



The Olive Branch

April 15, 2026

Sunday Readings

April 19, 2026

*Third Sunday of Easter,
year A*

Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
1 Peter 1:17-23
Luke 24:13-35

April 26, 2026

*Fourth Sunday of
Easter, year A*

Acts 2:42-47
Psalm 23
1 Peter 2:19-25
John 10:1-10

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

Accent on Worship

Pastor Joseph Crippen

Walking and Talking

There is so much that can be said about the story of the Emmaus disciples meeting Jesus, the Gospel that centers our worship this Sunday.

What shines out for me in this story right now is what the disciples were doing. They were walking home, a long-ish walk of eight miles, and talking with each other about what had happened and what it meant for them, for the world.

That makes sense. They'd have lots of things to talk about. But I wonder if we could take their model, too. We've just walked together through Holy Week and celebrated Christ's resurrection. Maybe you didn't worship at every liturgy of the Triduum, maybe you didn't miss one. But we all have once again reflected, prayed, sung, worshipped together centered on this story of God's immense love saving the world, saving us.

Let's not let that all fade away. Let's talk with each other. Better, let's walk with each other in these days, talking, sharing, pondering about what this all means for you. For us. For the world. Because when two or three of us are together, Christ promises to join us, too. And that's a promise worth trusting in, hoping for, eagerly awaiting.

In Jesus' name,

Semi-Annual Congregation Meeting This Sunday, April 19

The semi-annual meeting of Mount Olive congregation will be held on **Sunday, April 19, following the second liturgy**. The primary purpose of this meeting is to elect new members to the Vestry. All voting members are encouraged to attend.

Following the Congregation Meeting, there will be a meeting of the Mount Olive Foundation.

Upcoming Adult Forums

April 19 - Rev. Angela Denker will discuss her book "Disciples of White Jesus - The Radicalization of American Boyhood."

April 26/May 3 - Pastor Crippen will lead a 2-part presentation on discipleship.

May 10 - Spring Recital, presented by the young people of Mount Olive.

Promise Cards and Letters

Thanks to those of you who have submitted Promise Cards and Letters. It's been a joy to read about your willingness to support Mount Olive's ministries through sharing financial resources and time and skills. If you've filled out the card and/or the back of the letter and don't know what to do with it, here are two suggestions. You can put it into the collection plate on Sunday morning (in a plain envelope if you wish), or mail it or drop it in the office. What you choose to share financially will not be distributed, but if you're willing to share your time and talents, the appropriate Vestry member will be in contact with you.

Thanks!

Annual Meeting of the Mount Olive Foundation

The Mount Olive Foundation has adopted [new bylaws](#), and a key feature of them is that all voting members of the congregation are now members of the foundation. We will launch this new practice by holding the annual meeting of the foundation immediately following the semi-annual congregational meeting on Sunday, April 19.

Foundation board members are excited to share this and other changes that are meant to better connect our work with everyone in the congregation. For more information, here is a link to a recent [Adult Forum](#) about the foundation, the [slides from that forum](#), the [agenda](#) for the upcoming meeting, and the [foundation website](#).

The Olive Branch

Calendar

Wednesday, April 15

- 9:00 am Staff meeting
- 5:30 pm Children's Choir supper
- 6:00 pm Children's Choir rehearsals
- 6:00 pm Community Well-Being Committee meeting
- 7:00 pm Cantorei rehearsal
- 7:00 pm Y3 Confirmation

Thursday, April 16

- 9:30 am *Morning Prayer*
- 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, April 17

- 7:00 pm Recovery group

Saturday, April 18

- 10:00 am Funeral Visitation: Jack Olson
- 11:00 am *Funeral Eucharist*

Sunday, April 19 - Third Sunday of Easter, year A

- 8:00 am *Holy Eucharist*
- 9:30 am Godly Play/Youth Discussion/Adult Forum
- 10:45 am *Holy Eucharist*
- Noon Semi-Annual Congregation meeting, followed by Mount Olive Foundation mtng.

Monday, April 20

- 5:30 p.m. Family Music Time (online only)
- 6:30 pm Recorder group
- 7:00 pm Monday Night WAVE (N.A.)

Tuesday, April 21

- Noon Bible Study
- 5:00 pm Neighborhood Ministry Committee meeting
- 6:30 pm Feminine Divine group

Dining Out for Life

Please plan to join other Mount Olive members next Thursday, April 30 for the 32nd annual "Dining Out For Life" event. Go out for a meal at one of the participating restaurants and a portion (or in some cases 100%) of profits go to the Aliveness Project to battle AIDS.

Visit to www.diningoutforlifemn.org or a list of participating restaurants.

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.

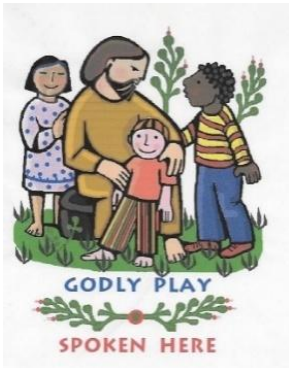
The link for the Tuesday noon Bible study will be the same every week. To join from your computer, tablet, or smartphone, [click here](#).

Book Discussion

For our May 9th gathering we are reading *White Teeth* by Zadie Smith on the 25th anniversary of her first and "stunning" novel set in England. For our June reading we will move back to the United States for *Plainsong* by Kent Haruf, a story of four generations set in Colorado.

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](#).

The Olive Branch



Godly Play This Week

This Sunday both circles will be hearing about how the women who followed Jesus were the first witnesses to the resurrection and how they responded with fear, then sadness, then wonder, and finally a joy that they ran to share. Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

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

April Neighborhood Ministry Partner of the Month:

Lake Street Council

The Lake Street Council is a non-profit organization built to support the diverse community of residents and businesses that call Lake Street home. They do this through a variety of programs that support entrepreneurs starting new businesses, grant programs to help existing businesses thrive, work to beautify the streetscape, and engage local businesses in policy work that affects the corridor. The Lake Street Council has been instrumental in helping local businesses, many of them family and BIPOC owned, recover from the civil unrest of 2020, giving out 5.5 million dollars in grants to over 300 businesses.

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 the Lake Street Council, please visit their website at lakestreetcouncil.org.

Aaron Silver Art Exhibit Update

The Aaron Silver exhibit will remain in place through the end of April.

The art/music event that was cancelled due to the snowstorm has been rescheduled for **Sunday, April 26 at 3:00 p.m.**

Please take some time to enjoy the exhibit and if you are interested in purchasing any of the artworks there is information on the table in the exhibit or contact Paul Nixdorf at pn@paulnixdorf.com or call/text 612-296-0055.

Taste of Palestine Donations

On February 8, we learned more about Mount Olive's Global Ministry partners, Bright Stars of Bethlehem and Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem. Our Mount Olive travelers who recently went on a partnership trip presented the adult forum. After the liturgy, we gathered for a meal of typical food from Palestine, using recipes from Dar al-Kalima University's culinary education program. Thanks to all who planned, presented, cooked, and helped in the kitchen.

The Mount Olive Global Ministry committee was able to make donations to these partners from the free will offering, the *Taste of* budget line item, and the proceeds from the Gifts that Give sale. Bright Stars of Bethlehem and Augusta Victoria Hospital will each receive \$1500. Thank you for your generosity and prayers.



Photos by Jim Johnson

Rooted and Rising: Celebrating 40 Years of The National Lutheran Choir

Join the National Lutheran Choir under Artistic Director Jennaya Robison for *Rooted and Rising: Celebrating 40 Years of the National Lutheran Choir*. This grand finale of the 40th anniversary season features collaboration with the renowned St. Olaf Choir led by Anton Armstrong and guest organist David Cherwien, former NLC Artistic Director.

The program features works by J.S. Bach, F. Melius Christiansen, Larry Fleming, David Cherwien, Earlene Rentz, and Jennaya Robison. A community ensemble of NLC alumni singers will join for the concert's conclusion.

Date & Location:

2:00pm, Saturday, May 2, 2026

Central Lutheran Church, 333 S. 12th Street, Minneapolis 55404

Tickets at NLCA.com.

Congratulations to Tom Schattauer!

Mount Olive member, The Rev. Dr. Thomas Schattauer, has been named this year's recipient of the Christus Rex Award from the Institute of Liturgical Studies out of Valparaiso University! Dr. Schattauer is Professor Emeritus of Liturgics and was Dean of the Chapel at Wartburg for many years. As a part of both of his roles, he took many students to this very conference.

Dr. Schattauer will be teaching a workshop at the conference titled, "Showing the World Made New: The Role of the Presiding Minister in the Assembly."

Early Music Minnesota Presents ...

The Franco-Flemish Connection, with Peter Sykes, harpsichord

This Saturday, April 18, 2026 • 3:00 PM

Mount Olive Lutheran Church

Harpsichordist **Peter Sykes** performs music inspired by the legendary **Colmar Ruckers harpsichord**, recreated by builder Klinkhamer. This program highlights the vibrant exchange between Flanders and France through works by **Sweelinck, Scronx, Pieter Cornet, Louis Couperin, François Couperin**, and others.

The Franco-Flemish Connection celebrates the rich colors, expressive depth, and craftsmanship that shaped the golden age of the harpsichord.

Admittance is FREE for the Mount Olive Community.

Mount Olive Lutheran Church

3045 Chicago Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55407

*A congregation of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America*

Sunday Eucharists: 8 & 10:45 am

Contact Us

Phone: 612-827-5919

On the Web: mountolivechurch.org

Staff

Pastor – *Joseph Crippen*

Cantor – *Daniel Schwandt*

Vicar – *Erik Nelson*

Coordinator of Neighborhood Ministry –
Jim Bargmann

Administrative Assistant – *Cha Posz*

*Mount Olive is a Reconciling in Christ
congregation.*

In This Issue:

- **Accent on Worship – Pastor Joseph Crippen**
- **Neighborhood Ministry Partner of the Month: Lake Street Council**
- **Semi-Annual Congregation meeting, April 19 at Noon**
- **Singing the Art of Aaron Silver Reschedule for April 26**
- **Photos from Taste of Palestine**
- **Promise Cards and Letters Follow-up**
- **Early Music Minnesota Concert This Saturday**