

# The Olive Branch

October 30, 2024

## Accent on Worship

*Robert Farlee*

How do we remember the saints? Some of them, those we have known and loved, we recall fondly, sharing stories of them long after they have died. We miss them; we can identify with Jesus weeping at the death of his friend Lazarus. But there are more – “a great multitude that no one could count,” according to Revelation. Next Sunday we will remember them all in worship: those dear to us, those who have helped to shape the Christian church, those known only to God. Especially at this time of year, it feels right, an impulse rooted deep within us, to think of the blessed dead and to thank God for them.

This year we will do so in a special way. For centuries, the Western church has had a form of worship called the Requiem Mass, through which we ask God to grant rest (“requiem” meaning rest) to those who have died. Many composers have provided music for different versions of the Requiem Mass, including Verdi, Brahms, Duruflé, and Rutter. On this Sunday at both services, much of the liturgy will consist of Gabriel Fauré’s beloved setting of the Requiem Mass, sung by our Cantorei under the direction of Deacon Andrew Stoebig. It is a particularly appropriate year to be worshiping with that music, because next Monday, November 4, will be the one-hundredth anniversary of Fauré’s death in Paris.

The Requiem text we will hear consists of several sections. “Liberate me” asks God to have mercy on those who have died. “Pie (pronounced ‘PEE-ay’) Jesu” asks God to give them rest. This prayer for eternal rest is also central to the Introit, which is followed by the Kyrie. The words to the Sanctus and Agnus Dei, though sung in Latin, are familiar to us. Finally, at the end of our worship, we will pray to “In Paradisum” – “May the angels lead you into paradise.”

It will be a rich time of beauty and remembrance.

- Robert Farlee



## Sunday Readings

**November 3, 2024**

*All Saints Sunday*

Isaiah 25:6-9

Psalm 24

Revelation 21:1-6a

John 11:32-44

**November 10, 2024**

*25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after*

*Pentecost*

1 Kings 17:8-16

Psalm 146

Hebrews 9:24-28

Mark 12:38-44

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

## Godly Play News

**Stories for This Week:** When the people of God came to Jerusalem, they built a more permanent worship center.

Circle 1 will hear about

The Temple, the House of God.

Circle 2 is returning to hear about Old Testament leaders. This week King David is on deck.

All children ages 3-kindergarten are welcome to Circle One, and children in grades 1-5 are welcome to Circle Two.



## Important Note Regarding Next Week's *Olive Branch*

Next week's *Olive Branch* will be published on Monday, November 4. This means that **the deadline for information for that issue will be moved up to this Friday, November 1.**

Please make sure you have any information you wish to have included in next week's issue in to the church office by Friday. Thank you!

## Oktoberfest Thanks!

Thanks to all who helped make our annual Oktoberfest meal a success. A special shout out to the family and friends, (cooking brats and hotdogs), David Engen, (music and trivia game), David Molvik and Ken Schulz, (AV support), and especially Gretchen and Kat Campbell Johnson for managing the kitchen. To all who cooked, baked, set up and cleaned up - you are much appreciated!

- Lora Dundek, Congregational Life Director

## 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

The choice for November 9 book club discussion is *The Ski Jumpers: A Novel* by Minnesotan Peter Geye. For the December 14 gathering the selection is *The Secret Chord* by Geraldine Brooks, an author the group seems to return to almost as much as it does books by Louise Erdrich. Everyone is invited to join whenever you are able, at 10 a.m. in the library, usually on the second Saturday of the month. 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.](#)

## Calendar

### Wednesday, October 30

- 10:00 am Staff meeting  
5:30 pm Children's Choir Supper  
6:00 pm Children's Choir rehearsals  
7:00 pm Cantorei rehearsal  
7:00 pm Y2/Y3 Confirmation

### Thursday, October 31

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

### Friday, November 1

- Noon Funeral Visitation  
**1:30 pm** *Funeral Eucharist: Walter Cherwien*  
7:00 pm Recovery Group

### Saturday, November 2

- 1:00 pm** *Funeral Eucharist: Carla Manuel*

### Sunday, November 3 - All Saints Sunday

- 8:00 am** *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee and conversation  
9:30 am Godly Play / Adult Forum  
9:30 am Youth Education planning meeting  
**10:45 am** *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee and conversation

### Monday, November 4

- Noon Bible Study  
5:30 pm Family Music Time (online only)  
7:00 pm Vicar Committee meeting  
7:00 pm Global Ministry Committee meeting  
7:00 pm Monday Night WAVE (N.A.)

### Tuesday, November 5 - Election Day

*Building open 8am-8pm for prayer.*

- Noon Bible Study  
5:30 pm Soup & Sandwich supper

## Attention Worship Assistants!

The Mount Olive Servant Schedule for 2025 Quarter 1 (January - March) will be published in December. Please send any scheduling preferences or dates you will be unavailable to me by **Friday, November 22**.

Please let me know any questions you have. Thank you.

- Greg Murphy

[gregRmurphy@gmail.com](mailto:gregRmurphy@gmail.com)

## National Lutheran Choir All Saints Concerts This Weekend, Nov. 2-3

Join the National Lutheran Choir for this meaningful program that honors loved ones lost, celebrates the newly born, and explores the intersection of faith, music, and the legacy we leave for generations to come.

Concerts will be held this weekend on Saturday, November 2, at 7:30 pm, in Shoreview and on Sunday, November 3, at 4:00 pm, in Edina.

For tickets and more information, visit [NLCA.com](http://NLCA.com).

## Align to Learn

Mount Olive partner Align Minneapolis organizes a series of educational events for those connected to its members congregations called Align to Learn.

Mount Olive will host the next Align to Learn on Wednesday, November 6 from 1:00 to 2:30 pm. Members of the group Street Voices of Change will share about the work they do to raise awareness about homelessness and bring about meaningful change in the community. All are invited to join us.



## Caring Community Dinners - Possible Volunteer Opportunity

GMCC (founded as Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches) is starting a new program where they will serve weekly meals to their clients that come to their drop in services, for members of Camp Neenokaasi, and for anyone else experiencing hardships that need a safe space to navigate their current situation. These meals would give them an opportunity to have a caring conversation along with a hot dinner.

They have asked several south Minneapolis and downtown faith communities, including Mount Olive, to consider providing meals on a rotating schedule. And so, I am asking you to let me know if you are interested in serving on a team of people who would prepare and deliver a meal to GMCC (located just three blocks from Mount Olive) not more than once a month on Tuesday afternoons.

Since this is a new program still under development, I do not have all the details yet. I am simply collecting information about who would be interested in participating. If you are potentially interested in being a part of a team that would prepare and deliver these meals, please email me at [neighborhood@mountolivechurch.org](mailto:neighborhood@mountolivechurch.org) by next Wednesday, November 6.

- Jim Bargmann  
Coordinator of Neighborhood Ministry

## Upcoming Adult Forums

**November 3 & 10** – “Jesus Saves – But How?” a 2-part presentation by Mount Olive member George Heider.

Our congregational worship principles emphasize that we come before God as Trinity, in a "dance" consisting of a unity in diversity. Yet all too often, we imagine that there is only one way to think about the very heart of our faith, the saving work of Jesus Christ. Still, a close examination of the Scriptural witness shows that from its very beginning the Christian faith has thought of this work in discrete, yet ultimately complementary, ways.

## Diaper Depot Opportunity

Do you have a couple free hours from time to time and want to support the Diaper Depot Ministry? We are looking for people willing to be substitute drivers when our regular delivery people need to be away.

### What is involved?

- o Client orders are packed on Tuesdays for delivery on Wednesday.
- o Routes are efficiently grouped by specific area of the city; e.g., central, south, western suburbs, northern suburbs, St. Paul, etc.
- o An optimized route sheet is printed and available to help plan your stops.
- o If no one is home to receive the order when you stop, you leave the order and text the client so they know where you left it.
- o A route usually takes about an hour or less from the time you pick up the diapers at Mount Olive until you are back home.

### Frequency?

- o Substitute drivers would be needed only occasionally when one of our regular delivery people is out of town or other circumstances prevent them from delivering their route.
- o Interested in being a regular delivery driver? We can use you, too! Larger routes can be split or shared so someone doesn't have to deliver every week. Note: We try to keep deliveries close to your home area, if possible.

### How to get involved?

- o Drop an email with your interest, availability, and good contact information to Jim Bargmann at [neighborhood@mountolivechurch.org](mailto:neighborhood@mountolivechurch.org). Jim will compile a list and he or the drivers will reach out to you as needs arise.
- o As always, thanks for considering serving in this way!

- Adam Krueger (the NW suburb delivery guy)

## Names of the Departed Saints Invited

As a part of our All Saints liturgy on Sunday, November 3, worshippers are invited to submit the names of loved ones close to them who have died in the past year, since last All Saints Sunday, who weren't members of Mount Olive (members of the parish who have died are always named).

For those who attend worship in the coming weeks, a book is located at the entrance to the nave where you can write these names. You may also contact the church office with the names. These other names submitted will be included in the prayers of intercession this Sunday.

Please keep this to just those who have died this past year, so we can have a more manageable list.

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## Youth Education Hour Planning Meeting

We would like to gather older-than-Godly-Play-aged youth, parents, and any adults with an interest in either leading group discussions with youth or serving youth in some other way (such as coordinating service projects). We plan to meet **this Sunday November 3, at 9:30 am** in/around the youth space area in the Undercroft. If you are interested but unable to attend, please email Erica at [youthfamily@mountolivechurch.org](mailto:youthfamily@mountolivechurch.org).

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## Disaster Response:

### *Hurricanes Helene and Milton*

The need is great for those affected by these devastating hurricanes. Your Global Ministry Committee has approved a \$2000 donation from the Global Ministry undesignated offerings for the relief effort.

We encourage you to pray, and if you can, give a donation to [ELCA Disaster Relief](#). If you prefer, you may give through Mount Olive by clearly designating your gift for "Hurricane Relief." Please note: gifts received by the church will be sent all at once, so using the ELCA link will get your gift to its destination much faster. Thanks for whatever you can do to help.

## Cantor Call Committee Update

On behalf of the Cantor Call Committee, we wanted to thank the entire congregation for entrusting us to lead the process for this unique and infrequent task - selecting and calling a new Cantor for Mount Olive.

Here are the key updates shared at the congregation meeting on October 27:

Committee is currently focused on finalizing two documents that will be used in the application process: a Site Profile, and a Job Description. The first document will be used to share information about the congregation and our mission together to applicants. The second is more standard and outlines the roles, responsibilities, required skills and capabilities we are seeking.

These documents will be approved by the Vestry prior to publication.

There will be an application process for candidates, with a goal of publishing this externally by December 15, 2024. The documents noted above will be made available to the Congregation, as will the application instructions.

There will be a referral process for members to make recommendations to the committee.

The committee has an e-mail address where any questions or topics may be directed - [callcommittee@mountolivechurch.org](mailto:callcommittee@mountolivechurch.org).

Look for our next update in the November 20th Olive Branch.

Your support and prayers are most appreciated.

In Peace,

*Cantor Call Committee: Kat Campbell Johnson (chair), Larry Duncan, Bob Farlee, Peggy Hoeft (recorder), Gene Janssen, Bekah Schulz, Tricia Van Ee Molbert, Cynthia Prosek (Vestry President, ex-officio), Pastor Joseph Crippen (ex-officio).*

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## Mental Health and the Bible: A Six-Week Study

What does the Bible say about our mental health and mental wellbeing? How does God interact with various people as they go through challenges in their minds and their hearts?

During this 6-week study we will take a closer look at the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament to uncover God's love and care for those struggling with their mental wellbeing. We'll discuss ways the Bible has been used in conversations about mental health and discover ways God shows up in our own journeys with our mental wellbeing.

Vicar Natalie Wussler leads this study which meets Mondays at noon and Thursdays at 6:00, beginning on October 28.

## Congregational Life Updates

The second annual Lefse-making party is scheduled for Saturday, November 16. [Please sign up here](#), or call Marsha Johnson at (763) 843-7024 if you don't have access to email. There is no cost, but there is a limit of 15 participants.

On Election Day, November 5, the church will be open throughout the day for prayer and reflection. From 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., you can gather with your Mount Olive family for a simple soup and sandwich supper. Please indicate your interest in eating together. Call or email the church office, or use the [sign up HERE](#). Signing up isn't a solid commitment, but helps us plan for an approximate number.

**Let us know if you're interested:** Join your church friends on Sunday, December 15, at 2 p.m. for a festive holiday concert featuring Mount Olive friend Charles Lazarus and the Minnesota Orchestra. It would help with planning for this event if you would indicate your interest [at this link](#), or by calling the church office. THIS DOES NOT COMMIT YOU TO ATTENDING, but merely indicates interest. Tickets cost \$62 each, but remember that Pr. Crippen can provide confidential financial assistance if needed.

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## An Update from Afghani Resettlement Team 2.0

Milad and Yasamin are settling into their "new normal" as a married couple living in St. Paul. The Resettlement Team has now completed acquiring the "nesting list" of items for their apartment, with the exception of a woman's bicycle (which can wait until Spring). Many hands played a part, but special recognition is due to Jim and Judy Johnson and to Elaine Halbardier for their leadership of the equipping and furnishing effort.

Milad continues his work at the MSP airport, while Yasamin continues her English lessons. She's making real progress, to the point that she has now started pursuing part-time employment. (If you have a lead on an opportunity that might work well for Yasamin, kindly share the information with Jim Johnson at jimjudyjake@comcast.net or 612-816-9252.) Special thanks to Hannah Rivard and Carolyn Heider for making weekly visits to help her with English proficiency, as well as key skills like public transportation navigation and access to the local public library.

The Team also is grateful to Connie Olson and Mary Dodgson for their efforts to acknowledge the givers of cash, goods, and services with handwritten thank you notes.

We continue to be grateful for the support of members of Mount Olive in prayer and gifts, as we seek to live as disciples of the One who said, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me."



## Mount Olive Lutheran Church

3045 Chicago Avenue  
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

On the Web: [mountolivechurch.org](http://mountolivechurch.org)

### **Staff**

Pastor – *Joseph Crippen*

Interim Organist – *Robert Farlee*

Interim Choir Director – *Andrew Stoebig*

Vicar – *Natalie Wussler*

Administrative Assistant – *Cha Posz*

Coordinator of Neighborhood Ministry –  
*Jim Bargmann*

*Mount Olive is a Reconciling in Christ  
congregation.*

## In This Issue:

- **Accent on Worship – Interim Organist Robert Farlee**
- **Hurricane Helene Relief: Donations Urgently Needed**
- **Congregational Life Events**
- **Update from the Cantor Call Committee**
- **“Mental Health and the Bible” Study continues**
- **Diaper Depot Seeks Volunteer Drivers**
- **Mount Olive to Host Align to Learn**
- **Deadline for Material for Next Week’s Olive Branch is THIS Friday!**