



The Olive Branch

October 23, 2019

Accent on Worship

Pastor Joseph Crippen

Be Still

The psalm appointed for Reformation Sunday is Psalm 46, and it's full of noise. Mountains fall into the sea, waters foam, nations rage, kingdoms are shaken. The psalmist breaks up this chaos with the constant refrain, "The LORD of Hosts is with us, the God of Jacob is our stronghold." No matter the storms that thunder around us, the

confusion and clamor of the world, God is our refuge and strength, our help in trouble.

Yet near the end of the psalm we sing this very different note, in God's voice: "Be still, then, and know that I am God." In the midst of chaos and noise, God speaks to us and says, "can you be quiet?"

"Be still, and know that I am God." The Church cannot continue be reformed, our congregation reformed, each of us reformed, if we cannot find the stillness to hear God. When we slow down, turn off the outside influences for a moment, and ask God to calm our hearts and minds we begin to hear God's voice over all the other voices that compete in our minds and hearts.

We likely never find a permanent place of stillness in the chaos of this life. But when we open ourselves to God's presence, and sense God saying, "I'm God, you're not, let me still you, quiet you," in those moments we find clarity. God calms us. We are given refuge. We are re-formed, made new again, and sent back into the chaos different, better able to live and not be overwhelmed.

Still us, O God, that we may hear and know you and be transformed.

Sunday Readings

October 27, 2019

Reformation Sunday

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm 46

Romans 3:19-28

John 8:31-36

November 3, 2019

All Saints Sunday

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

Psalm 149

Ephesians 1:11-23

Luke 6:20-31

Notice of Congregation Meeting

The semi-annual meeting of Mount Olive congregation will take place **this Sunday, October 27**, following the second liturgy.

The purpose of this meeting is to approve a budget for 2020.

All voting members of Mount Olive are encouraged to attend.

Manz Tage 2019: October 25-26 (This Weekend!)

Co-sponsored by Mount Olive Music & Fine Arts and the Mount Olive Foundation, Manz Tage is a two-day celebration of the life and ministry of Paul O. Manz (1919-2009), who served as Cantor at Mount Olive from 1946-1983. His ministry was internationally known and extremely influential to church music. This conference explores how his ministry continues to inform us as singing people of God.

- *Friday, Oct. 25, 7:30 pm* - Organ Recital by John Schwandt, followed by a reception hosted by the Mount Olive Foundation
- *Saturday, Oct. 26, 8:30 am-Noon* - Plenary address and workshops

A complete schedule of events is available [here](#).

This event is free and open to the public. No registration is required.

You Are Invited ... and Needed ...

... to share the Lord's supper with our Mount Olive brothers and sisters who are unable to join the table when we gather for worship on Sunday mornings.

Just now more people are finding a need for Home Communion. More communion ministers are needed to fulfill these requests. Have you considered participating in this ministry, and if not, would you?

Ministers (servers) commit to at least one Sunday a month, and serve up to two homes per month. It requires:

- some training (will be provided);
- contacting the person/family receiving to confirm date, time & location;
- communicating with the Sacristan of the day to assure a communion kit is prepared and pastor is notified;
- stepping forward at the end of the service to receive the consecrated kit and for the sending of the Sacrament from the congregation;
- visiting the recipient, communing the individual and others wishing to participate. A brief order of service is provided;
- making a brief on-line note, documenting the date communion was given. If you don't use a computer, someone else can do it for you.

Please give prayerful consideration to this ministry and contact the pastor, the church office, or Marilyn Gebauer, currently the scheduling co-coordinator. Contact the pastor and church office at: 612-827-5919 or welcome@mountolivechurch.org. You can reach Marilyn at 612-306-8872 or gebauevm@bitstream.net.

- Marilyn Gebauer, Mount Olive Home Communion Ministry

Calendar

Wednesday, October 23

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
6:00 pm Children's Choirs supper
6:30 pm Children's Choir rehearsals
7:00 pm Cantorei rehearsal
7:00 pm Y2 Confirmation
8:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Thursday, October 24

- 6:00 pm Bible Study (final for this session)

Friday, October 25

- 7:30 pm Manz Centenary Organ Recital,
followed by reception

Saturday, October 26

- 8:30 am Manz Centenary Plenary and workshops

Sunday, October 27 ~~3~~ - Reformation Sunday

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist
9:30 am Sunday Church School / Adult Forum
10:45 am Holy Eucharist
Noon Semi-annual Congregation Meeting

Monday, October 28

- 7:00 pm Vicar Committee meeting
7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, October 29

- Noon Bible Study
4-6 pm Diaper Depot open

Third Quarter Contribution Statements

Third quarter statements are prepared and ready to be picked up at church. They are on a small table next to the coat room.

Take a moment to review your statement, and if you have any questions about it, please contact the church office.

Statements not picked up will be mailed after the Congregation meeting on Sunday, October 27.

Book Discussion

The Book Discussion Group meets on the second Saturday of each month at 10 am in the West Assembly Area. All readers welcome!

On November 9, they will discuss *There There*, by Tommy Orange. On December 14, they will discuss *If Beale Street Could Talk*, by James Baldwin.

Names of the Departed Saints Invited

As a part of our All Saints liturgy on Sunday, Nov. 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.) These other names submitted will be included in the prayers of intercession. You may also contact the church office with the names.

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

Upcoming Adult Forums

See brochures in the Chapel Lounge for detailed information about these forums.

- **October 27** - "*Requiem* by Mozart: How? Why? And Who is Robert D. Levin?," presented by Art Halbardier

The origin of Mozart's *Requiem* is one of both genius and hoax; the true story - a tale even more rife with intrigue and deception than the popular conspiracy theory that has lived alongside Mozart's final composition for 200 years. Now we are in an exciting new chapter of the *Requiem* story.

- **November 3** - Tours of Love - Bethania Kids
- **November 10** - ELCA Statement on "Faith, Sexism, and Justice," part 2 - Vicar Bristol Reading
- **November 17 and 24** - "From Biblical Narrative and Law to Halakhah and Aggadah," a 2-part series presented by Nina Samuels and Earl Schwartz

Krisis of Faith? Thursday Bible Study Continues for one More Evening

John's Gospel has perplexing questions about judgment and grace. Sometimes it seems as if God's grace in Christ is for all; other times it seems to have an exclusive turn. The Greek word *krisis* means "judgment," and that word and related forms occurs throughout John. In the first Thursday Bible study series of this year Pr. Crippen will lead an exploration of what judgment and grace means in John.

The study runs through tomorrow evening, Oct. 24. Meeting in the Chapel Lounge from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., there will be the usual light supper when we begin.

All are welcome to this study opportunity!

"The Word for Those Who Worry"

Thursday Evening Bible Study Begins November 7, 6 pm

There are more than 200 verses in the Bible that express exhortations not to fear. Many of them have long been beloved by Christians, such as the Psalmist's declaration that "even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil." But the reality is that evil can be pretty terrifying, and sometimes we're still afraid, even though scripture says not to be. Can the Bible's wisdom still speak to our contemporary experiences of anxiety, worry, exhaustion, and doubt?

This six-week study led by Vicar Bristol Reading will be a deeper dive into some familiar Scripture passages, exploring how we might find in God's Word a renewed sense of peace, comfort, and gratitude.

This study session begins as usual, with a light supper on **Thursday, November 7, at 6 pm**. If you can bring the meal for the first session, please let Vicar Bristol know.

Every Church A Peace Church - Twin Cities

The next regular bimonthly potluck supper meeting will be on Monday, November 18, 6:30 p.m., St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church (4537 3rd Ave. S., 612-823-8205, [ww.stjoan.com](http://www.stjoan.com)).

The program will be "Health Care as a Human Right: The Minnesota Perspective," presented by Dr. Ron Jankowski, medical director of CHW Solutions, providing oversight for community health workers, and an instructor Foundations of Critical Thinking U/M Medical School.

Scope of Presentation: 1) Health Care is a basic need and cannot be treated as a commodity for profit; 2) how the current system has led to the USA spending double what other countries spend to cover everyone; 3) how the current health care system contributes to continued disparities and bankruptcies in our society; 4) what is currently being done, and (5) what we can do to help.



Bethania Kids--Tours of Love and Partnership

For over 30 year Mount Olive has partnered with Bethania Kids in southern India. On Sunday, November 3 in the education hour meet Josephine Mary Selvan from Bethania for her final stop in her Tour of Love across America. Josephine has worked with the Bethania Kids ministry for nearly 25 years. She will share stories of Bethania Kids children that will touch your heart deeply. You will long remember their smiles and their captivating life stories that God has turned into wonderful futures. Read more about how Bethania started at

<https://bethaniakids.org/about/the-kingdom-of-god-is-within-you/> .

And then at the 10:45 liturgy send off our first Mount Olive team to visit Bethania. They will visit Dayavu, Shalom and Grace Children's Homes, Kids Care Centers, the Women's Empowerment Center, and the Special School for the Disabled. They will share their pictures and stories on their blog at <http://bethaniajourney.blogspot.com>, and bring back much to share with you at Taste of India, Part II in February. Everyone can participate in our partnership with Bethania Kids as we celebrate, learn from, and support our Christian brothers and sisters around the world.



Godly Play

All children are invited to join a circle each Sunday at 9:30. Here are the stories the children will be hearing next week:

This Sunday, October 27, Diana will tell the Martin Luther story with all circles together. Any extra adult support is also welcome.

National Lutheran Choir All Saints Concert: Mozart's *Requiem*

Four incredible international soloists – all familiar to Twin Cities audiences – and a full orchestra join the National Lutheran Choir for Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's timeless and colossal *Requiem*. Presented in the context of our annual All Saints program, the 12 movements of the Requiem Mass lend a unique setting to the reading of names in remembrance of the faithful departed. Don't miss this powerful opening to the season!

A pre-Concert lecture will take place one hour prior to each performance. Mount Olive's own Halbardier will share the history of Mozart's *Requiem* and the mystery and deception that has lived alongside Mozart's final composition for 200 years.

Visit NLCA.com/allsaintsnames to submit names of the deceased, since last All Saints, that you wish to be memorialized in print live at the concert.

- **Saturday, November 2, 7:30 pm** - Wayzata Community Church, Wayzata, MN
- **Sunday, November 3, 4:00 pm** - St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Mahtomedi, MN

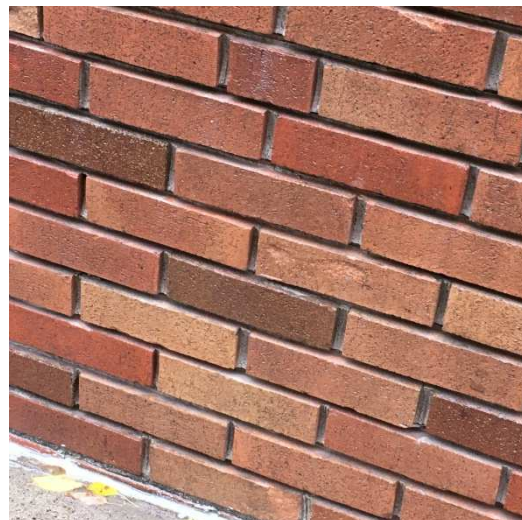
Tickets: Adults and Seniors \$42 | Students and Children FREE.

Building Update, Just in Case You've Been Wondering

If you haven't had a need or desire to wander down the alley - and who really does so unless they need to? - you possibly haven't noticed the restoration work that's begun on the Parish House.

Now approaching 60 years of age, our Parish House needs some work, as you can see. Thanks to the 2019 gift from the Mount Olive Lutheran Church Foundation, the first phase of this work has begun.

Masons have ground out the mortar joints to a minimum 1-inch depth to prepare for tuck pointing. As the photo indicates, a number of bricks will need to be replaced as well as some of the basement window lintels also.



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 a.m.

Contact Us

Phone: 612-827-5919

On the Web: mountolivechurch.org

Staff

Pastor – *Joseph Crippen*

Cantor – *David Cherwien*

Vicar – *Bristol Reading*

Coordinator of Neighborhood

Ministry – *Jim Bargmann*

Administrative Assistant – *Cha Posz*

Sexton – *James Wilkes*

*Mount Olive is a Reconciling in
Christ congregation.*

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