



On 28th Avenue between Lake and 31st Streets Minneapolis, MN 55406 • 612-729-8358 • office@htlcmpls.org • www.htlcmpls.org
 WORSHIP SERVICES: 8:45 and 11:00 am • CHURCH SCHOOL: 9:45 am • Jay Carlson and Ingrid Rasmussen, Pastors

SLOW DOWN AND BREATHE

*Excerpt from a sermon given by Korla Masters,
 Holy Trinity Seminarian, on July 17, 2016*

A week ago, several hundred Lutherans gathered at St. Paul-Reformation Lutheran Church. In that sanctuary, we prayed and sang together; we confessed our participation in the sin of white supremacy, and we heard the assurance of God's abiding presence in the midst of our continued brokenness. We heard our Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton preach a text from the prophet Jeremiah. After worship ended, some of the worshipers went across the street to J.J. Hill Monessori School, where Philando Castile worked nourishing children's bodies and spirits. Others made our way to the Minnesota Governor's Mansion and heard the words of another prophet: Ellen, 11 years old, who spoke to the gathered community. She shared her confusion and her fear of going to police for help if she is ever in need. She spoke powerfully and compellingly for several minutes and closed saying, "I know anytime a kid gets up and speaks, adults say it's amazing. But I, as an African American person, am NEVER going to keep from telling my part."

At the exact same time my heart soared and my stomach tightened. I was overjoyed for Ellen in her determination to be true to the fact that her voice is the voice of one who bears the image of God. Her boldness emboldened me in the back of the crowd. At the same time, ours is not a city that rewards little black girls for defying those who silence them. Ellen made us a promise last Sunday, but it is a promise that sounded impossible almost as soon as it left her lips, even to those of us who desperately want it to be true. So how can we imagine a world where Ellen can speak her part and never be in danger? How can we fulfill OUR part of that promise and help Ellen create that world?

Our Old Testament reading this morning has echoes of this pattern and might point us in the right direction. God has made a promise to Abraham and Sarah. They have picked up and left their entire known world, leaving even their names behind. It is a promise of covenant and relationship with God—a new way of being with each other and with creation. And with it comes an utterly ridiculous promise—Sarah, who is past menopause, will have a child.

"But," Sarah may think, "check out this womb of mine, God. You mean to tell me that I'm supposed to risk hoping my riskiest hopes? There's danger in hope, God." It's in this space that I want to sit with Sarah and laugh and weep with her, because hope is still risky; hope is still, to be quite honest, utterly preposterous and terrifying. I want to sit and laugh and weep with her; and to ask her, "What was the bridge that got you the rest of the way? What or who allowed you to move from deep fear to daring to hope again?"

We see in this morning's reading from Genesis that the preposterous promise makes the most sense when it's delivered in the presence of company—of community. In fact, that preposterous promise has community and family built right in. There will be new life and family in greater abundance than Sarah or Abraham can imagine. This rings true of this moment in history, too. The systems of death and silence that seek to hush the voices of children like Ellen, and snuff out completely lives like Philando Castile's—these systems cannot and will not have the last word. We will win.

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Persistence in prayer evoked the admiration of Jesus and wins the attention of the Lord when Abraham intercedes for Sodom. The life of the baptized—to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus the Lord—is to be rooted in prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God's own. "When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me."



READINGS

Genesis 18:20-32
 Psalm 138
 Colossians 2:6-19
 Luke 11:1-13

ADULT FORUM

10:00 am—in the Library

JULY 24 "Race in America: Then and Now" Fiona Carson

Come hear Fiona Carson reflect on her recent study trip to the Deep South. Based in Jackson, Mississippi, she also traveled to neighboring states which hold significance from the Civil Rights era. The course included many field experiences with community leaders who worked and are working on a variety of racial justice projects.

JULY 31 "Uprooting Racism: Challenges and Opportunities"
 For some time now Holy Trinity has been exploring ways to address the realities of racism. This Adult forum will offer a review of the various initiatives that are currently being coordinated by the Racial Justice Working Group and preview what else is being considered, including the October 7-8 conference.

MEALS ON WHEELS DELIVERY

Holy Trinity will be delivering meals for South Minneapolis Meals on Wheels the week of August 1-5. Meals are picked up at Nokomis Square Delivery area, 35th Ave. and 50th St. at 11:15 a.m. Delivery takes about 1½ hours. Sign up on the list in the Community Room or call Mary Engen.

LUTHERAN NIGHT AT THE TWINS

Thank you to those of you who have signed up for Lutheran Night at the Twins on Tuesday, July 26. If you haven't gotten your tickets from organizer Pam Kildahl, look for her in the Community Room this Sunday morning or talk to Pastor Ingrid. Those interested in taking the train to the the ballpark should plan to meet in the Holy Trinity Rain Garden at 5:30 p.m. on July 26.

PARISH INFORMATION

TO DU OR NOT TO DU FRIDAY, AUGUST 5, 6:00 P.M.

Jeff and Meghan Olsen Biebighauser invite the 20s, 30s, and 40s group to join them for the First Fridays with Friends outing at Du Nord Distillery & Cocktail Room. Come at 6 p.m. to relax on the patio. From 7-8 p.m. we'll take a distillery tour and wrap up the event around 8:30 p.m. Need childcare? This event coincides with Parents Night Out. Sign up in the Community Room or on Facebook by July 31.

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT FRIDAY, AUGUST 5, 6:00-9:00 P.M.

Adults and youth work together caring for HTLC children while their parents go "out" from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Sign up in the Community Room to help with childcare or to save a spot for your child(ren) in the nursery. Volunteers must complete a background check through Holy Trinity.

LET'S GO CAMPING!

Children and Family Ministry is planning a group camping trip for anyone who would like to have a somewhat rustic experience without going too far from home. We'll camp at Nerstrand Big Woods State Park. Dates are August 19-21. Contact Theresa Rian with questions. Sign up in the Community Room.

SAVE THE DATE: JOHNSON SYMPOSIUM NOVEMBER 4-5, 2016

Join us for the seventh annual Johnson Symposium on Faith & Society as we welcome Rev. Wil Gafney, Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible at Brite Divinity School in Fort Worth, Texas, Friday, November 4, 7:00 p.m., and Saturday, November 5, 8:30 a.m. More details and registration information will be available soon.

GRATITUDE RETREAT FRIDAY-SATURDAY, SEPT. 30-OCT. 1, 2016

Sign up to join us in Collegeville, Minnesota, for an overnight retreat for adults of all ages. We'll have wonderful programming on gratitude by Minneapolis author Mark Scannell and opportunities to connect with one another and with the Benedictine Community at St. John's. We'll also explore the campus, which includes the famous Breuer Chapel, the pottery studio of Richard Breznahan, and the illustrated St. John's Bible. We have individual rooms for 25 people. Cost is \$100. Scholarships are available. Talk with Pastor Ingrid. Sign up and pay by Monday, September 12.

SUMMER CHOIR OPPORTUNITY SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

Everyone is welcome to sing as a choir in worship on Sunday, August 21, at the 11:00 service. No advance preparation is required; simply show up at 9:45 a.m. to rehearse.

Office phone: 612-729-8358
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PARISH EVENTS July 24-30, 2016

Sunday	8:45 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10:00 am	Adult Forum
	11:00 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	11:00 am-5:00 pm	<i>Open Streets Minneapolis</i>
	2:00 pm	Swahili Service
Tuesday	10:00 am	Mosaic Workshop on 4th floor
	11:00 am	Worship Readings Discussion
	7:10 pm	Lutheran Night at the Twins

World Hunger by Linda/Rod Heining and in memory of Peggy Nevers by Margaret Peterson

Refugee Resettlement by Bud Diken

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS JULY 24, 2016

8:45 AM		11:00 AM
Grayson Wiczorek	Acolytes	Audrey Jakopin, Sam Kleven
Lisa Martens	Crucifer	Camilo Rudolph
Liz Rudrud	Assisting Minister	
Pam Blomgren, Kevin Proescholdt	Communion	Linda/Phil Jury
Linda/Gerry Berglin	Altar Guild	Melanie Townsend Family
Bob Peschiutta, Chris Engen, John Goring	Ushers	M. Olsen Biebighauser, Deb Sodt, Kirk Jensen, Oskar Jensen
Pam Blomgren	Coffee Servers	Joy/Randy Nelson
Dennis Nordholm, Donna Heyer	Counters	Pam Kildahl, Scott Cole
	Closer	

Financial Report	July 17	Year to date
Budget requirement	14,432.69	418,548.08
Budget Receipts	13,371.33	408,149.36
Opening Doors	4,793.37	218,242.52
World Hunger	845.00	2,711.68
Refugee Resettlement	275.00	435.00