

# FEAST OF THE HOLY CROSS

SEPTEMBER 14, 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 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.

+invites the congregation to stand

# **GATHER**

#### PRELUDE

Great God, Your Love Has Called Us setting, Aaron David Miller

#### +GATHERING HYMN

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

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



- There's a wide-ness in God's mer cy, like the wide-ness of the sea;
- 2 There is wel-come for the sin-ner, and a prom-ised grace made good;
- 3 For the love of God is broad-er than the mea-sures of our mind;
- 4 'Tis not all we owe to Je sus; it is some-thing more than all:



there's a kind-ness God's jus - tice which is in more than lib - er - ty. his blood. Sav-ior; there is heal - ing there is mer-cy with the in the E - ter - nal most won-der - ful - ly kind. the heart of is great - er good be - cause of mer - cv through the fall. e - vil, larg - er



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n. There is grace e - nough for thou-sands of new worlds as great as this; But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own; Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,

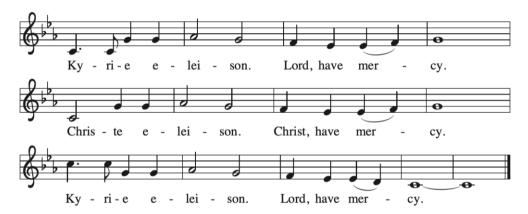


There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind-ly judg-ment giv'n. there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up-per home of bliss. and we mag-ni - fy its strict-ness with a zeal God will not own. and our lives will be thanks-giv - ing for the good-ness of the Lord.

# +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.** 

# +KYRIE



#### +GLORIA



# +PRAYER OF THE DAY

God who offers a remedy for our resistance, a balm for our rebellion, and deliverance from our distress, what can trouble us when you are here? What can keep us low when you lift us up? Someone said you only help those who help themselves. No! You help us when we cannot help ourselves. We come to you and discover you already came to us. Look! We have been healed! In the name of Jesus, our life. **Amen.** 

Please be seated.

#### WELCOME

# Word

### FIRST READING

Numbers 21:4b-9

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

**READING** Love's As Warm As Tears

C. S. Lewis

Love's as warm as tears,

Love is tears:

Pressure within the brain, Tension at the throat, Deluge, weeks of rain,

Haystacks afloat,

Featureless seas between

Hedges, where once was green.

Love's as fierce as fire,

Love is fire:

All sorts—infernal heat

Clinkered with greed and pride,

Lyric desire, sharp-sweet,

Laughing, even when denied, And that empyreal flame

Whence all loves came.

Love's as fresh as spring,

Love is spring:

Bird-song hung in the air, Cool smells in a wood, Whispering 'Dare! Dare!'

To sap, to blood,

Telling 'Ease, safety, rest,

Are good; not best.'

Love's as hard as nails,

Love is nails:

Blunt, thick, hammered through

The medial nerves of One Who, having made us, knew

The thing He had done, Seeing (with all that is)

Our cross, and His.

#### SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:18-24

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

#### +GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Cantor: There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents (Luke 15:10). *Alleluia* 

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

#### **SERMON**



### PRESENTATION OF BIBLES

The story of God is your story; it is our story, all together. The Bible is like a very special family scrapbook with poetry and parables, memories and struggles, letters and songs. We trust God to speak to us through these words. The Holy Spirit uses these words to teach us, challenge us, and encourage us. And because the Bible shows us who Jesus is, it helps us see Jesus in our own lives and in the world around us.

These Bibles tell us God is love, forgiveness is real, life is hard, people are always messing up and hurting each other, and God keeps on loving us. You might read the same thing at different times in your life, and God will use it to tell you what you need to hear, and it may not be the same thing as the last time you read it! That's how the Holy Spirit works. The stories of God and the people in this book, and the stories of God in each other's lives, help us to see Jesus and to notice how Jesus is always bringing love and healing, and inviting us to be part of it.

Hear these words from Scripture: "How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore, I hate every false way. Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." (*Ps* 119:103-5)

#### LITANY OF GRATITUDE FOR SCRIPTURE

Students entering Confirmation are invited to come forward.

The Word of God tells us who God is and what God is up to.

May these Bibles help you notice God and love God more!

The Word of God tells us who we are and what were invited to be up to.

May these Bibles help you join in God's love and blessing in the world!

The Word of God reminds us that Jesus broke the powers that divide us from God and each other, and no matter what, God's love is the biggest and truest thing of all.

May these Bibles help you discover and celebrate God's love that claims you!

PRESENTING THE BIBLES
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When I call your name, please come to receive your Bible. \_\_\_\_\_, receive your Bible.

Mari Hendrickson; Rosie Martin; Carter Murray; Aksel Holger; Johnny Weiss; Frances Olsen Biebighauser; Francis Kelly; Aedan Herman

God's story is your story.

And your story is our story. We love you, \_\_\_\_.

### BLESSING

Beloved children of God, youth of this congregation, we bless you. May your Bible open you to the written word of God, Jesus' story of freedom for all, and the Spirit's stirring in our day.

We will read it together. We will listen together. We will hear the stories of our faith together. And the Holy Spirit will speak to us through these words and through each other. Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

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)

Sustaining God, guide your church on the way. Give us patience in our journey and protect us from division and doubt. May we look to the cross and live. God of grace,

# Receive our prayer.

Creator God, renew the earth. Heal our planet from the venom of greed and exploitation and direct us to respect all life as a gift from you. May we look to the cross and live. God of grace,

# Receive our prayer.

God of wisdom, grant discernment to those in authority. Thwart the plans of the proud, bring low the mighty, and uphold those who work for peace. In the wake of gun violence, we ask you to give us the courage to find a pathway to better tomorrows. May they seek the way of the cross and live. God of grace,

# Receive our prayer.

God of grace, alleviate suffering. Comfort the sick and the grieving, especially Lyle Steinfeldt; Mary Heltsley; Tre Tellor's mom Jill; Tina and Neela; Tracey Baubie's mom ShaRon; Jeff Olsen Biebighauser's mom Jo; Rick Lathrop; Mary Petersen; Karen Batdorf's sister Marie; Mike Kelly; Katie Murray's mom Pat; Josie Tober; 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). Come to the aid of those who are hungry or in need of shelter, especially those who find a home in the nearby encampment. May they find hope in the cross and live. God of grace,

# Receive our prayer.

Good Shepherd, guide your flock. Protect us and lead us in the way of truth. Strengthen us in our faith and inspire us to serve others. May we follow you to the cross and live. God of grace,

# Receive 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, "Receive our prayer."

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.** 

# MEAL

#### +PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of God's peace.

#### OFFERING

All You Works of God Adult Choir Marty Haugen

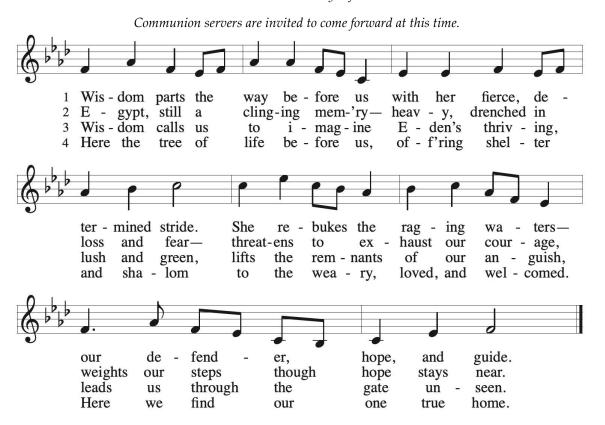
All you works of God every mountain, star and tree bless the One who shapes your beauty, who has caused you all to be one great song of love and grace, ever ancient, ever new; raise your voices, all you works of God!

Sun and moon: Stars of heaven: Showers and dew: raise up your joyful song! Winds of God: Cold and winter: Snowstorms and ice: Raise up your joyful song! All the earth: Hills and mountains: Green things that grow: Raise up your joyful song! Wells and springs: Seas and rivers: Whales in the deep: Raise up your joyful song!

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

### Wisdom Parts the Way before Us

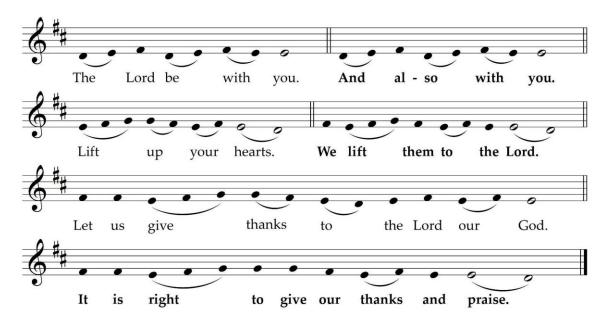


#### +OFFERING PRAYER

Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

# +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.

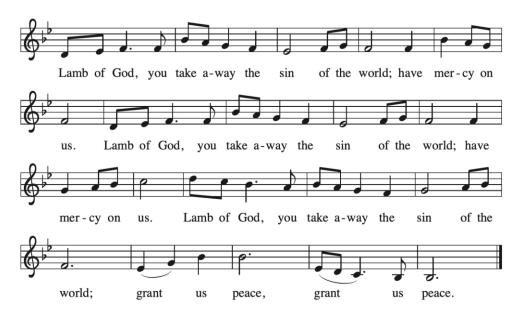
Give us today our daily bread.

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.** 

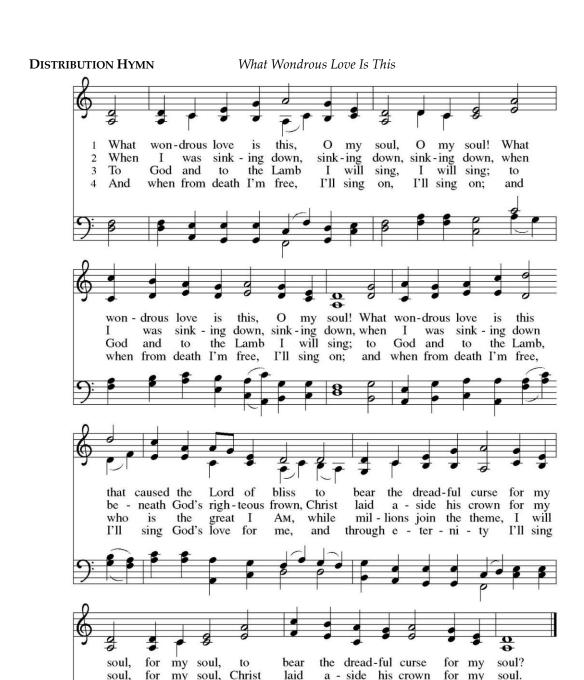
Grape juice and gluten-free wafers are available upon request to the server.

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.

#### HEALING STATION

Today you are also invited to receive a blessing for healing during the communion distribution time. Come if you wish to seek prayer for yourself, on behalf of someone else, or for a place in the world.



9: 6 6 6 8

mil - lions join the theme,

through e - ter - ni - tv

I will

I'll sing on.

sing.

sing.

on.

will sing, while

and

I'll sing on:

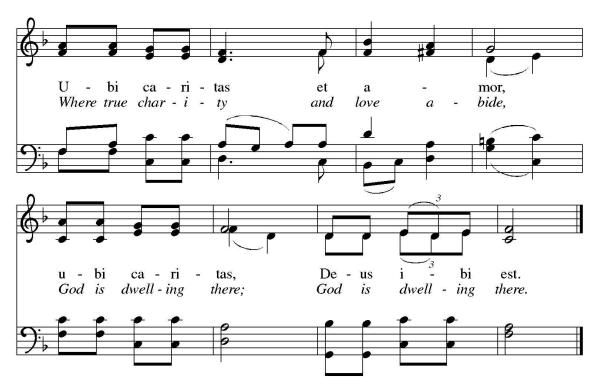
# **DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

# Nothing Can Trouble



# **DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

Ubi caritas et amor



### +BLESSING

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

### +POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your companions. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

# SENDING

### +SENDING HYMN

# Love Astounding

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 Love as tound-ing, Love con found-ing lim-its fear ful minds im-pose.
- 2 Love re ceiv-ing, Love be liev ing, we re joice with thanks and song,



Love re - new-ing, Love pur - su - ing ev - 'ry heart un - til it knows faith re - gain-ing, hope pro - claim-ing; Love has taught us we be - long,



Love's trans-form-ing, heal-ing good-ness, Love's a - bid - ing, gen-tle grace, safe with - in Love's ten-der keep-ing, safe from fear's per - sis - tent call.



Love's en - dur-ance, Love's as - sur - ance, Love's con - sol-ing, strong em-brace. Love de - fend-ing, Love un - end - ing, Love of God en - fold - ing all.

#### +BENEDICTION

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, + bless you now and forever.

Amen.

### +DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Love your neighbors.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Flourish on HOLY MANNA

P. Radtke

Music: LORD, REVIVE US, North American, 19th cent.
Prayer written by Rev. Dr. Jeff Sartain as part of the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (Minneapolis, MN) expansive prayer project.
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Online Church Tear. Revised Common Lectionary

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"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788. Music: HYFRYDOL, Richard H. Prichard, 1811-1887 "Wisdom Parts the Way before Us" Text: Jeannette M. Lindholm. Music: RESTORATION, W. Walker, 'Southern Harmony', 1835 Text © 2004, rev. 2022 Jeannette M. Lindholm, admin. Augsburg Fortress

"What Wondrous Love Is This" Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863, alt.

Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, 'Southern Harmony', 1835; arr. Paul J. Christiansen, 1914-1997, alt.

Arr. © 1955 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress

"Nothing Can Trouble" Text: Teresa of Avila, 1515-1582; adapt. Taizé Community

Music: NADA DE TURBE, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

Text and music © 1986, 1991 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.

"Ubi caritas et amor" Text: Latin antiphon, 9th cent.; Taizé Community; tr. 'With One Voice'

Music: TAIZÉ UBI CARITAS, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

Text and music © 1979 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc. English text © 1995

"Love Astounding" Text: Jeannette M. Lindholm. Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, 'Columbian Harmony', 1825 Text © 1999 Jeannette M. Lindholm, admin. Augsburg Fortress

# HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

**LITURGY**: ACS SETTING TWELVE

# WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Preacher	Ingrid C. A. Rasmussen (she/her)		
<b>Presiding Minister</b>	David Larson-Martínez (he/him)		
Crucifer	Tom Cahoy (he/him)		
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Andrea Hansen (she/her)		
Communion	Karen Kunze (she/her), Margaret Kolden (she/her), Stephanie Sulzbach (she/her)		
Ushers	DeWayne Townsend (he/him), Rod Johnson (he/him), Bob Peschiutta (he/him), Kathy Hollander (she/her)		
Altar Guild	Annie Hines (she/her)		
Coffee Servers	Meghan Hendrickson (she/her)		
Counters	John Sulzbach (he/him), Susan Nixon (she/her)		
Video Operator	Bob Hulteen (he/him)		
Closer	Rod Johnson (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 (on sabbatical)
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 Edgar Alvarez (he/him), Custodian Dana Simms (he/him), Custodian Logan Olson (he/him), Handbell 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

# CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT: CHANTING THE PSALMS IN HOPE, THURSDAYS, 7:00 P.M.

Join Ann Schrooten on Thursday evenings to lean into the ancient practice of chanting the psalms. Ann says, "In the coming days and weeks, our intention will be to sing through all 150 Psalms in order, beginning to end."

# BOOK STUDY WITH BOB HULTEEN AND ALEX BRANDT TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Agrarian Spirit: Cultivating Faith, Community, and the Land by Norman Wirzba, a Wendell Berry devotee and professor at the Duke Divinity School, has crafted a deep dive into the intersection of and interaction between our relationships to land, community, and spirituality. He gives pragmatic suggestions that renew a deeper connection to dirt.

Copies of the book are available in the Community Room, and all are welcome to join our discussion group on Tuesday, September 16, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Community Room.

# HOLY TRINITY OCTOBERFEST AT ARBEITER, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 7:30 P.M.

Join us for HTLC Octoberfest—a casual evening of connection and good cheer at Arbeiter Brewery! Whether you're new to Holy Trinity or have been around for years, this is a chance to relax, laugh, and build community over a beer or non-alcoholic drink. Led by members Alyson Sorensen, Jess Yarger, Dave Herrera Santacruz, and Grace Basler, the night promises low-key fun with great people. We'll gather on Wednesday, October 1, at 7:30 p.m.—come as you are and bring a friend!

# ADULT RETREAT FRIDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 3 - SUNDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 5

The Adult Retreat will be held at the Benedictine Center of St. Paul's Monastery in Maplewood from October 3 to 5. Our theme this year is "Building community starts with belonging. What are we called to do in response?" The rooms have two beds; shared rooms are preferred (two people to a room with a shared bath). \$110 total for the weekend for room and meals. Single rooms are an option (\$50 per night) after double rooms are filled. Scholarships are available. See Pastor David. Sign up in the Community Room by September 14.

# NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION SUNDAY NOVEMBER 9, 9:00 A.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 Sunday, November 9, at 9:00 a.m. Over breakfast and coffee, 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. Please speak with one of the pastors if you intend to come.

# CHURCH SCHEDULE

Monday, September 15	6:30-8:00 PM	Adult Choir
Tuesday, September 16	11:00 AM	Worship Readings Discussion
	6:30-8:00 PM	Book Study: Agrarian Spirit
	6:30 PM	Executive Committee
	7:00 PM	Church Council
Wednesday, September 17	5:00-6:00 PM	Choir Family Meal
	5:45-6:30 PM	Jubilation Youth Handbell Ensemble
	5:45-6:45 PM	Children's Choir
	6:30-8:00 PM	Gloria Ringers
	6:30-8:00 PM	Open Gym
	6:45-7:30 PM	Cantate!
Thursday, September 18	8:00 AM	Encore! At Turtle Bread
	7:00 PM	Chanting the Psalms with Ann Schrooten
Sunday, September 21	9:00 AM	Adult Forum
	9:00 AM	Children and Youth Education
	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 "Bible Refresher" John Buzza

Feeling the need for a Bible refresher or a spiritual anchor in chaotic times? Join John Buzza for an engaging overview of the Bible, with a special focus on the thread of love woven throughout scripture. Whether you're new to the Bible or simply looking to reconnect with its central message, this session offers a grounding introduction.

# September 21 "Longfellow Alternative High School"

Join us for a conversation with the Principal and Dean of Students from Longfellow Alternative High School, a school dedicated to supporting teenage mothers as they pursue their high school diplomas. They'll share updates about our congregation's partnership, the new challenges their students face, and concrete ways we can offer support. In a time when the political climate has made resources even more scarce, our accompaniment is more critical than ever. Come learn how we can show up with compassion and solidarity.

# DONATE

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







Credit/Debit Card

### **SHARE THE BOUNTY!**

Are your gardens overproducing, your CSA giving you too much abundance or have you overbought at the Farmers' market? The Creation Care Committee would like to give you an opportunity to avoid food waste and share your abundance. We will have a table in the Community Room on Sundays. Bring your extra produce on Sunday morning to share. We will share with congregation members in both HT and Swahili congregations. What is left will be shared with Soup for You! and their guests. Share instead of wasting or composting.