



# The Olive Branch

March 12, 2025

## Accent on Worship

*Pastor Joseph Crippen*

### Sunday Readings

**March 16, 2025**

*Second Sunday in Lent, year C*

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Psalm 27

Philippians 3:17 – 4:1

Luke 13:31-35

**March 23, 2025**

*Third Sunday in Lent, year C*

Isaiah 55:1-9

Psalm 63:1-8

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Luke 13:1-9

### *Time Change*

Don't get me started on Daylight Saving time. I loathe it. Last Sunday everything started one hour early for no valid reason. Time seems all messed up for a week or more.

But I cherish our time together in worship. We distinguish between two Greek ideas of time, *chronos* and *kairos*. Chronos time is clock time, linear. Sixty seconds in a minute, sixty minutes in an hour, twenty-four hours in a day. Kairos time is "opportune" time, the time it's right to make a decision, the definitive time. It isn't measurable by clock or calendar. It just is.

We worship in kairos time. Out of the flow of life, away from the tyranny of clock and calendar, we find the "meet and right" time, time spent together in the presence of God as Christ's community. We don't check our watches or pay attention to "how much" time anything is. We simply are. We exist. We pray. We love God. We listen. We sit in silence. We sing. We eat.

In these hard times, with chronological time running faster and faster the older we get and crises piling up faster than anyone can track, to step out into God's time is a gift. To be with God, find God's love filling us, to be drawn into God's own kairos. A time that's always the opportune time, the time of God, the time of grace. And there we're strengthened and blessed to re-enter the stream of chronological time and be the blessing God needs us to be there.

In Jesus' name,

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

## Godly Play Themes for This Week

As we move through Lent, the Godly Play circles will be hearing about the ministry of Jesus through different stories. Godly Play Circle 1 will hear about Jesus and Bartimaeus. Godly Play will consider Three Key Moments in Jesus' ministry.



All children ages 3-Grade 1 are welcome to Circle One, and children in grades 2-5 are welcome to Circle Two.

## Love One Another: A day of Music for Children and Youth Choirs

Members of Mount Olive's Children and Youth Choirs will join singers from around the Twin Cities for a day of singing, playing Orff instruments, and making new friends **this Saturday, March 15** (most of Mount Olive's

young singers are participating!). Jennaya Robison, artistic director of the National Lutheran Choir, will conduct the festival Youth Choir and Mari Espeland will conduct the festival Children's Choir. Our own Rebekah Schulz will present a session to choir directors in attendance on supporting neurodivergent learners in your church choir. Sara Lukkasson, music educator at The Blake School, will present Orff sessions for both choir directors and children's choir members.

**All are welcome to the culminating Hymn Festival at 2:00 pm, this Saturday, March 15, at Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church, 511 Groveland Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55403. We hope to see you there.**



# The Olive Branch

## Calendar

### Wednesday, March 12

- 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*  
7:35 pm Cantorei rehearsal

### Thursday, March 13

- 9:30 am *Morning Prayer*  
4:00 pm Nominating Committee meeting  
7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

### Friday, March 14

- Noon Webinar: "What Can I Do with my Anger?"  
7:00 pm Recovery Group

### Saturday, March 15

- 9:30 am Sacristans Gathering

### Sunday, March 16 - The Second Sunday in Lent

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

### Monday, March 17

- 5:30 pm Family Music Time (online only)  
7:00 pm Monday Night WAVE (N.A.)

### Tuesday, March 18

- Noon Bible Study

## Soup Makers Needed!

If you are able to help with soup and bread for one of the Wednesday Lenten Soup Meals, please sign up on the chart provided in the East Assembly Room. Typically, about 25-35 guests attend the midday meal that is served at about 1:00 pm, following the noon Eucharist. The evening meal runs between 10-15 guests and is served at 6 pm, prior to Evening Vespers. All meals are served in the East Assembly Room.

Also, the chart of Coffee Hosts is seriously empty! Please consider hosting Sunday coffee in the coming weeks, and sign up on the other chart in the East Assembly room!

## 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](#).

## Book Discussion

On April 12 the discussion will travel to Nigeria to consider *Under the Udala Trees* by Chinelo Okparanta. In May you can join in learning about Eileen Blair, author and wife of George Orwell, as we read *Wifedom, Mrs. Orwell's Invisible Life* by Anna Funder.

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](#).

## Mount Olive Card Club?

Do you play 500 or Cribbage? Would you like to learn? We're gauging the interest in forming a card-playing group to meet at Mount Olive. To indicate your interest, please follow the link below, or call Paul Nixdorf at 612/296-0055. Please indicate your preferred days and times to gather for cards. <https://tinyurl.com/2nrhfmz6> .

## Lenten Pilgrimage

The Stations of the Cross are a long-standing Christian tradition in the West. Dating from the thirteenth century and promulgated by Franciscans, this devotional practice emerged as a way of visiting the sacred sites of Christ's Passion when travel to the Holy Land wasn't possible. Here at Mount Olive, we've celebrated a Stations of the Cross liturgy at noon on Good Friday for many years.

This year, visual representations of our nine stations will accompany us in the nave throughout Lent. They come from different artists of varying backgrounds and eras representing the richness of Christian thought and practice. Embracing our assembly, these pieces wrap us in the mystery of our salvation. They call us to the wonder of Christ's passion and to solidarity with all victims of violence and oppression.

When you have a moment, you might take this art in — one piece at a time or by walking the Way of the Cross in prayer, the Way that leads through Death to Life.

## Upcoming Adult Forums

**March 16:** Vestry proposal for restructuring, presented by Pastor Crippen.

**March 23:** Mount Olive member Nancy Anderson will lead a presentation and discussion about the Iona Community.

**March 30 and April 6:** Mount Olive member Tom Schattauer will present a 2-part series on the Rites of Triduum and their liturgical history.

**April 13 and 20:** No Adult Forum (Passion Sunday and Easter)

## 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, seniors 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](http://sabathani.org). For more information about CES, please visit [cesmn.org](http://cesmn.org).

## 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.*

# The Olive Branch



Karen Anderson, retired missionary and speaker



Margaret Gohman, helper



Lisa Ruff, Director of Global Ministry

## Taste of Chile

Enjoy these photos of our Taste of Chile event on February 23. We learned about the amazing work of our supported ministry partner in Chile, [Educación Popular En Salud](#) (EPES). If you didn't hear Karen Anderson's presentation at the Adult Forum, please watch the recording when it's available on our [YouTube channel](#). If you would like to add to the Global Ministry Committee's donation to EPES from the event, you can do that [here](#).  
*Photos by Louise Lystig Fritchie.*



Bob Lee says his wife, Mary, started the tradition of Mount Olive hosting an annual event to celebrate one nation. It since evolved to celebrate the work of a Global Ministry partner.



Song for table blessing

## Mount Olive Lutheran Church

3045 Chicago Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55407

*A congregation of the Evangelical  
Lutheran Church in America*

### **Sunday Eucharist: 8 & 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*

Sexton - *Jose Morocho*

*Mount Olive is a Reconciling in Christ  
congregation.*

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