

Word
God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

SCRIPTURE
Exodus 3: 1-15
¹ Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness and came to Mount Horeb, the mountain of God. ² There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. ³ Then Moses said, “I must turn aside and look at this great sight and see why the bush is not burned up.” ⁴ When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, “Moses, Moses!” And he said, “Here I am.” ⁵ Then he said, “Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.” ⁶ He said further, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

⁷ Then the Lord said, “I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, ⁸ and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ⁹ The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰ Now go, I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.” ¹¹ But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” ¹² He said, “I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.”

¹³ But Moses said to God, “If I come to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” ¹⁴ God said to Moses, “I am who I am.” He said further, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘I am has sent me to you.’ ” ¹⁵ God also said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you’:

This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations.

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN’S MOMENT-Blessing of the Backpacks
(After Children’s Moment, children age 3 – 5th grade are invited to Children’s Church in Room L8, located downstairs. Children will return to the Sanctuary to receive Communion with their families.)

SERMON ~ Linnea Carlson

*HYMN #463 Lord Speak to Me, That I May Speak (vv.1-3)
CANONBURY

*CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON
***Almighty God,
who sent the promised Holy Spirit
to fill us with willing faith:
We confess that we resist the work of your Spirit among us,
that we are slow to serve you
and reluctant to spread the good news of your love.
God, have mercy on us.
Forgive our divisions
and by your Spirit draw us together.
Create in us a desire to do your will
and be your faithful people
for the sake of your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.***

Hear the good news. Jesus knows our every weakness, and loves us still. Awaken to the promise of Christ's amazing grace. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
(After each petition, the congregation responds with: Hear our prayer.)

Thanksgiving
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY
O Word of God Incarnate, Hymn #598 Brenda Portman

*DOXOLOGY #95 OLD 100TH
***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
See Musical Setting E pp. 25A-25C in the *United Methodist Hymnal*.
[We offer a gluten-free element option and always use grape juice, not wine]

THE LORD’S PRAYER *(spoken)*
***Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.***

***And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.***

RECEIVING COMMUNION

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION
Fraction Anthem
Agnus Dei Gerald R. Near
Jesus Lamb of God have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us. Jesus, redeemer of the world give us your peace.

For the Bread Which You have Broken, Hymn #614 V. Earle Copes

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

Sending
God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

*HYMN #398 Jesus Calls Us GALILEE

*BENEDICTION AND CLOSING PRAYER
***Holy Spirit, quiet our hearts
to hear Your voice.
Hold us in Your love,
so that all are welcomed and valued.
Guide our discernment
and shape our plans with compassion and courage.
Light a fire within us
that renews and unites our church for joyful service.
Send us out in the light of Christ
to follow faithfully wherever You lead. Amen.***

*POSTLUDE
Festive Trumpet Tune David German

Leading Today’s Worship Service:
Preaching: Linnea Carlson
Pastors: Rev. Dr. Sara Keeling, Rev. Stephanie Bekhor
Liturgist: Heather Weir
Organist/Choirmaster: Jonathan Saint-Thomas
Children’s Sharing: Alexis Joyce
Acolyte: Sam Meek

Join us for Coffee Fellowship in the Gathering Space.

Register your attendance using the QR code below or by using the attendance card located in the pew rack.



Congregational Prayers

Healing and Sympathy:

~For the family and friends of Tom and Maura Warden, long-time members of Mount Olivet. Tom died on August 26 and Maura died on April 19.

~For Rose W. who is hospitalized with a serious infection.

She is likely to need some weeks in rehab after she is released from the hospital. Rose is a friend of Cindy Huber.

~For Pam K. who is undergoing radiation therapy for cancer. Pam is a friend of Cindy Huber.

~For Sherrie, who is facing treatment for lung cancer that has spread.

~For Rebekah Solem, who is recovering from hip surgery.

For those battling cancer and long-term illness:

Heather Weir, Karen Watkins, Elizabeth Carnahan, Jason Micheli, Sally, Christine, Yarikza, Kate Heavner, Peter Joyce, Cindy, Tom Benson, Kay Lewis, Justin, Dena, Mary Hays, Thomas Greving, Sue Mink, Chi Bahn, Michael Milano, Carole Shakkour, Barb H., Vivian, Chris, Fran T., Bonnie Hahn, Donald Laughlin, Susan Kiser, Brian, Jill Downing.

Prayers for the World:

~For the people of Indiana, who were flooded out of their homes and without power from the recent derecho.

~For the Haitian TPS holders facing deportation.

~For the thousands of Gazans facing hunger and homelessness.

~For people across Texas, Nevada and California, where wildfires are burning whole neighborhoods and wildlands.

~For the people of Democratic Republic of the Congo where 2,642 deaths are the result of the Bundibugyo strain of Ebola for which there is no vaccine. Between 40% and 60% of infected people are dying.

~For all of our kids heading to college, and for all children, staff, and teachers going back to school.

~For an end to the Ukraine/Russia war.

~For peace between the US and Iran.

~For peace and an end to wars around the world.

To submit a prayer concern go to our website mountolivetumc.com/prayers or use the back of the attendance card.

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Please stand, as able, for those acts of worship marked with an asterisk.*

Words in bold type indicate a congregational response.

Announcements

Fall Kick off

Mark you calendars for Sunday, **September 13** for our Fall Kickoff from 10 AM – 1 PM. Fun activities and refreshments! More details to follow.

Kid's Sunday School Returns

Kid's Sunday School resumes on Sunday, **September 20** from 10:15 am - 11:15 am, for ages 3 through 5th grade. Please register for classes on our website. The nursery is also available during this time. Contact Linnea Carlson at Lcarlson@mtolivet-umc.org with any questions or to volunteer.

Youth Sunday School

Youth Sunday School will resume on Sunday, **September 20** at 10:15 am in the Youth Area.

Youth Group

Youth Group will meet on Sunday, **September 20** from 5:30-7:30 pm in the Youth Area. All rising 6th – 12 graders and parents are invited for fellowship, dinner and to complete registration forms. Contact Evan Hannah at ehannah@mtolivet-umc.org with any questions.

Adult Sunday School Classes

Adults in all stages of life gather on Sunday mornings and throughout the week to grow in their faith and build relationships through groups, dinners, music, and more. Everyone is welcome, and we do mean everyone. To see a list of classes, go to the link on our website at **www.mountolivetumc.com/groups/adult-sunday-school** and reach out to the listed contact, or just show up on Sunday morning.

Third Grade Bibles

If you are entering 3rd grade, Mount Olivet would love to give you a Bible with your name embossed on it! We will present them at both services on October 18. Please contact Linnea Carlson with any questions at Lcarlson@mtolivet-umc.org.

An Invitation to Prayer and Visioning

It is time to refresh our strategic plan which was completed in 2017. We begin our next season together with a time of dreaming, visioning, and planning that will allow us all to be proactive rather than reactive. And to be all God is calling us to be. We are beginning this process not with our own opinions and ideas and hopes, but by listening to God. We will begin with prayer. We are inviting all of the congregation to find a time each day to pray the prayer that you'll find at the end of today's bulletin. This is a prayer that we have crafted inviting us to listen, to center down, to welcome God's Spirit.

Find additional announcements and more on our website mountolivetumc.com or subscribe to our weekly e-news.



August 30, 2026, 9:15 am

This morning we continue our series of Old Testament stories. As we hear the story of the calling of Moses, may the Holy Spirit inspire us to consider how God is asking each of us to use our gifts to answer God's call.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

Meditation on Seek Ye First Jerrick Cavagnaro

Prelude on a Rouen Melody Healey Willan

Introit

O Taste and See Ralph Vaughan Williams
O taste and see how gracious the Lord is: blest is the man that trusteth in him (Psalm 34:8)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The God of our ancestors calls us to worship.

Praise the Lord!

Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Let us worship God!

*HYMN #154 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (vv. 1-4)

CORONATION

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

**God of mystery and might,
Whose wonderful works are to be remembered,
move in our lives, change our mind, soften our hearts,
direct our feet, that we may follow you more faithfully.
Yes, Lord, we seek to follow Jesus,
in whose name we pray. Amen.**