

REFORMATION AND THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

OCTOBER 29, 2023

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
MINNEAPOLIS

WELCOME TO ALL

*The people of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church wish to extend a special welcome to all visitors!
Please leave your name and phone number on the visitor card found in the pew.*

*We are committed to the inclusion of all people, with no exception. Therefore, we practice **open communion**, welcoming all to the table to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion.*

Children are full participants in this congregation's worship, educational, and community life! The Mary Martha Room is a quiet space for infants needing to nurse or to nap. For active toddlers, the Community Room has a Children's Corner with books and a table at which to play. Our ushers are ready to assist you in finding the place that best fits your family's needs.

***Accessible and all-gender restrooms** are located in the basement.*

***Single-use, all-gender restrooms** are located on the 1st floor.*

*For over forty years, this congregation has advocated for the **full welcome, inclusion, and equity** of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQIA+) Lutherans in all aspects of the church and the community. We invite all people into lives of authenticity, integrity, and wholeness.*

***Hearing assist devices and large-print bulletins** are available. Ask an usher if you are interested.*

*Our **services are livestreamed** on Vimeo and Facebook every week. The live shot includes the main floor of the sanctuary. Our members who watch from home love to see their friends at church! If for privacy reasons you prefer not to be on camera, the balcony is outside of the camera's range.*

*If you are seeking **pastoral care**, please speak to a pastor today.*

Today's bulletin cover art is provided by Johnny Weiss. Thank you, Johnny!

REFORMATION

On this day, more than 500 years after Martin Luther opened a conversation that both began a reforming of the Church and also led to a split in the Church, we pray for the Triune God's healing and continuing reformation of the Church of Christ. Today, with Luther's joyful proclamation of God's grace in our hearts and voices, we celebrate the heart of Christian faith: the Gospel of Christ — the good news — that makes us free! God has made a new covenant with us, written on our hearts, that together we might know God's forgiveness and calling. In the waters of Baptism, we are made one body; we pray for the day that all Christians will also be one at Christ's Table, and that the Spirit would continue to unite the Church in its proclamation and witness in the world.

GATHER

PRELUDE

Gratitude
Gloria Ringers

Alex Guebert

Performed with deepest gratitude for the generous gifts which made the handbell restoration possible.

+GATHERING HYMN

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Please stand and face the cross at the rear of the sanctuary.

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a
 2 If we in our own strength con - fide, our
 3 Though all the world with de - vils fill, and
 4 God's Word is our great her - i - tage and

bul - wark ne - ver fail - ing; our help - er
 stri - ving turns to lo - sing; the right - ous
 threat - en to de - vour us, we trem - ble
 shall be ours for - ev - er; to spread its

frees us from the flood side of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing.
 one fights by our side, of the one of God's own choos - ing.
 not, we trust God's will: they can - not o - ver - pow'r us.
 light from age to age shall be our chief en - deav - or.

For still our an - cient foe, for - sworn to work us woe,
 You ask who this may be: Christ Je - sus it is he,
 Though Sa - tan rant and rage, in fier - cest war en - gage,
 Through life it guides our way; in death it is our stay.

with guild and dread - ful might is armed to wage the fight:
 the Lord of hosts by name. No o - ther God we claim!
 this ty - ran'ts doomed to fail; God's judg - ment must pre - vail!
 Lord, grant while time shall last your church may hold it fast

on earth there is no e - qual.
 None else can win the bat - tle.
 One lit - tle word will tri - umph.
 through - out all gen - er - a - tions.

+GREETING

The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

+HYMN OF PRAISE

Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God in the
Last time, to Coda ⊕

high - est, Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on

1. earth. 2. earth. For

You a - lone are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord,

You a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

Spir - it, in the glo - ry ev - er - last - ing, A - men! _____

D.S. al Coda ⊕ **Coda**

_____ earth. And peace to God's peo - ple on earth!

+PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord of the teasing riddle, whose questions undo our certainty and set us on a different path: give us a heart of passion, a searching mind, gentle strength of body and unseen depths of soul, that we might love you wholly and our neighbor as our self; through Jesus Christ, the law of grace.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WELCOME

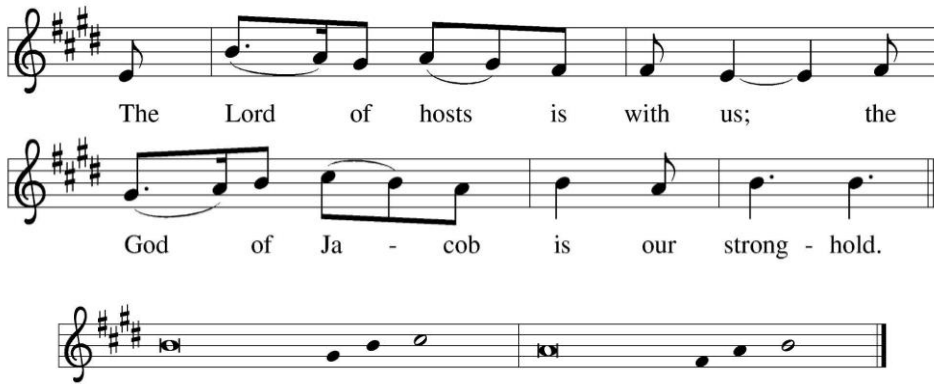
WORD

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Word of God; word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Refrain (First time: cantor, then **all**, cantor sings verses)



¹God is our ref-uge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

²**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

³though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.

⁶**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away. Refrain**

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us;
he God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸**Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought up on the earth;**

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰**Be still, then, and know that I am God;**

I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold. **Refrain**

SECOND READING

Romans 3:19-28

+GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia



+GOSPEL READING

John 8:31-36

Word of God; word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

+HYMN OF THE DAY

God, We Gather as Your People



1 God, we gath - er as your peo - ple to raise our song a -
 2 Oh, we sing for all the chil - dren, that one day they be
 3 Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear and
 4 God, we're work - ing for the fu - ture when chil - dren far and



bove, and we dare to claim the prom - ise of your love.
 free; and we sing for gen - er - a - tions yet to be,
 shame, so a - fraid of who they are and whom they love.
 wide can . . . live their lives with dig - ni - ty and pride.



Though the day may not yet be here, we
 that they nev - er have a rea - son to
 May the mes - sage now be ban - ished that your
 As they grow in strength and stat - ure, may they



trust it soon will be, when your chil - dren will be free.
 doubt that they are blest. May they, in your love, find rest.
 love is for the few; may their faith in you re - new.
 join us hand in hand, as a - gainst all hate we stand.



Oh, may our hearts and minds be o - pened, fling the church doors o - pen



wide. May there be room e - nough for ev - 'ry - one in - side.



For in God there is a wel - come, in God we all be -



long. May that wel - come be our song.

8:45 - Please remain standing for the prayers.
 11:00 - Please be seated for the Rite of Confirmation.

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM (11:00)

*Confirmands come forward.
Parents, guardians, family members, and caring adults are also invited
to come forward at this time.*

These people have been instructed in the Christian faith and desire to make public affirmation of their baptism:

William Hansen, Benjamin Hanson, Noah Hines, Bea Martin

Dear friends, we rejoice that you now desire to make public profession of your faith and assume greater responsibility in the life of our Christian community and its mission in the world. In holy baptism, Jesus Christ received you and made you a member of the church. In the community of God's people, you have learned of God's loving purpose for you and all creation. You have been called to be witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Now therefore, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we baptize.

Do you renounce the forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Along with this congregation, I ask you, do you believe in God?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, child of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Eucharist,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

(Confirmands answer) I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support these members of the body of Christ and pray for them in their journey of faith? **We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

ANTHEM

I Am a Child of God
Children's Choir

Bruce & Cheryl Harding

I am a child of God, I am a glimpse of God's new creation, I am a child of God.
I am an angry voice, I am compassion and consternation, I am an angry voice.
I am a cry for peace, I am commitment and dedication, I am a cry for peace.

The confirmands kneel for individual blessings.

God in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in *(confirmand)* the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm his faith, guide his life, empower him in his serving, give him patience in suffering, and bring him to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Let us pray.

O God, we praise you for calling us to faith and for gathering us into the Church, the body of Christ. We thank you for your people gathered in this congregation and rejoice that you have set us free for love and service. Together may we live in the Spirit, building one another up in love, sharing in the life and worship of the Church, and seeking justice and peace for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Let us rejoice with these siblings in Christ.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

The assembly may offer acclamation with applause.

Please stand for the prayers.

+APOSTLES' CREED (8:45)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

+INTERCESSIONS

David Broberg

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

(silence)

Merciful God, you are a God of Covenant, a God of Promise, a God of faithfulness. You made and make covenant with your people, your people of the past, your people of the present, your people of tomorrow and the future. You make covenant with us, becoming our God and making us your people. God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Merciful God, you are a God of mercy as well as a God of law. You have written your law on our hearts. You have written your law within us, in and on our hearts. As we breathe in your law, help us to be not only your people, but also your children, siblings to each other, and all whom you love. God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Merciful God, you are our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. We inhabit a world and society that is in a constant state of movement and change. This movement and change can be unsettling, troubling, and frightening. Yet you remain steadfast, unshaken, unmoving. You speak, reminding us that you are with us, now, tomorrow, and always. God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Merciful God, your law reminds us that all have sinned. Your law reminds us that we have fallen short. Your law reminds us that righteousness is not something, anything, that we can seek and grasp on our own. Righteousness, justification, come to us from you as a gift, and that redemption comes to us in Jesus, the Christ, the promised one of God. God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Merciful God, we continue in your Word. You have made us disciples. You reveal to us truth, and in your truth, we are made free. Today, these young people make affirmation of their faith. This faith comes to them as a gift from your hand. Write this truth in and on their heart and mind. Let them know, remember, and believe that you are and always will be their God, their refuge, their strength. Let them know, remember, and believe that as such, they are a part of your people, children and siblings in Christ, both now and unto eternity. God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Merciful God, Bring healing and renewal to all who suffer, especially Carol Berg; Noëlle Morell's father, Steve Padgitt; Joyce Hanson; Joyce Peterson; Arnie Johanson; Katie Schroeder's mom, Diane; Cliff Brown; Mary Paavola; Dorothy Kelly; Cori Gershon; and those we name now, either silently or aloud (*the congregation may name loved ones in need of God's care*) God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

*You are invited to offer spoken petitions.
Please close your petition with, "God, in your mercy,"
to which the congregation will respond, "**Hear our prayer.**"*

Receive our prayers and hopes, God of mercy and justice, as we pray in the name of Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**

MEAL

+PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

You are invited to exchange words and signs of friendship and love with those around you.

OFFERING

(8:45)

Trio

Johann Ludwig Krebs

(11:00)

A Future with Hope
Children's Choir

Mark Burrows

*Surely I know, I know the plans I have for you,
plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.*

When you call on me, I will answer.

I will hear your every prayer.

When you seek me with all your heart, you will find me, I will be there.

+OFFERTORY HYMN

Come to the Table

Sung three times

Part I



Come to the ta - ble, come to the ta - ble.

Part II



Come one, come all. Come one, come all.



All is now read - y, come one and all. Come, oh, come.



Come one, come all. Come one, come all.

+OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God, gracious and benevolent, through Jesus you invite all the world to an abundant table. Grant that this meal of mercy will lead us into your love for each one of us, and for the entire world; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.

Amen.

+GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We praise you for your glorious Word that spoke, and it was so. With just a word you create a universe of breathtaking beauty and tenderly breathe life into human beings made in your image. Your creative power is beyond our comprehension. You raised up prophets among your people, including your servant Martin Luther, and through them spoke your word of life and truth. In your compassion, Jesus came among us serving all and lifting up those who were bowed down. Through Jesus' living, dying, and rising, we, too, are raised and made new. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

+SANCTUS

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of _ pow-er and
might. ____ Heav - en and earth are full of your glo -
ry, Ho - san - na ____ in the high - est! ____
____ Bless-ed is the one who comes in the name, who comes in the
name of the Lord. ____ Ho - san - na in ____ the high -
est, Ho - san - na ____ in the high - est! ____

+WORDS OF INSTITUTION

+LORD'S PRAYER

We pray together:

Our Creator, Our Mother, Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

+LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you _ take a-way the sin of the world, have
mer-cy on us. _____ Lamb of God, you _
take a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy on
us. _____ Lamb of God, you _ take a - way _
_____ the sin of the world. _____
Grant _ us _____ peace, Grant us peace.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION INVITATION

All are welcome at the table. This is Christ's table where no one is a stranger. For those worshipping at home, hear these words spoken for you: The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Grape juice and gluten-free wafers are available upon request to the server.

An usher will direct you down the center aisle, where you can pick up a communion cup. You are invited to stand or kneel in front of the table, beginning from the middle and moving toward the outside. After you have received the bread and the wine, please return to your seat by way of the side aisle, where an usher will receive your communion cup.

If you wish to receive communion from a pastor in your pew, please let an usher know.

DISTRIBUTION ANTHEM

Gift of Finest Wheat
Gloria Ringers

arr. Michael Helman

1 That price-less grace, that price-less grace, that price-less
 2 That price-less blood, that price-less blood, that price-less
 3 That pain-ful death, that pain-ful death, that pain-ful
 4 That pre-cious word, that pre-cious word, that pre-cious

grace, which gave me life: Je - sus' life is price-less grace.
 blood was shed for me: Je - sus' blood is price-less grace.
 death took sins a - way: Je - sus' death is price-less grace.
 word, which brought me light: Je - sus' word is price-less grace.

That price - less grace is life for me.

+BLESSING

The body and blood of Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

Amen.

+POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

+SENDING HYMN

Founded on Faith

*Children and youth are invited to join the worship leaders as they recess
and gather at the rear of the sanctuary to share the dismissal.*



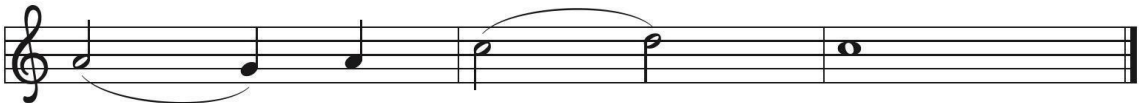
1 Found - ed on faith, the church— a - live by grace—
2 Your cross, O Christ, re - news our life each day.
3 E - quipped by prayer, we live the Spir - it's call.
4 Grow - ing in grace for God's cre - at - ed earth,
5 Found - ed on faith, called forth, em - pow'ed to serve,



pro - claims the gos - pel here and ev - 'ry place.
Bap - tized in you, we learn and teach and pray.
Em - pow'ed to serve with gifts, both great and small,
we yearn for jus - tice, peace, and hu - man worth;
we share God's end - less love with - out re - serve.



The word of God re - sounds through time and space:
Fed by your love, with thank - ful hearts, we say:
we bring the liv - ing hope of God to all.
a world re - stored; a faith - ful, car - ing church.
Then let us shout a - loud the liv - ing Word!



Al - le - lu - ia!

+BENEDICTION

May the Lord bless us and keep us. May God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace. And may the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love.

Amen.

+DISMISSAL

Go in peace, love your neighbors.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

A Mighty Fortress
Gloria Ringers

arr. Brenda Austin

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Frederick H. Hedge, 1805-1890, alt. stanza 4, Nicolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig, 1783-1872, tr. Ole G. Belsheim, 1861-1925. Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther, 1483-1546. Text st. 1-3

© 2006 Augsburg Fortress

Psalm 46, Psalm refrain reproduced from 'Psalter for Worship Year A' © 2007 Augsburg Fortress

Psalm tone reproduced from 'Psalter for Worship Year C' © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

"God, We Gather As Your People" Text: David Lohman, b. 1961. Music: WELCOME BE OUR SONG, David Lohman

Text and music © 2007 Welcome Song Music, admin. Augsburg Fortress

"Come to the Table" Text: Jennifer Baker-Trinity, b. 1976. Music: INVITATION, Jennifer Baker-Trinity

Text and music © 2017 Augsburg Fortress

"The Priceless Grace" Text: Emmanuel F. Y. Grantson, b. 1949. Music: THAT PRICELESS GRACE, Ghanaian traditional

Text © 1999 Augsburg Fortress

"Founded on Faith" Text: Paul D. Weber, b. 1949. Music: FOUNDED ON FAITH, Paul D. Weber

Text and music © 2017 Paul D. Weber, admin. Augsburg Fortress

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

2730 East 31st Street, Minneapolis, MN 55406

612-729-8358 ✠ htlcmpls.org

LITURGY: *CUP OF BLESSING*

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

8:45 AM		11:00 AM
David Larson-Martínez	Preacher	David Larson-Martínez
Ingrid Rasmussen	Presiding Minister	Ingrid Rasmussen
Mary Engen, Ginny Jordan	Altar Guild	Doris Gbala
Tom Cahoy	Crucifer	
Stephanie Sulzbach	Cantor	Stephanie Sulzbach
	Assisting Minister	Kris Christians
Sally and David Kohlstedt, Chris Engen	Ushers	David Broberg, Chris Amundson, Kathy Hollander, Rod Johnson
Steve Murray, Libby and Keith Olstad	Communion	Kari and Tom Kleven, Sean Gosiewski
Sue Roberts, Sally Kohlstedt	Coffee Servers	Confirmation Students
Annie Hines	Counters	
	Closer	Roberta Shaw
	Video	Jan Mehlhoff

*"Cup of Blessing" Liturgy was composed for the Holy Trinity community by Rachel Trelstad Porter. Used with permission.
Copyright permission is granted under annual copyright license A-704054 with OneLicense, Chicago IL.*

STAFF

Ingrid Rasmussen, *Lead Pastor*
David Larson-Martínez, *Associate Pastor*
Doug Mork, *Part-time Associate Pastor*
Kathy Ekwall, *Communications & Congregational Coordinator*
Nolan Gusdal, *Building Maintenance*
Phil Radtke, *Cantor*
Kaia Ellis, *Financial Administrator*

STAFF, CONTINUED

Sue Roberts, *Publications Coordinator*
Erik Gerhardt, *Accompanist*
Dennis Nordholm, *Custodian*
Dana Simms, *Custodian*
Logan Olson, *Gloria Ringers Director*

LEADERSHIP

Allison Johnson-Heist, *Council President*
Gretchen Lund, *Council Vice President*
Erin Henry, *Council Secretary*
Katie Schroeder, *Council Treasurer*

P A R I S H I N F O R M A T I O N

COMMITTEE/WORKING GROUP BUDGETS FOR 2024

It's time to start drafting your 2024 budgets! Given the ways that COVID has shifted programming, committees may need to do some discerning of what can be done during this time and what financial support is needed to do it. (In other words, simply saying "the same as last year" doesn't work this time around!) Please submit this information by December 1.

NOMINATE A LEADER TO SERVE ON THE CHURCH COUNCIL

This year's Nominating Committee (Meghan Olsen Biebighauser, Kevin Proescholdt, Arlene Helvig, Allison Johnson Heist, Erin Manlove, and Gretchen Lund) will soon start to discern a slate of new Council members. If you would like to nominate a great leader to serve on Holy Trinity's Church Council, please send their name and a brief description of their leadership to Erin Manlove.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION TODAY FROM 12:00 TO 1:30 P.M.

We at Holy Trinity believe that community is integral to faith, which is why we invite interested persons to consider membership in this congregation. A new member orientation will be held on today from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. in the library. Over a simple meal, those interested in membership will have the opportunity to learn more about one another and about Holy Trinity's mission and ministry. There are no prerequisites; all are welcome.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR WEDNESDAYS IN ADVENT

We are looking for volunteers to help with Advent Evening Soup Suppers (December 6, 13, and 20). Each Wednesday, 4 households would prepare and serve enough for 30 people. Volunteers are needed for set-up and clean-up all three Wednesdays. Sign up in the Community Room.

NOMINATE A SPECIAL APPEAL FOR 2024

Each year, Holy Trinity authorizes special financial appeals for 2-3 organizations. Special appeals are characterized by being open ended (i.e., we give to the organization(s) what we receive), they are normally approved for just one year, and they are supported by a special appeal letter which is sent to all the giving units in the congregation. If you have a 501(c)3 organization that you'd like to nominate, please contact one of the church's standing committees and ask for support for your nomination. By tradition, the World Hunger of the ELCA has been included as one of the causes designated for a special appeal and therefore does not need to be submitted by a standing committee. Nominations, supported by a standing committee, will be accepted until December 1, 2023, and may be emailed to Pastor Ingrid at ingridrasmussen@htlcmpls.org.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION AND COMPANIONSHIP

Spiritual Direction and Companionship is a long-standing practice and discipline. It is a helpful process for paying attention to our relationships—with self, with others, and with the Divine. A portion of Scripture is used—not as study—rather for mediation and contemplative prayer. This process can be regarded as praying with God’s Word and paying attention to God’s Presence in our lives.

In the small group one is encouraged to share one's own process with others. We are free to share but not required. All that is shared is confidential to the group. Holy Trinity will offer three separate and similar four week sessions with different dates and times for others to participate. After the initial sessions one may choose to continue but on a monthly (not weekly) basis.

The initial group will begin on Wednesday, November 8, at 9:00 a.m. in the Mary Martha Room. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Community Room. Two other initial groups will be offered in January and February 2024. Questions are invited and can be directed to the facilitator, Joel Wiberg (612-508-4013).

PRESENTATION FROM BRIGHT STARS OF BETHLEHEM

Join us Wednesday, November 1, at Edina Community Lutheran Church, for *An Update on Palestine in the Midst of Crisis* from the executive director of our mission partner Bright Stars of Bethlehem. Tragic violence affects students and faculty at Bright Stars-supported Dar al-Kalima University campuses in Gaza and Bethlehem as well as elsewhere. Come for a Palestinian dinner at 6 p.m. followed by the 7 p.m. presentation. [Click here](#) for more information, including information on how to RSVP and to donate \$20 for the cost of dinner.

STILL: ON LAND, PHOTOGRAPHY, AND MEANING-MAKING

On display in the Community Room is a series of artworks made by friend of Holy Trinity, Emilie Bouvier. Shaped by her time and experience at Holden Village, these pieces explore our complex relationships with land and place. Created through a variety of photographic processes, you're invited to explore these images and reflect on what storied landscapes have to teach us about ourselves, our history, and our relationships with God and one another.

Read Emilie’s detailed description on the south wall of the Community Room (near the children’s table).

P A R I S H S C H E D U L E

Monday, October 30	6:30 PM	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Tuesday, October 31	11:00 AM	Worship Readings Discussion
Wednesday, November 1	5:00-6:00 PM 5:45-6:45 PM 6:00-8:00 PM	Choir Families Supper Children's Choir Rehearsal Supervised Play Time
Thursday, November 2	6:45 PM	Big Meeting Night
Sunday, November 5	8:45 AM 10:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM 2:00 PM	Worship Service of Holy Communion Youth Education Adult Forum Worship Service of Holy Communion Swahili Service

ADULT FORUM

10:00 a.m. each Sunday

TODAY **"Creation Care"**
 Russ Henry

Russ is a landscaper, naturalist, gardener, soil health expert, educator, and owner of Minnehaha Falls Landscaping. As a Certified Soil Life Consultant, he scientifically explores and supports soil health, the foundation for beauty and productivity in all landscapes. Russ has a passionate commitment to protecting God's creation and growing ecosystems across Minnesota. He is the founder of Bee Safe Minneapolis and a writer and presenter for the Minnesota State Horticultural Society. Russ presents annually on the Dirt Stage at the Minnesota State Fair and has been featured in the Minneapolis Star Tribune and other publications around the country.

November 5 "Honoring the Saints"

Today we remember those sinner-saints who have died before us. Too rarely are we given the opportunity to talk with one another about the loss of beloved friends and family members. This year, we invite you to bring pictures of the saints in your life and display them in the Community Room during the adult forum hour. During the hour, we'll have an opportunity to share stories about the photos we bring.

REMEMBER DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Set your clocks back one hour when you go to bed so you're not too early to church next Sunday!