



# The Olive Branch

August 13, 2025

## Sunday Readings

**August 17, 2025**

*Tenth Sunday after  
Pentecost, Lect. 20 C*

Jeremiah 23:23-29

Psalms 82

Hebrews 11:29 – 12:2

Luke 12:49-56

**August 24, 2025**

*St. Bartholomew, Apostle*

Exodus 19:1-6

Psalms 12

1 Corinthians 12:27-31a

John 1:43-51

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

## Accent on Worship

*Pastor Joseph Crippen*

### *A great cloud*

The letter to the Hebrews is a strange, beautiful sermon to a people on a pilgrimage through a challenging, frightening world. When the unknown readers first came to faith, they were on fire to serve as Christ. Then they went through a period of persecution and again, found God's strength to face that, and grew in their faith. But now, the writer says, they're stuck in neutral, blasé about their faith and about their path in this life. So the writer urges them to find the fire they had before, to once again become active and vital in their serving and life.

Sunday we hear the beautiful promise given to these world-weary Christians, that they are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses who are cheering them on. The cloud is all the saints of old that the writer has been talking about. For us it's all the saints of old and all those since their time and even those in our lives who have died and have gone before us. We cherish this promise, because it is ours. So be of good cheer. The saints of God surround you and encourage you to lay down any baggage that's hindering you, and get about running the race of faith, walking the pilgrimage path, always following Christ, the pioneer who leads the way himself and shows you your path.

In these wearying times, hold that promise like a lifeline. You are not alone. We are not alone. The cloud of witnesses, like Jesus, know what it is to be on this journey of faith. And they, like Jesus, are confident you can and will be faithful. We all will, with God's help, find rest in our tiredness and hope for our next steps.

## **Wear Your Nametags!**

As we will have new staff among us in the coming weeks, it would be most helpful if we could wear our nametags for the first few weeks they are here, so that they can learn names and faces. If you have lost your nametag or need a new one, please contact the church office and we will get a replacement for you.

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**The Feast of  
St. Mary, Mother of Our Lord  
Friday, August 15  
Holy Eucharist at 7:00 pm  
*All are welcome.***

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## **Attention Sunday Servants**

The Mount Olive Servant Schedule for **2025 Quarter 4 (October - December)** will be published in September. Please send any scheduling preferences or dates you will be unavailable (especially around Christmas!) to me by **Friday, August 22**.

Please let me know any questions you may have.

Thank you -

- Greg Murphy

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## **Building Security – for your information**

Effective immediately, the Mount Olive building security will be automatically set to ARMED at 10:30 pm each night.

If you have evening meetings or activities, please note that you should plan to be out of the building by 10:30 pm. If you have an activity which will go later than 10:30, please contact the church office so that arrangements can be made to change the time for that evening.

# The Olive Branch

## Calendar

### Wednesday, August 13

10:00 am Staff meeting

### Thursday, August 14

9:30 am Morning Prayer

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

### Friday, August 15

7:00 pm Recovery Group

### Saturday, August 16

9:00 am Gardening Day

### Sunday, August 17 - Tenth Sunday of Pentecost

10:00 am Holy Eucharist, followed by coffee and welcome of Vicar Erik Nelson

### Monday, August 18

7:00 pm Monday Night WAVE (N.A.)

### Tuesday, August 19

Noon Bible Study

### Wednesday, August 20

10:00 am Funeral Visitation: Mary Lee

11:00 am Funeral Eucharist, followed by luncheon

### Thursday, August 21

9:30 am Morning Prayer

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

### Friday, August 22

7:00 pm Recovery Group

### Saturday, August 23

9:00 am Gardening Day

### Sunday, August 24 - Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am Holy Eucharist, followed coffee and conversation

### Monday, August 25

7:00 pm Monday Night WAVE (N.A.)

### Tuesday, August 26

Noon Bible Study

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## ***Olive Branch* Summer Publication**

During the summer months, *The Olive Branch* is published every *other* week. Information for the next issue is due in to the church office **by Monday, August 25**, for publication on Wednesday, August 27.

## **Tuesday Noon Bible Study Link**

The Tuesday Noon Bible Study meets weekly in person in the East Assembly Room. For those who are unable to come in person, the Bible Study is held 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 September 13, the group will consider another by an author they have appreciated before, James McBride. The book is *Heaven and Earth Grocery Store*, and is set in Pottstown, Pennsylvania.

Everyone is invited to join whenever you are able, at 10 a.m. in the library, usually on the second Saturday of each 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](#).

## August 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 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, two floors of emergency shelter, a commercial kitchen, a 24-hour front desk, and offices and clinic space...”. They broke ground on this new facility on June 12, 2024. For more information about Simpson Housing, please visit their website at [www.simpsonhousing.org](http://www.simpsonhousing.org).

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## A Summer of Events

The following photos are highlights from Mount Olive’s Summer of 2025.

### *Annual All-Church Picnic, July 13*



*continued*



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## *Mount Olive Thanks Interim Musicians Robert Farlee and Andrew Stoebig*



## *Farewell to Vicar Natalie Summerville, August 3*





# The Olive Branch



*Internship Committee members (L-R): Tricia Van Ee, Al Bipes, Kathy Thurston, (Jake Summerville), Vicar Natalie Summerville, Emily Hellerich, Adam Krueger, and Pastor Crippen*

## *Mount Olive Welcomes a New Cantor, August 10*





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***Cantor Call Committee members*** (standing, L-R): President Cynthia Prosek (ex-officio), Peggy Hoeft, Pastor Crippen (ex-officio), Bekah Schulz, Kat Campbell Johnson, Cantor Daniel Schwandt & Emily Bird, Robert Farlee, Gene Janssen, Larry Duncan, and Tricia Van Ee.



## Mount Olive Lutheran Church

3045 Chicago Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55407

*A congregation of the Evangelical  
Lutheran Church in America*

### **Summer Sunday Eucharist: 10 am**

#### **Contact Us:**

Phone: 612/827-5919

Web: [www.mountolivechurch.org](http://www.mountolivechurch.org)

#### **Staff**

Pastor – *Joseph Crippen*

Cantor – *Daniel Schwandt*

Vicar – *Erik Nelson*

Coordinator of Neighborhood Ministry –  
*Jim Bargmann*

Administrative Assistant – *Cha Posz*

Sexton – *Jose Moroch*

*Mount Olive is a Reconciling in Christ  
congregation.*

### **In This Issue:**

- **Accent on Worship – Pastor Joseph Crippen**
- **Mary, Mother of Our Lord: Friday, August 15 –  
Holy Eucharist at 7 pm**
- **August Neighborhood Ministry Partner of the Month:  
Simpson House**
- **Palestine Trip: Still Room for More Travelers**
- **Summer Photos – Lots and Lots of Photos**