



The Olive Branch

June 19, 2024

Accent on Worship
Vicar Lauren Mildahl

Sunday Readings

June 23, 2024

5th Sunday after Pentecost

Lect.12 B

Job 38:1-11

Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

Mark 4:35-41

June 30, 2024

6th Sunday after Pentecost

Lect.13 B

Lamentations 3:22-33

Psalm 30

2 Corinthians 8:7-15

Mark 5:21-43

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

As we continue this week through our sequential reading of 2nd Corinthians, we come upon a very familiar passage. You might be feeling the phantom of soot and oil on your forehead as you encounter this text, because you have heard most of it (verses 1-10) every year on Ash Wednesday. And every Vespers Liturgy during Lent begins with Paul's hopeful exclamation from verse 2: "Behold, now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation."

Paul is quoting Isaiah 49:8, and is recalling the acceptable time, the day of salvation that marked the end of the Exile, when in 538 b.c.e., those Jews who had been held in captivity in Babylon were finally allowed to return home. Paul is drawing on that memory of jubilation and restoration to entreat the Corinthians to open their hearts wide to the joy of sustaining faith in the goodness of God. It makes for a strangely hopeful, even triumphant, text for Lent, and I'm glad we get to hear it again this week.

This passage also resonates with me for a different reason. Madeleine L'Engle's spiritual science fiction novels were some of my absolute favorite books in middle school and the last novel in the *A Wrinkle in Time* quintet is called "*An Acceptable Time*"--an allusion to this text. So whenever I hear that phrase, my mind conjures up Polly O'Keefe and her time-bending encounter with the People of the Wind. And one of my favorite lines from the book is: "One theory I find rather comforting is that time exists so that everything doesn't happen all at once."

continued on page 3

The Olive Branch

Calendar

Wednesday, June 19

10:00 am Staff meeting

Thursday, June 20

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, June 21

7:00 pm Recovery Group

Saturday, June 22

9:00 am Library Committee meeting

Sunday, June 23 – Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am *Holy Eucharist*, followed by coffee and conversation

11:30 am Adult Forum

Noon Neighborhood Ministries Picnic

Monday, June 24

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

Tuesday, June 25

Noon Bible Study

Wednesday, June 26

10:00 am Staff meeting

Thursday, June 27

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, June 28

7:00 pm Recovery Group

Saturday, June 29

9:00 am Gardening Day

Sunday, June 30 – Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am *Holy Eucharist, with the Sacrament of Holy Baptism*, followed by coffee and conversation

Monday, July 1

7:00 pm Global Ministry Committee meeting

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

Tuesday, July 2

Noon Bible Study

***Olive Branch* Summer Publication**

During the summer months, we publish the newsletter every *other* week. The next issue will be published July 3. Information for that issue is due in to the church office by Monday, July 1.

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

On June 15 (please note change of date due to a funeral) they will discuss *Horse*, by Geraldine Brooks, and on July 13, *I am not Sydney Poitier*, by Percival Everett.

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](#).

Accent on Worship, *continued from page 1*

There are moments when I lament being stuck in time, when I rage against God's timing. Why hasn't God acted yet? How long do I have to wait? What's happening now? But I am also comforted by this theory: that time is a gift, so that everything doesn't happen all at once. Without time, there would be no memories of the past that I could summon to sustain me in times of trouble. There would be no patience in the present, no hope for the future. Without time, we wouldn't be able to experience how God has made and will make all things new, how God transforms even our darkest moments into days of salvation. Paul and Madeleine's writing reminds us that it is not ours to discern why a certain time may be acceptable, but to experience how God can turn any time, even a time with the deepest wrinkles, into an acceptable time.

- Vicar Lauren Mildahl

Library Open House - Sunday July 7

Please join us after the morning service on Sunday July 7 to see the updates to the Louise Schroedel Memorial Library. Many thanks to Vicar Mildahl, the Library Committee (Bonnie and Donn McLellan, Paula Carlson, David Engen, and Peggy Hoeft) and others for their work on updating the Library space and collection over the last few months.

We will demonstrate how to use the new online catalog to search the Library collection, and the process for borrowing books.

In the fall, when we return to the two service schedule, we will have a "Library Host" available on Sunday mornings to assist with checking books in or out, and answering questions. If you would be interested in serving as a Library Host, or have other questions or suggestions, please let us know at library@mountolivechurch.org

- Greg Murphy - Education Committee

Save the Date--July 14

On July 14 we will have a chance to meet with Karen Anderson, our ELCA missionary to EPES in Chile, where she has been working in community health for over 30 years.

Plan to stay for coffee and conversation after the liturgy that Sunday.

Neighborhood Ministries Partner of the Month

Lutheran Social Services

Lutheran Social Services is a broad-based social service organization that operates more than 20=9087563421` different programs throughout the state of Minnesota. The services provided by LSS include housing, financial services, counseling, senior care programs, refugee resettlement, disaster recovery, and services for those with disabilities. LSS has been serving as the lead agency for the resettlement of the Afghan family Mount Olive has been sponsoring with the coordination of our Global Ministry Committee.

Mount Olive has chosen to support each of our Partners of the Month through a yearly contribution from our budget, and often, like our partners this month, we also volunteer in support of their work. On top of those financial and labor 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.

For more information about the work of Lutheran Social Services, please visit their website at www.lssmn.org.

Congregational Life Updates

We will need lots of help during the July 28 celebration of Cantor Cherwien's 23 years among us. You may sign up to help by using the online sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/y9cts39n>. Signing up online is the preferred method, but you can also call or email the church office to volunteer. We will need people to help with setup on Saturday, July 27, and with preparation, serving, and clean-up for both the morning reception after liturgy, and the evening dinner. Please help as much as you are able.

The congregational camping trip to Nerstrand/Big Woods is scheduled for the weekend of July 19-21. Join your Mount Olive friends for some time fellowship and the outdoors. For more details, and to sign up, use the link at <https://tinyurl.com/azuc2wtt>.

The all-church picnic will be held on Sunday, August 25, after worship. No sign-up needed. Just show up with a dish to share and your wonderful self. Minnehaha Park Wabun picnic area is the site, close to the Veteran's Home, and the splash pad and playground. More information to follow.

The visit to B'Dote/Fort Snelling which was postponed from June 9 will now be held on Saturday, August 17, at 9 a.m. More information and a sign-up will be coming in July.

Gift and Party for Cantor Cherwien

On Sunday, July 28, we will gather to celebrate Cantor Cherwien's time among us, giving such life and love to our community of faith and to our liturgical celebrations and other gatherings! There will be two events on that day: a reception for David will follow the morning liturgy and a dinner celebration will be held in the evening. More details will follow, but in the meantime, all are invited to help with both those events (see article Congregational Life Updates, p. 4).

In addition, all who wish to contribute to support these celebrations and a gift for David can submit contributions to the church office, clearly marked for Cantor gift.



- Lora Dundek, Director of Congregational Life

Adult Forum: This Sunday, June 23

June 23 - Beyond Affirmation: LGBTQIA2S+ Lives as Sources of Sacred Wisdom: Many churches have practiced affirmation for LGBTQIA2S+ people for many years now. But what exists beyond affirmation? This forum will help orient our focus with a posture of compassionate curiosity to ask what we can learn from queer and trans lives that would benefit the whole church. What stories need to be told of queer and trans faithfulness, community, love, and courage that we all need to hear? What lessons have LGBTQIA2S+ people learned at the margins of many communities that we would all do well to learn? Beyond "affirmation," we have the potential to learn from queer and trans lives as sources of sacred wisdom, to reincorporate parts of the larger church's story from which we have been cut off, and to celebrate the gifts that LGBTQIA2S+ people have been and continue to be for the church and the wider world.

The Rev. Cody J. Sanders, Ph.D., is Associate Professor of Congregational & Community Care Leadership at Luther Seminary. His books include, *Queer Lessons for Churches on the Straight and Narrow* (translated into Japanese and Swahili), *Microaggressions in Ministry* (with Angela Yarber, translated into Japanese), *A Brief Guide to Ministry with LGBTQIA Youth*, and *Christianity, LGBTQ Suicide, and the Souls of Queer Folk* (subject of the 2024 Biopsychosocial-Spiritual Research Conference at Loma Linda University in April of this year). He lives with his partner, also named Cody, in Saint Paul.

Parish House Flat Roof Work Underway

The work to replace the hail damaged flat roof on the Parish House has begun.

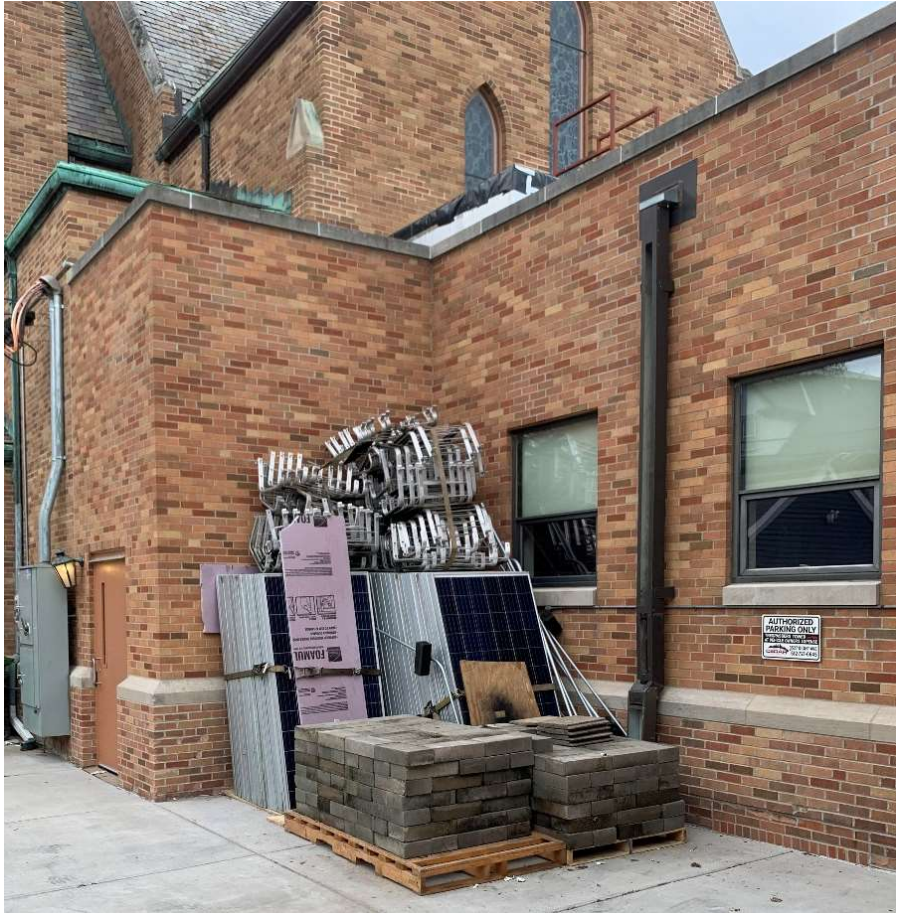
On Wednesday, June 12 - Powerfully Green was on site to remove the solar panels. They staged the panels, blocks, and racks on the concrete pad along the alley on the east side of the church. This work was completed on June 13th.

This week *weather permitting*, Roof Tech will be on site to start the removal and replacement of the PVC roof membrane. They will bring their own dumpster which will be placed in the north parking lot. They will also have a crane but do not anticipate needing to leave it overnight. They also bring a porta potty onsite so there is no need for access to the building.

Estimated completion date is unknown at this time. Watch for updates as the work progresses.

After the roof membrane work is completed, Powerfully Green will be back onsite to replace the solar panels.

NOTE: The parking in the north lot will be very limited during this work.



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.*

In This Issue:

- **Accent on Worship – Vicar Lauren Mildahl**
- **Neighborhood Ministry Partner of the Month: LSS**
- **Congregational Life Updates**
- **Roof Work Begins**
- **Library Open House – July 7**