

# SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 23, 2025

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
MINNEAPOLIS

#### WELCOME TO ALL

We honor that we gather and worship on the **Dakota Homeland**.

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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 cover art is provided by Annika Lindorfer. Thank you, Annika!

## **GATHER**

+invites the congregation to stand

PRELUDE

This Little Light of Mine Waseti Ensemble

African American spiritual

+GATHERING HYMN

Lift Every Voice and Sing Join in singing when directed by the ensemble.

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

Lift every voice and sing

'Til earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on 'til victory is won.

God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who hast by Thy might
Led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,
May we forever stand.
True to our God,
True to our native land.

#### +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.** 



#### +PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine one, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Creator and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

Please be seated.

#### WELCOME

## Word

**ANTHEM** 

We Shall Overcome Waseti Ensemble African American spiritual

We shall overcome, we shall overcome We shall overcome someday. Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe, We shall overcome someday.

FIRST READING

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

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

PSALM 37:1-11, 39-40 Hal H. Hopson

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



Wait for the Lord; pa - tient-ly wait. Wait for the Lord.

O trust in the LORD with all your heart, Take heed to do God's will; So shall you live in peace and joy, And God your needs shall fill. **Refrain** 

Take great delight in the LORD your God, Who grants your heart's request. To God commit your way in faith; You surely shall be blest. **Refrain** 

The LORD shall make your righteous ways Shine brightly as the light, And as the burning noonday sun, Your judgment shall be bright. **Refrain** 

O rest in the LORD with quiet trust, Wait patiently each day; Though wicked ones may seem to thrive, Keep faith, the LORD obey. **Refrain** 

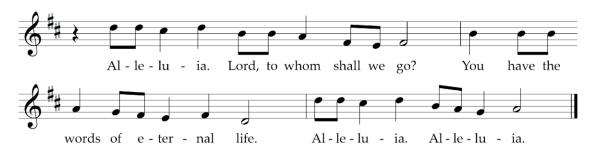
SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

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

#### +GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

#### Alleluia



+GOSPEL READING

Luke 6:27-38

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

#### **SERMON**

#### +HYMN OF THE DAY

Blessed Assurance
Follow Waseti Ensemble's lead.

VERSE 1: Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine Heir of salvation, purchase of God Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood

CHORUS: This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long
This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long

VERSE 2: Perfect submission, perfect delight
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight
Angels descending, bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love
CHORUS (repeat)

VERSE 3: Perfect submission, all is at rest I in my Savior am happy and blessed Watching and waiting, looking above Filled with His goodness, lost in His love CHORUS (repeat 2x)

#### +A CREED FOR OUR TIME

Iona, as used at the Root and Branch lay led synod in Bristol

Let us stand and affirm the faith that we share:

We believe that God is present in the darkness before dawn; in the waiting and uncertainty where fear and courage join hands, where conflict and caring link arms, and where the sun rises over barbed wire.

We believe in a with-us God who sits down in our midst to share our humanity.

We affirm a faith that takes us beyond a safe place: into action, into vulnerability and onto the streets.

We commit ourselves to work for change and to put ourselves on the line; to bear responsibility, take risks, live powerfully and face humiliation, to stand with those on the edge.

To choose life and be used by the Spirit for God's new community of hope. Amen.

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)

Surprising God, you call us to love our enemies and to show kindness in the face of cruelty. Let our actions be a shining witness of your overwhelming grace for all. God of grace,

#### Hear our prayer.

As animals hibernate and fields lay dormant, let them be a reminder that life and faith are not static but always changing and growing. May we, with all creation, trust that the ending of one thing promises life in a new way. God of grace,

#### Hear our prayer.

We pray for leaders and policymakers who work to reduce violence in our nations, cities, and towns. Give your wisdom and discernment amid heated arguments and differing viewpoints. God of grace,

#### Hear our prayer.

We pray for the victims of abuse and violence. Provide safe shelter and new beginnings to those experiencing domestic violence and dangerous situations. Enfold with love all who seek your healing care, especially Dorothy Kelly; Rodolfo Estrada, David Herrera's father, as he recovers from cornea surgery; Betty Anderson; Carol Kelly; Jenni Vaillancourt's stepdad; Mary Petersen; Karen Batdorf's sister, Marie; Pam Kildahl's sister, Wendy; Mark Horning, friend of Tony Wald; Merlin Wells; George Madich; Mike Kelly; Rev. Amy Schifrin; Michael Scanlan; Aric Sorenson and Ty Inglis; James Nysse's cousin, Eric Steckling; Katie Murray's mom Pat; Jan Mehlhoff's friend, Margie Guelker; and those we hold in our hearts or speak with our voices now (the congregation may name loved ones in need of God's care). God of grace,

## Hear our prayer.

Receive our prayers of joy and thanksgiving. Today we celebrate with Pat Lundquist, who turns 95 years old on Monday. God of grace,

## Hear our prayer.

You are invited to offer spoken petitions.

At the conclusion of your petition, please close with "God of grace," 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 fellowship and love with those around you.

**OFFERING** 

How I Got Over Waseti Ensemble Mahalia Jackson

How I got over, over My soul looks back and wonders How I got over

I'm gon' wear a diadem
In that New Jerusalem
I'm gonna walk the streets of gold
In the homeland of the soul
I'm gonna view the hosts in white
That been traveling day and night
Coming up from every nation
On their way to the great coronation

I'm gonna sing Hallelujah, Hallelujah My soul looks back and wonders How I got over

How I got over, over My soul looks back and wonders How I got over

Thank you, thank you Lord

Baskets will be passed in the sanctuary. If you prefer to donate to the mission and ministry using Venmo or card, the QR codes can be found on the back page of the bulletin.

#### +OFFERTORY HYMN

## Deep River

Communion servers are invited to come forward at this time.

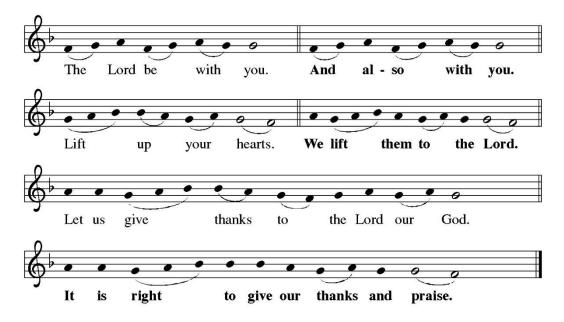


#### +OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

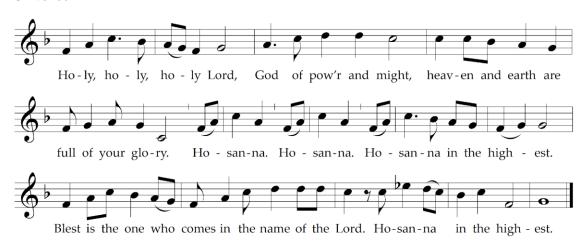
Amen.

#### +GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

#### +SANCTUS



#### +WORDS OF INSTITUTION

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way. In times of bitterness you did not abandon us, but guided us into the path of love and light. In every age you sent prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity.

The cry of the poor has become your own cry; our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire. In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant to preach good news to the afflicted, to break bread with the outcast and despised, and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world.

Amen.

#### +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



Please be seated.

#### **COMMUNION INVITATION**

All are welcome at the table. This is Christ's table where no one is a stranger.

For those worshiping 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.

All are welcome at the table.

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 your pew, please let an usher know.

DISTRIBUTION ANTHEM

For God So Loved the World
Waseti Ensemble

Vanessa Bell Armstrong

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish, should not perish, but they shall have, they shall have everlasting life.

### **DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

#### There Is a Balm in Gilead



#### +BLESSING

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

Amen.

#### +POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,

Amen.

## **SENDING**

#### +SENDING HYMN

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Stanza 1, Solo, then follow Waseti Ensemble's lead

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.

Solo: Precious Lord, take my hand
Lead me on, let me stand
I'm tired, I'm weak, I'm lone
Through the storm, through the night
Lead me on to the light
Take my hand, precious Lord
Lead me home

When my way grows drear Precious Lord, linger near When my light is almost gone Hear my cry, hear my call Hold my hand, lest I fall Take my hand precious Lord Lead me home

When the darkness appears
And the night draws near
And the day is past and gone
At the river, I stand
Guide my feet, hold my hand
Take my hand precious Lord
Lead me home

Precious Lord, take my hand
Lead me on, let me stand
I'm tired, I'm weak, I'm lone
Through the storm, through the night
Lead me on to the light
Take my hand precious Lord
Lead me home

+BENEDICTION Howard Thurman

Open unto me-light for my darkness.

Open unto me—courage for my fear.

Open unto me-hope for my despair.

Open unto me-peace for my turmoil.

Open unto me—joy for my sorrow.

Open unto me-strength for my weakness.

Open unto me—wisdom for my confusion.

Open unto me—forgiveness for my sins.

Open unto me-tenderness for my toughness.

Open unto me—love for my hates.

Open unto me—Thy Self for my self.

Lord, Lord, open unto me!

Amen.

#### +DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Love your neighbors.

Thanks be to God.

#### **POSTLUDE**

Let the Church Say Amen Waseti Ensemble

You are invited to the Community Room (located at the rear of the worship area) for a time of conversation and refreshments.

"Lift Every Voice and Sing" Text: James W. Johnson, 1871-1938

Music: LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING, J. Rosamond Johnson, 1873-1954

"This Is My Song" Text: st. 1-2: Lloyd Stone, 1912-1993 © 1934, 1962 Lorenz Publishing Co.; st. 3: Sue Salm, 1934-2017 Music: FINLANDIA, Jean Sibelius, 1865-1957 © Breitkopf & Härtel

Psalm 37: Refrain text: Pra. of Psalm 37:7a Hal H. Hopson © 2008 Birnamwood/MorningStar Music Publishers

Music: Hal H. Hopson, © 2008 Birnamwood/MorningStar Music Publishers

"Blessed Assurance" Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915. Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830-1908

"Deep River" Text: African American spiritual. Music: DEEP RIVER, African American spiritual

"There Is a Balm in Gilead" Text: African American spiritual. Music: BALM IN GILEAD, African American spiritual
"Precious Lord, Take My Hand" Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899-1993

Music: PRECIOUS LORD, George N. Allen, 1812-1877, adapt. Thomas A. text and music © 1938, 1966 Unichappell Music Inc., admin Hal Leonard Corp.

"Meditations of the Heart," Howard Thurman

## HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

2730 East 31st Street, Minneapolis, MN 55406 612-729-8358 ♥ htlcmpls.org

#### LITURGY SETTING TODAY: ELW SETTING THREE

## WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

#### 10:00 AM

Preacher	Ingrid C. A. Rasmussen (she/her)		
<b>Presiding Minister</b>	David Larson-Martínez (he/him)		
Crucifer			
Cantor	Andrea Hansen (she/her)		
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Tom Skold (he/him)		
Communion	Andrea Hansen (she/her), Dennis O'Brien (he/him)		
Ushers	Sally Kohlstedt (she/her), David Kohlstedt (he/him), Bob Peschiutta (he/him), Chris Amundson (he/him)		
Altar Guild	Jean Swanson (she/her), Mary Engen (she/her)		
Coffee Servers			
Counters			
Closer	John Sulzbach (he/him)		
Video Operator	Bob Hulteen (he/him)		

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#### STAFF

Ingrid Rasmussen (she/her), Lead Pastor
David Larson-Martínez (he/him), Associate
Pastor
Doug Mork (he/him), Part-time Associate Pastor
Kathy Ekwall (she/her), Communications &
Congregational Coordinator
Nolan Gusdal (he/him), Building Maintenance
Phil Radtke (he/him), Cantor
Kaia Ellis (she/her), Financial Administrator

#### STAFF, CONTINUED

Sue Roberts (she/her), Publications Coordinator Dennis Nordholm (he/him), Custodian Dana Simms (he/him), Custodian Logan Olson (he/him), Gloria Ringers Director Andrew Winfield (he/him), Accompanist

#### LEADERSHIP

Anne Beschnett (she/her), Council President Sandra Hisakuni (she/her), Council Vice President James Nysse (he/him), Council Secretary George Henry (he/him), Council Treasurer

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION

#### WASETI ENSEMBLE SINGING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Waseti = We are Strong Enough to Inspire. Waseti Ensemble (vocalists: Donna Cooper, Lisa Olson, Kate Johnston, Jeenee Lee, Jessica Tamba, Ty Collins, Wayne Doe, Lloyd Cooper, and Sam Reeves) is an inspirational vocal group that is committed to using their energy, gifts, and abilities to inspire all people, regardless of race, creed, or any other categorical differences. Their passion is compassion, and they eagerly anticipate many more labors of love, through the fine arts, to effectively be the change we need to see.

#### IMMIGRATION RESPONSE TRAINING TODAY

We are holding two immigration know-your-rights training courses specifically related to our life together as congregations in this building. The training will last about 90 minutes.

- 11:00 a.m. (immediately following worship) in the Bartsch Room for Holy Trinity members and pre-registered allies with a few partner organizations
- 1:30 p.m. (immediately following the Swahili worship) in the Sanctuary for MN Swahili and Holy Trinity members only

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 2—NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

We invite interested persons to consider membership in this congregation. The orientation will be held from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the Bartsch room. Breakfast will be served. There are no prerequisites; all are welcome. Please speak with Pastor David or Pastor Ingrid if you intend to come.

#### ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES AT 12:00 P.M. AND 6:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

As the days slowly lengthen, we begin the holy season of Lent. The ashes we receive on our foreheads remind us that we, along with all of creation, are dependent on God's grace. Services with the imposition of ashes will be held in the sanctuary at 12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Join us for a free soup supper in the Community Room at 5:00 p.m. We will then move into the sanctuary at 6:00 p.m. Please note: We are moving this one hour earlier so that our younger members can participate more easily. The Children's Choir will lend us their voices at the 6:00 p.m. worship service.

#### PENUMBRA THEATER'S "PARADISE BLUE" FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 7:30 P.M.

The Racial Justice committee invites you to the Penumbra Theatre's performance of "Paradise Blue" on Friday, March 7, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30 for seniors (65+), \$35 for adults, and \$10 for students. It's a showstopper musical drama, with a Detroit black community fighting for its future after a bewitching stranger arrives with ready cash. This play is also about finding connection, love, redemption, and sanctuary. The Star Tribune rated this show as one of the 8 highly recommended shows this season. Sign up in the Community Room for one of 20 tickets!

#### HOLY TRINITY DELIVERS MEALS ON WHEELS MONDAY-FRIDAY, MARCH 10-14

Holy Trinity volunteers will deliver meals for South Minneapolis Meals on Wheels on Monday-Friday, March 10-14. Volunteers pick up meals at 11:15 a.m. at Nokomis Square (50<sup>th</sup> St. and 35<sup>th</sup> Ave. S). Delivery takes about one hour. Contact Mary Engen to sign up for part or all of the week.

## LENT SOUP SUPPERS AND EVENING PRAYER SERVICES WEDNESDAYS, MARCH 12, 19, 26, APRIL 2, 9

Lent is a time of renewal, regeneration, and growth. Please join us on Wednesday evenings during Lent for the following opportunities:

- All are invited to partake in the Lenten suppers on Wednesdays from 6:00-6:50 p.m. in the Community Room. Free-will donations are accepted. Our Lenten Suppers are an opportunity for us to build beloved community.
- The community then gathers at 7:00 p.m. for the Service of Evening Prayer, where we sing and hear God's story read aloud. As a part of our Evening Prayer service, each week we will hear a church member or community member share a story from their own life on the theme of "Deepest Belonging." People of all ages are invited to worship, though we honor that some of our youngest members may need to head home after soup.
- Children's Choir will rehearse 5:45 to 6:30 p.m. while Jubilation Ringers will rehearse from 5:30 to 6:00 p.m. and Gloria Ringers will rehearse from 6:00 to 6:55 p.m.

## SATURDAY, MARCH 15 – OVERCOMING WHITE SUPREMACY AND PRIVILEGE

Join us from 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. for a morning with David Scherer and Joe Davis from the organization JustMove. *This workshop is designed for both those who identify as white AND those who identify as persons of color.* In the workshop we will:

- 1. Develop a deeper understanding of white body privilege and its effects on us.
- 2. Deepen our awareness of white supremacy cultural patterns and how to transform them into more liberating patterns.
- 3. Increase our awareness of our bodies and discover how to move from shared racialized trauma into healing and justice.
- 4. Build trust in multi-racial conversation.

David and Joe combine theoretical frameworks and practical tools along with creative pedagogical tools such as music, poetry, storytelling, and conversation. Sign up in the Community Room. Sponsored by Holy Trinity's Racial Justice Committee.

#### 2024 THRIVENT CHOICE® DOLLARS EXPIRE MARCH 31

Since 2010, over \$370 million has been distributed to churches, schools, and other nonprofits through Thrivent Choice®. Through this program, eligible members can recommend where Thrivent donates millions of charitable outreach dollars each year. Please consider recommending Holy Trinity for your Thrivent Choice Dollars.

## CHURCH SCHEDULE

Monday February 24	6:30-8:00 PM	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Tuesday, February 25	11:00 AM	Worship Readings Discussion
Wednesday, February 26	5:00-6:00 PM	Choir Family Meal
	5:45-6:25 PM	Jubilation Ringers Rehearsal
	5:45-6:45 PM	Children's Choir Rehearsal
	6:00-8:00 PM	Supervised Playtime in the Gym
	6:30-8:00 PM	Gloria Ringers Rehearsal
	6:45-7:30 PM	Cantate! Rehearsal
Sunday, March 2	9:00 AM	Adult Forum
	9:00 AM	Youth Education
	9:00 AM	New Member Orientation
	10:00 AM	Worship Service of Holy Communion
	12:00 PM	Swahili Service

## **ADULT FORUM**

9:00 a.m. each Sunday in the Library

#### TODAY "Youth Recital"

Join us at 9:00 a.m. in the Bartsch Room or on Zoom as we celebrate the gifts of several of Holy Trinity's young people during our annual recital.

## March 2 "Now That I Am Old, What Do I Wish I Knew When I Was Young?" Joyce Besser

Holy Trinity member Joyce Besser will open with a reflection on that theme and then lead us into sharing experiences, thoughts, questions no matter your age. What can we learn from one another? What is your faith history? What beliefs and understandings guide and help and support you in your daily life? How and what is God in your life today? We all perceive the presence of a holy one differently—as individuals, through various ages and stages; differently even as generations. How does church fit into all of this for you?

## DONATE

We are grateful for your donations that allow us to build community in this corner of Minneapolis and beyond!



Venmo



Credit/Debit Card