



On 31st Street between Minnehaha and 28th Avenues Minneapolis, MN 55406 • 612-729-8358 • office@htlcmpls.org • www.htlcmpls.org
Ingrid C. A. Rasmussen, Angela T. Khabeb, and Doug Mork, Pastors

2021 PENTECOST SERMON TO CALVARY LUTHERAN

Grace, mercy, and peace to you from our lord and savior - that brown skinned, Palestinian Jewish man named Jesus who was executed by the state for siding with the oppressed - his friends.

I am grateful to be able to preach on Pentecost. As a white, charismatic Lutheran in Minnesota this is my DAY. I never went to seminary, I'm just a street theologian, and as I understand it, Pentecost happened 50 days after the death of Jesus. These people were gathered together, and the FIRE of the Spirit blew through and people were FILLED with the Holy Spirt!

Pentecost last year was the Sunday after George Floyd was murdered.

Let me talk about Calvary Lutheran for a minute. What does it mean for this congregation to be one block from where George Floyd was lynched? Remember when we studied James Cone's book, *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*? We thought about the players at Calvary - the place where Jesus was crucified. There were those that called for his death, the Roman state that carried out the execution, the supporters of Jesus, and the bystanders. As Pastor Ken Wheeler says, "Jesus of the gospels (I'll add - not some whitewashed Jesus), called us to side with the oppressed and for the freedom of everybody." We can't be bystanders. We're supposed to be bringing about the reign of God's Justice. Amen?

White folks, we need to talk a bit. Even if we have the best of intentions, we're not that great about bringing about change or stopping racism. This racism, this white supremacy, is so insidious, it's in us, without our consent. Elizabeth Wilkerson uses the imagery of a house. None of us alive today built the house - but we've inherited it, and it has a BAD foundation. We must fix it. I'm a recovering racist - I'm trying to root white supremacy out of myself. It's hard. I mess up.

My friend Katherine Parent uses the Borg from Star Trek to describe white supremacy. See, the Borg are part human, part machine. They assimilate people by force. In order to regain their humanity, people have to remove the machine part. Similarly, we need to root out this white supremacy that lives unwelcome in us.

Is there any hope? There has to be hope. George Floyd's aunt, Angela Harrelson, said the first time she has felt hope was after the guilty verdict. Church, we have been in a year-long Pentecost.

Pentecost Sermon continued in next column ...

HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

READINGS

Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29;
Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17

ADULT FORUM

Login at zoom.us or call 312-626-6799 or click [here](#)
Meeting ID: 858 5687 1594 / Password: 317879

A recording of the forum from May 23 will be available soon.

SUNDAYS, 9:30 A.M.

MAY 30 "Building Back Better"
Stepping Out in Faith Working Group

The Stepping Out in Faith working group relating to Our Shared Community will report its initial thinking on how to help the neighborhood "build back better."

JUNE 6 Otis Zanders—Ujamaa Place

Otis Zanders will describe the work of Ujamaa Place in St. Paul which provides holistic transformation for young African American men experiencing inequity at the intersection of race and poverty.

Pentecost Sermon continued ...

More hearts have been opened, more minds have been changed as more people wake up to the reality of racism and brutality in our country. Let us not squander this time. What happens next is up to us. We've been laying Black bodies on the altar of white supremacy for too long now - it needs to stop. It HAS to! For me, being faithful looks like showing up in the square, listening, and using my voice to say enough. Enough. Joining with those in the square that say:
NO JUSTICE, NO PEACE!

Shari Seifert is V.P. of the European Descent Lutheran Assn for Racial Justice, a member of the ELCA Minneapolis Synod racial justice table, her congregation's Race Equity Committee and the org. Multifaith Anti-Racism, Change and Healing.

View the worship service from Sunday, May 23, [here](#).

PARISH INFORMATION

ANOTHER WORD ON THE CARING FOR CREATION 10,000LED CAMPAIGN

As the world struggled with a global health crisis this past year or so, we learned again the power of simple, daily practices to do immense good. Masking, social distancing, handwashing, and staying home - things we did as individuals contributed immensely to slowing the spread and saving lives.

The 10,000 LED bulb campaign applies this power of simple, individual actions to address the crisis of global warming. This simple action is as easy as replacing incandescent and fluorescent bulbs in your home with LED bulbs. LED bulbs require a small fraction of the electricity that incandescent and fluorescent bulbs of equivalent brightness do. That means less demand on electrical power plants. And THAT means less burning of fossil fuels, which contribute so mightily to pollution and global warming. Considering how much electrical lighting we use in our homes, what a difference each of us and all of us working together can make!

The Caring for Creation team is challenging all HTLC households to change their home lighting to LED bulbs. We have created a "how to" brochure [here](#). We will also be contacting member households to invite your participation. Please email 10000LEDBulb@gmail.com with the number of bulbs you've switched out or any questions you may have.

HOLY TRINITY YOUTH CHOIR DRIVE-BY AWARDS

Thursday, May 27, 6:00-7:30 P.M. It's been an unusual year trying to make music together while being miles apart, but we've been faithful in our relationships to one another and raising our voices at home, reminding us we have not been alone, we belong to one another, and we are all beloved children of God! Choir Director Ann Schrooten wants to celebrate children's and youth choir members on this day and mark the years you've shared your voice and spirit with this community; whether it be your FIRST year or your SEVENTH year!

CONCERNING PEOPLE

In our gathering, we remember those who need God's tenderness, especially Bev Peschiutta's niece, **Melissa**; Ann and Dawn's neighbor, **Brian**; **Mark Symchych**; **Mark Seerup**; and **Cori Gershon**. We remember **Delilia Cotton** and her family on the death of her brother, **Eugene Malz**. We pray the second of nine masses for **Graciela Vasquez** and trust that she now rests securely in God's mercy. We pray for the family and friends of **George Floyd**.



LONGFELLOW HIGH SCHOOL PLANT SALE TOMORROW (TUESDAY 5/25) AT HOLY TRINITY

If you missed Longfellow Alternative High School's Spring Plant Sale, the unsold plants are at Holy Trinity. The church paid for and we will make the plants available beginning Tuesday May 25 at 11:00 AM near the east entrance to the church. They'll be there until they're gone. There are approximately 120 tomato plants, 4 varieties: Delicious; Beefsteak; Cherry; and Roma, and 24 6-packs of Coleus. If you want to help HTLC defray the cost the plants, please consider a free-will donation to the church. The tomatoes sold for \$1 each and the Coleus for \$3 each.

BEYOND COLOR: USING PAINT TO HEAL, CREATE & GROW

Artist Robyn Sand Anderson received a 2021 Minnesota State Arts Grant to create an online painting video series aimed at beginners and non-artists in Minnesota who might need a creative outlet during this pandemic. Using abstract expressionism, she gives people a means to express whatever they are feeling using color, movement, and texture. You do not need artistic experience. The purpose is to explore your thoughts and feelings using color.

The first set of videos are free, which includes a short Welcome & Overview, Favorite Materials, Art Bit exercise #1, and A Bird's Eye View Painting Demo #1. Check it out at www.RobynSandAnderson.com.

HOLY TRINITY GRADUAL REOPENING

This past week, the Church Council had a long, vigorous, and thoughtful discussion about the church's summer plans. With recommendations from the COVID Task Force, CDC, State of Minnesota, and City of Minneapolis in hand, the Council decided to relax current restrictions for in-person gatherings.

For highlights from the newest revision of the church's COVID plan, finalized this week, refer to the worship link email from May 22, or call the church office. Look for more information in a future Community Church about these changes.

EVENTS HONORING GEORGE FLOYD

Rise & Remember George Floyd

Tuesday, May 25 1-9:00 PM

George Floyd Square, Chicago Ave at E 38th Street

A Tipi Is a Building, Too

Tuesday, May 26, 5-10:00 PM

Gandhi Mahal (Curry in a Hurry), 3025 E Franklin Ave

The Transition Stage

Wednesday, May 26 & Thursday, May 27, 5-7:00 PM

2613 E Lake St (at Minnehaha Ave)

A vessel for community laments, curated by Angela Two Stars. Join us to prepare the soil and plant the seeds of hope as we begin to rebuild. Bring your garden tools!

Walk with MIGIZI

Friday, May 28, 11 AM - 1:00 PM

Walk from 3017 27th Ave S to 1845 E Lake Street