



The Olive Branch

March 20, 2024

Sunday Readings

March 24, 2024

Sunday of the Passion, year B

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11

Mark 14:1 – 15:47

March 31, 2024

*Resurrection of Our Lord,
year B*

Isaiah 25:6-9

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Acts 10:34-43

Mark 16:1-8

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

Accent on Worship

Cantor David Cherwien

Here we go . . .

We are about to enter our “High Holy Days” – beginning this coming weekend with Passion Sunday. From there the drama unfolds as we go through the week reliving the events that led to Jesus’ death on the cross to the resurrection three days later.

The entire week is a package. Its profundity is most heightened if one enters into all of it. A lot of liturgies are offered that week – every day, in fact. Being a part of the liturgies and observing the week fully is one thing – going through the effort to get here another.

Some particular things about each day that stand out to me:

- The dramatic turn on Passion Sunday from the triumphant entry with Shofar and bells, to the passion story in its completeness. Then at the end of that liturgy the powerful hymn “There in God’s Garden.”
- The daily 10-minute prayer Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. They are small gatherings but have a profound effect on my focus for the week.
- The prelude of Maundy Thursday’s liturgies: Olivier Messaien’s “Celestial Banquet” – which draws us into a place of mystery and awe for the Three Days.
- The end of the Maundy Thursday service, when Psalm 22 is chanted as the Altar is stripped, and we enter darkness.
- The Stations of the Cross service at Noon on Friday – a powerful and emotional depiction with the organ improvisations and sung stanza for each station, and the billowing incense as the procession moves through the room. One of the most powerful for me: the “heartbeat” slowing and stopping at the eighth station as Jesus dies. After the ninth station, the organ is turned off until the Easter proclamation during the Easter Vigil service.

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Accent on Worship, *continued from page 1*

- The “reproaches” sung at the Adoration of the Cross of the Good Friday evening service.
- Waiting in complete darkness just before the Easter Vigil begins, then the dramatic flickering light as the new Paschal Candle enters the room. The darkness is broken at the outburst of bells, organ, and song at the Easter proclamation.
- The Widor “Toccata” as prelude for the Easter liturgy, and once again having the joy of our guest trumpeter Charles Lazarus.

These are only a few of many “moments” we are about to experience again. There is an eager sense of how lucky we are to be able to gather for these profound liturgies, and really no where else I would rather be. How about you?

What are your moments in your memory? The invitation is there for you to enter into as many of these liturgies and the drama as you can. Why not all?

- Cantor David Cherwien

Easter Garden

Volunteers will be on hand for one more Sunday (this Sunday, March 24) before, between, and following the liturgies to receive your donations to purchase Easter flowers for this year’s Paschal Garden. Please be sure that your donations are clearly labeled “Easter Garden.”

Getting to Know the Mount Olive Community

The Youth and Family Committee is planning to start placing a monthly rotating display in the chapel area where we typically gather for adult education and coffee on Sundays. This will include a photo and brief description of a person or family that attends Mount Olive. We are hoping that this practice helps us get to know names and faces and a little more about each other in addition to the existing ways of communicating through worship and other activities. We are open to including people of any age or family structure.

If you would like to be included in a future monthly display or if you have any questions, please feel free to email Erica at youthfamily@mountolivechurch.org or send a text message to 651-216-5983.

Calendar

Wednesday, March 20

- 9:00 am Staff meeting
Noon *Midweek Lenten Eucharist*, followed by Soup Luncheon
5:30 pm Children's Choirs supper
6:00 pm Children's Choir rehearsals
6:00 pm Soup supper
7:00 pm *Midweek Vespers*
7:30 pm Cantorei rehearsal

Thursday, March 21

- 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, March 22

- 7:00 pm Recovery Group

Saturday, March 23

- 10:00 am Funeral Visitation: Larry Crosby
11:00 am *Funeral Eucharist*
1:00 pm Altar Guild chancel cleaning

Sunday, March 24 - Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday

- 8:00 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee and conversation
9:30 am Godly Play (No Adult Forum this day)
10:45 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee and conversation

Monday, March 25 - Monday in Holy Week

- Noon *Daily Prayer*
12:30 pm Holy Week planning meeting
7:00 pm Monday Night WAVE (N.A.)

Tuesday, March 26 - Tuesday in Holy Week

- Noon *Daily Prayer*
12:15 pm Bible Study

Chancel Dusting and Polishing Day

The Altar Guild is hosting a chancel-cleaning event **this Saturday, March 23, beginning at 1:00 p.m.**, (please note time change!) following the funeral for Larry Crosby.

Please join our crew – for an hour, for the afternoon. The more hands, the faster we'll finish! Come help prepare our worship space for Holy Week and Easter.

Questions? Contact Beth Gaede: bethgaede@comcast.net.

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 their March 9 meeting, the Book Discussion group will read *Mr. Ives' Christmas*, by Oscar Hijuelos, and for May 11 they will read *Everything Sad is Untrue*, by Daniel Nayeri.

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](#).

Congregational Life Trip to Hocokata Ti

Visit Hocokata Ti, the Dakotah history museum near Shakopee. Saturday, April 20, 9 a.m.-approximately 1 p.m. This is a new museum which uses Dakotah voices to tell the story of Dakotah people. It is an excellent way to gain more understanding of our neighbors and those whose traditional homeland we occupy.

We will start with coffee/tea and muffins at Mount Olive to give a brief introduction, then carpool to the museum. This event requires a sign-up, with a deadline of April 13! Use the following link to sign up, or call the church office. There is a limit of 30 participants. The cost of admission is listed below. If cost is a barrier for you, please speak with Pr. Crippen or Vicar Mildahl, who can offer confidential assistance.

Museum admission:

General: \$8.00

Senior and K-12 Students: \$5.00

Children under 5: Free

Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/hocokatati>

Children's Choirs Lent/Easter Art Display

Dear Mount Olive Community,

You are invited to stop by the West Assembly gathering area on Palm Sunday(this week!) to view the first phase of the Choristers's Lenten/ Easter art project. The Choristers have been working hard each Wednesday evening.

It is important to view the art both during HOLY WEEK and then again on EASTER. Each chorister has created a portion of the whole that is unique to their voice and personality.

Our working title for our project is: "The Journey of LU." Remember, ****LU**, the banner, was hidden in the dark geothermal center weeks ago! Come and see what the choristers have created to express the Lenten journey and the new life of Easter. The art will be up through Sunday, April 21.

Parking Reminders

Please do not leave your car parked in the handicapped drop-off area in front of the Parish House! Use this space only for dropping off and picking people up, and then promptly move your car, as others have to use that space as well.

Parking is also available on weekends behind the Career Force Center at the corner of Lake St. & Chicago Avenue.

Adult Forums

There will be no Adult Forums on March 24 and 31.

April 7: "The Wisdom of Awe," presented by David Engen. The University of California - Berkely has embarked on the study of awe as a critically important experience for humanity. We need experiences which take us out of ourselves and place us at the center of mystery. They go so far as to say the survival of the species depends on the experience of awe. Religion sometimes can focus only on the rational part of human thinking. But what about the aspects of wonder, mystery, and unexplainable? Have we become so rigid in our thinking we refuse to recognize there are some things beyond our comprehension? Is there a way for us to recapture the childlike wonder we once held? How does being open to awe transform our vision, our lives, and strengthens our relationship with God?

Please note! Circles One and Two of Godly Play WILL meet this Sunday, March 24.

Holy Week, Triduum, and Easter at Mount Olive

Monday-Wednesday, March 25-27: Monday-Wednesday in Holy Week
+ Daily Prayer at Noon, in the side chapel of the nave, near the columbarium

Thursday, March 28: Maundy Thursday
+ Holy Eucharist, Noon
+ Holy Eucharist, with Washing of Feet, 7:00 pm

Friday, March 29: Good Friday
+ Stations of the Cross, Noon
+ Adoration of the Cross, 7 pm

Saturday, March 30: Holy Saturday
+ The Easter Vigil, 8:30 pm, followed by a festive reception

Sunday, March 31: The Resurrection of Our Lord/Easter Day
+ ONE Festival Holy Eucharist at 10 am (note schedule!)
Carry-in Brunch before the liturgy at 9:00 am (bring a dish to share!)

Midweek Lenten Worship

Wednesdays in Lent

Holy Eucharist at Noon,
followed by Soup Luncheon

Vespers at 7:00 pm,
preceded by Soup Supper at 6 pm

All are welcome.

March Neighborhood Ministries Partner of the Month: *Sabathani Community Center and Community Emergency Services*

In March, we highlight two of our partners that work on issues of food insecurity in our south Minneapolis community as a part of the Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign, a state-wide initiative intended to bring together “organizations, businesses, faith communities, and individuals” to raise awareness about the issue of food insecurity and support for local food programs.

“Sabathani Community Center is one of Minnesota’s oldest African American-founded nonprofits... [and] helps equip approximately 32,000 South Minneapolis residents annually” through their food shelf, clothes closet, senior’s programs, workforce initiatives, support for school- age children, and more.



Community Emergency Service or CES, works to alleviate hunger and food insecurity through an on-site food shelf, food delivery programs, a partnership with Meals on Wheels, and its unique Ani-Meals program, providing food for pets and service animals.

Mount Olive has chosen to support each of our Partners of the Month through a yearly contribution from our budget. On top of those financial 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.

In addition, we will be collecting donations of non-perishable food items in the cart located in the West Assembly to be divided between our two food shelf partners. However, for those who are able, we strongly encourage monetary donations. Because our food shelf partners have access discounts and bulk purchase opportunities not available to regular consumers, monetary donations allow our partners to purchase much more food than if we were to purchase the same food through a retail store.

For more information about the work of the Sabathani Community Center, please visit their website at sabathani.org. For more information about CES, please visit cesmn.org.

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

Web: 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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