Word

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

SCRIPTURE

2 Corinthians 5: 17-20

17 So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old
has passed away; look, new things have come into being! 18 All this
is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and has
given us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is, in Christ God was
reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses
against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.
20 So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his
appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled
to God.

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

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

(*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 ~ Rev. Dr. Sara Keeling and Rev. Stephanie Bekhor

*HYMN #437 This is My Song FINLANDIA

*CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Within the strength of community, we come before God with the truth of our lives, trusting in the mercy and love of our Creator. Let us offer our confession before God and each other.

Holy God, we confess to you our pain:
The pain we have inflicted on others,
the pain that keeps us awake at night,
the pain of strangers across the world
whose lives we cannot touch,
and the pain of systems unyielding and untouchable.
We invite you into our pain,
we invite you to heal us, and forgive us,
to undo what is crushing and wrong,
to bring peace and even joy.
Hear now our silent confession.

Silent Prayer

Friends, hear the Good News: the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting. In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Amen.

*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

Christ Be With Me Oliver Tarney

Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me. Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ, and quiet, Christ in danger, Christ in the heart of all who love me, Christ in the mouth of friend and stranger. Christ to comfort and restore me.

*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 A pp. 17-18 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

Sanctus from A Community Mass Richard Proulx

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

In My Heart, Hymn #402 Alan Bullard

Meditation on 'Croft's 136th' C. Hylton Stewart

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

Sending

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

*HYMN #383 This is a Day of New Beginnings BEGINNING

*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

Concluding Voluntary Cuthbert Harris

Leading Today's Worship Service:
Preaching: Rev. Dr. Sara Keeling and Rev. Stephanie Bekhor
Pastors: Rev. Dr. Sara Keeling, Rev. Stephanie Bekhor
Liturgist: Kay Summers
Organist/Choirmaster: Jonathan Saint-Thomas
Choir: The Mount Olivet Choir
Children's Sharing: Linnea Carlson

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 Mary Hays, who will have outpatient bladder surgery on October 29.
~For Conor Kruzykowski, two-year-old son of Lindsey and Andrew Kruzykowski, who is hospitalized at Sloan Kettering battling high risk Neuroblastoma cancer. Lindsey grew up at Mount Olivet and her parents, Peter & Debbie Hinz are members of Mount Olivet.
~For Pat Robbins, who is recovering after a fall.
~For Bryce & Diane Heavner, Liam and family, as they grieve the death of their 21-year-old daughter/sister Kate Heavner, after a long and brave battle with cancer.
~For preschool teacher, Joan Boswinkle and her family, as they grieve the death of her mother.
~For Elizabeth Bramham and her family, as they grieve the death of her mother, Anne Bailey on October 15.

For those battling cancer and long-term illness:
Heather Weir, Karen Watkins, Elizabeth Carnahan, Jason Micheli, Sally, Christine, Yarikza, 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, Rose W., Pam K., Sherrie, Jeff.

Prayers for the World:
~For peace in our world, wisdom for our leaders and hope for our youth.
~For the UN World Food Programme which cut aid to 500,000 Palestinians in Gaza, citing funding shortages.
~For civil debate as the US mid-term election concludes in two weeks.
~For peace between Russia and Ukraine.
~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.

* * *

Please stand, as able, for those acts of worship marked with an asterisk*.
Words in bold type indicate a congregational response.

Announcements

United in Prayer, An Election Eve Prayer Vigil
Monday, November 2, 7 PM
Join our friends at Mount Olive Baptist Church (1601 13th Road South) for a prayer vigil on Monday, **November 2, 7 PM**. Come be a part of a powerful moment of faith and unity with other churches, including our own Pastor Sara.

Board Game Afternoon
Sunday, November 8, 4-6 pm, Phoenix Room (3rd floor)
Everyone is invited to join us and other board game enthusiasts on a quest to be the best (or have the most fun) on Sunday, **November 8, 4-6 PM!** Bring your favorite board game or just your game face and use one of ours. Witness and Welcome will provide hot cider and popcorn. RSVP at the link on our website so we know to expect you!

Re-useable Bags Needed for Community Assistance
Every month, we have guests at Community Assistance who arrive in need of a reuseable bag or two to help carry produce. Beginning in November, we'd like to start making available reusable grocery bags to guests in need of them. This is a great excuse to clean out closets and kitchen drawers. Please put donated bags in the designated bins in the Gathering Space, Fellowship Hall lobby and on the 16th Street porch on Sundays.

Peter Joyce Appreciation to Congregation
November 1, 10:30 AM
For the past year and a half, Peter Joyce has been fighting metastatic melanoma that spread to his brain and abdomen. After being confined to a wheelchair, he regained strength and mobility, progressing to a walker and eventually training to ride a three-wheeled recumbent bike! Today, he continues monthly immunotherapy and quarterly scans, and for now, his cancer remains stable.

Throughout this journey, the Mount Olivet Congregation has been a tremendous source of strength through meals, transportation, companionship, and prayers. Peter would like to share a brief reflection on his journey and personally thank everyone for the love and support shown to him and his family. Please join him on **Sunday, November 1, at 10:30 AM** in the Phoenix Room (third floor).

Youth Gatherings
There will be a Sunday evening youth gathering tonight, **October 25, 5-8 PM** in the fellowship hall and youth area. Contact Evan at ehannah@mtolivet-umc.org if your child plans to attend.

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

MOUNT OLIVET
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

October 25, 2026, 9:15 am

Welcome to worship at Mount Olivet! We hope that you find comfort and inspiration in our time together. May God's presence grace us as we worship and praise together.

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

PRELUDE
An American Organ Mass — Richard Purvis
IV. Corner
III. Resonet in Laudibus

Prelude on 'Grosser Gott' — Donald Busarow

Introit
All That Hath Life and Breath — Rene Clausen
All that hath life and breath, praise ye the Lord. Shout to the Lord, Alleluia! Alleluia, praise Him, laud Him! Alleluia! (Ps. 96)

*CALL TO WORSHIP
A God has set this day before us,
a day set apart, a day of rest and praise.
God has set our lives before us,
a span of years in which we love, and learn, and serve.
God has set God's seal upon our hearts,
so that we might live fully in deep love.
Let us worship God.

*HYMN #79 Holy God We Praise Thy Name (vv. 1-4)
GROSSER GOTT

*PRAYER OF THE DAY
God of steadfast love and mercy,
remind us once again that in Jesus Christ
everything has become new.
For far too often, things seem as they have always been:
old habits die hard, difficult situations linger,
failures from our past linger.
We look for your promised newness
but cannot see it.
Speak to us again of your new creation.
Open our eyes to its presence in our lives.
Call us forth to claim this newness,
that we may be healed and made whole. Amen.