, then presents it in Evening Prayer on Sunday afternoon. Guest conductor Kathy Romey.

A representative from MFA will be available at church in the coming weeks to receive your contributions to this year’s series, or you may make your contribution [HERE](#).



## Mount Olive Lutheran Church

3045 Chicago Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55407

*A congregation of the Evangelical  
Lutheran Church in America*

### **Sunday Eucharists:**

**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 – *Lauren Mildahl*

Coordinator of Neighborhood Outreach  
and Ministry – *Jim Bargmann*

Administrative Assistant – *Cha Posz*

*Mount Olive is a Reconciling in Christ  
congregation.*

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