



# SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

JANUARY 4, 2026

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
MINNEAPOLIS

## WELCOME TO ALL

**Holy Trinity gathers on the Sacred land of the Dakota People.**

*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.*

---

## GATHER

---

*+invites the congregation to stand*

### PRELUDE

+GATHERING HYMN

*In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness*

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



1 In a deep, un - bound - ed dark - ness, long be - fore the  
 2 Though our world is ev - er - chang - ing, you are con - stant,  
 3 Joy trans - forms our lips to boast - ing on - ly in your  
 4 God of Ha - gar, God of Sa - rah, God of no - mad



first light shone, you, O God, be - yond all mer - it  
 firm, and sure, faith - ful to your cov - 'nant prom - ise.  
 match - less grace, send - ing Christ to dwell a - mong us,  
 A - bra - ham; God of Mir - iam, God of Mo - ses,



worked a won - der faith makes known: in your mer - cy,  
 Trust - ing you, we live, se - cure: sing - ing prais - es,  
 Word made flesh in time and space: Friend and Sav - ior,  
 Fi - 'ry Pil - lar, great I AM: lead us home - ward,



in your mer - - - - - cy, you em - braced us  
 sing - ing prais - - - - - es, long as heart and  
 Friend and Sav - - - - - ior, in whose life we  
 lead us home - - - - - ward, to the love - feast

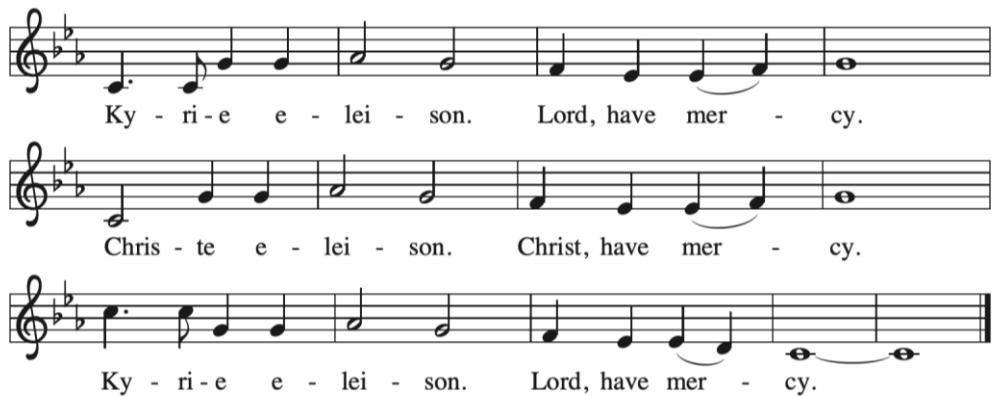


as your own, ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 breath en - dure, glimpse your face,  
 of the Lamb,

**+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**



Ky - ri - e     e - lei - son.     Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te     e - lei - son.     Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e     e - lei - son.     Lord, have mer - cy.

+GLORIA

1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.  
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.  
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;  
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;  
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;  
yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

+PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace, empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*Please be seated.*

WELCOME

---

# WORD

---

**FIRST READING***Jeremiah 31:7-14*

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

**PSALM 147:12-20**

Roland Woehr

*Refrain* (first time: Cantor, then All):

Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion,  
who has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blessed your children within you.  
God has established peace on your borders; and satisfies you with the finest wheat.  
God sends out a command to the earth, a word that runs very swiftly. **Refrain**

God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes. God scatters hail like bread crumbs.  
Who can stand against God's cold? The LORD sends forth the word and melts them;  
the wind blows, and the waters flow. God declares the word to Jacob,  
statutes and judgments to Israel. The LORD has not done so to any other nation;  
they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah! **Refrain**

**SECOND READING***Ephesians 1:3-14*

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

**+GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Cantor: All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God (Psalm 98:3). Alleluia*

+GOSPEL READING

*John 1:[1-9] 10-18*

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

SERMON

+HYMN OF THE DAY

*Word of God, Come Down on Earth*

1 Word of God, come down on earth, liv - ing rain from  
 2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to -  
 3 Word that speaks God's ten - der love, one with God be -

heav'n de - scand - ing; touch our hearts and bring to birth  
 life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,  
 yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove

faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,  
 cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, sav - ing Word, the  
 God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to

we re - vere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.  
 world re - stor - ing, speak to us, your love out - pour - ing.  
 all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

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)*

O God, you reveal yourself wherever two or three are gathered in your name. Be with us now, not only in the infant Jesus and resurrected Christ, but in the beloved people of this assembly. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You reveal yourself in the waters of the womb; in brooks, ponds, and oceans; and in the waters of baptism. Grant us wisdom to tenderly care for the earth as a garden watered by your grace. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You reveal yourself in blessed diversity. Help us to look for you in people near and far, in bodies of all kinds, and in kindred young and old. Let us seek you in many places, praising you in many tongues. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You reveal yourself in new life. Support those beginning a new job, a new relationship, or a new living situation, especially those displaced because of tragedy or loss. Be with all others who need your life-giving touch this day, especially John, Stumme; Merlin Wells; Wilson Murray; Dorothy Kelly; Nikki Randolph-Martinez; Carol Kelly; Mary Petersen; Mary Petersen's friends, Jean Ebrahimi and Lenny Garber; Tre Tellor's mom Jill; Tina and Neela; Rick Lathrop; Karen Batdorf's sister Marie; Mike Kelly; Josie Tober; Stella Townsend; the family of Kathy Ekwall's friend, Mark Caffrey, upon his death; 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*).. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You reveal yourself in holy communion. Sustain all who provide food and fellowship in this congregation and in the wider community. Make our tables signs of your welcoming presence among us. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*You are invited to offer spoken petitions.*

*At the conclusion of your petition, please close with "Hear us, O God,"  
to which the congregation will respond, "Your mercy is great."*

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

*There Upon a Manger Bed*

G. F. Handel

Stephanie Sulzbach, Caren Hiatt, duet

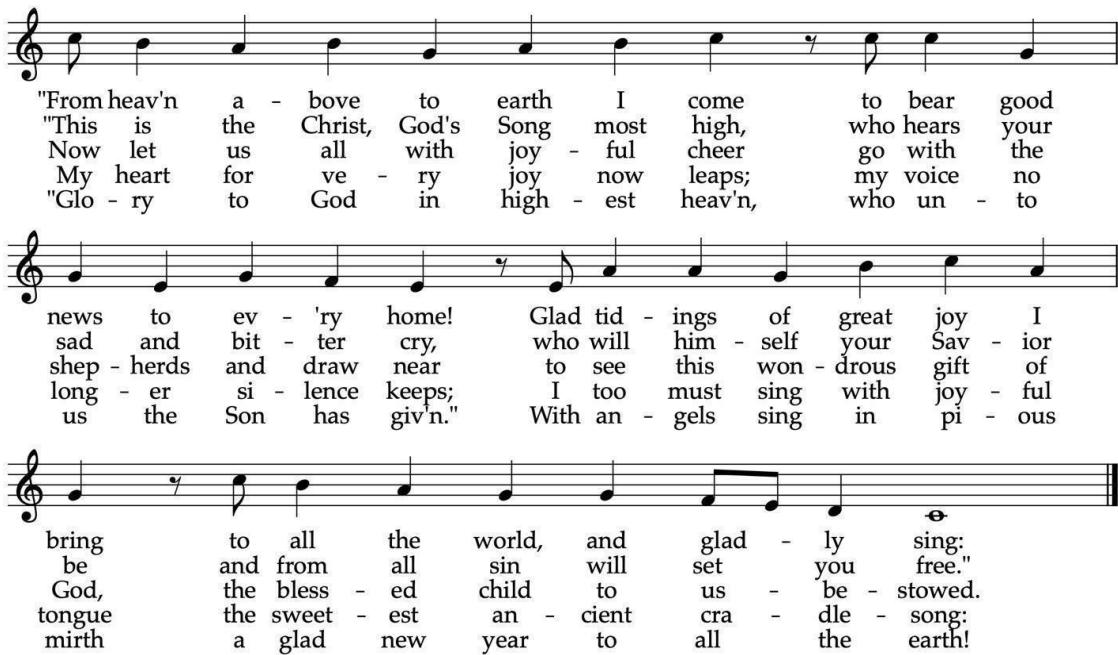
There upon a manger bed they found the holy Christ child laid,  
Their richest gifts before Him spread And humblest adoration paid.  
The angels glad Hosannas sang, And all the heavens in answer rang.

*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

### *From Heaven Above*

*Communion servers are invited to come forward at this time.*



"From heav'n a - bove to earth I come to bear good  
"This is the Christ, God's Song most high, who hears your  
Now let us all with joy - ful cheer go with the  
My heart for ve - ry joy now leaps; my voice no  
"Glo - ry to God in high - est heav'n, who un - to  
  
news to ev - 'ry home! Glad tid - ings of great joy - I  
sad and bit - ter cry, who will him - self your Sav - ior  
shep - herds and draw near to see this won - drous gift of  
long - er si - lence keeps; I too must sing with joy - ful  
us the Son has giv'n." With an - gels sing in pi - ous  
  
bring to all the world, and glad - ly sing:  
be and from the all sin child will set you free."  
God, the bless - ed to an - cient us - be - stowed.  
tongue the sweet - est new year to cra - dle - song:  
mirth a glad new all the earth!

## +OFFERING PRAYER

God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior. **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.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places, offer 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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly      Lord, God of pow'r and  
God of 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 of the  
Lord.      Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Ho - san - na, 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 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.*

## DISTRIBUTION HYMN

## 'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime



1 'Twas in the moon of win - ter - time when all the birds had fled, that  
 2 With - in a lodge of bro - ken bark the ten - der babe was found; a  
 3 The ear - liest moon of win - ter - time is not so round and fair as  
 4 O chil - dren of the for - est free, the an - gel - song is true; the



\*God the Lord of all the earth sent an - gel choirs in - stead; be -  
 rag - ged robe of rab - bit skin en - wrapped his beau - ty round; but  
 was the ring of glo - ry on the help - less in - fant there. The  
 ho - ly child of earth and heav'n is born to - day for you. Come,



fore their light the stars grew dim, and wan - d'ring hunt - ers heard the hymn:  
 as the hunt - er braves drew nigh, the an - gel song rang loud and high:  
 chiefs from far be - fore him knelt with gifts of fox and bea - ver pelt.  
 kneel be - fore the ra - diant boy, who brings you beau - ty, peace, and joy.



Je - sus your king is born! Je - sus is born, in ex - cel - sis glo - ri - a!

\* original: "mighty Gitchi Manitou"

## DISTRIBUTION HYMN

*The First Noel*

1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to  
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing  
 3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .  
 4 This star drew near to the . . . north - west, o'er . .  
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where  
 in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . them far; and to the  
 wise . . men came . . from coun - try far; to seek for a  
 Beth - le - hem . . it took . . its rest; and there it  
 rev - 'rent - ly . . up - on . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's  
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . so it con -  
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the  
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . o - ver the  
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . gold, . . . and

*Refrain*

night that was so deep.  
 tin - ued both day and night.  
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -  
 place where Je - sus lay.  
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

## +BLESSING

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

## +POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us. **Amen.**

---

## SENDING

---

### +SENDING HYMN

### *Love Has Come*

*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 has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the  
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -  
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav-en has come to pro - claim it;  
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;  
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to  
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the  
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.  
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.  
gift of Christ-mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

## +BENEDICTION

The triune God,  
glorious Mystery,  
holy Incarnate One,  
abiding Comforter,  
☩ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.

**Amen.**

## +DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Love your neighbors.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

---

*Cover art: Icon of Our Lady of Mercy, Artist Unknown*

*"In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness"* Text: *Anonymous, China*; tr. *Francis P. Jones, 1890-1975*; adapt. *Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1950*. Music: *DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, Plainsong mode V, 13th cent.*

Text © 2012 GIA Publications, Inc.

*Psalm 147: Psalm refrain reproduced from 'Psalm Settings for the Church Year: Revised Common Lectionary'* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress

*"Word of God, Come Down on Earth"* Text: *James Quinn, SJ, 1919-2010*

Music: *LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER*, Johann R. Ahle, 1625-1673. Text © *James Quinn, SJ, Selah Publishing Co., Inc.*

*"Twas in the Moon of Wintertime"* Text: *Jean de Brébeuf, 1593-1649*; tr. *Jesse E. Middleton, 1872-1960*, alt.

Music: *UNE JEUNE PUCELLE*, French folk tune, c. 16th cent. Text © 1927 *Frederick Harris Music Company*

*"Love Has Come"* Text: *Ken Bible, b. 1950*

*"The First Noel"* Text: *English traditional*. Music: *THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional*

Music: *UN FLAMBEAU, F. Seguin, 'Recueil de noëls composés en langue provençale, 1856*

Text © 1996 *Integrity's Hosanna!* Music (ASCAP), % *Integrity Media, Inc.*

*"From Heaven Above"* Text: *Martin Luther, 1483-1546*; tr. *'Lutheran Book of Worship'*

Music: *VOM HIMMEL HOCH, attr. Martin Luther; V. Schumann, 'Geistliche Lieder', 1539*

# HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

2730 East 31st Street, Minneapolis, MN 55406

612-729-8358 ✝ [htlcmpls.org](http://htlcmpls.org)

**LITURGY: ACS SETTING TWELVE**

## WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

<b>Preacher</b>	Doug Mork (he/him)
<b>Presiding Minister</b>	Ingrid Rasmussen (she/her)
<b>Crucifer</b>	
<b>Cantor</b>	Stephanie Sulzbach (she/her)
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Tom Skold (he/him)
<b>Communion</b>	Kathy Skold (she/her), Aaron Hanson (he/him), Lori Lathrop (she/her)
<b>Ushers</b>	Chris Amundson (he/him), Sally Kohlstedt (she/her), David Kohlstedt (he/him)
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Amy Hanson (she/her), Jean Swanson (she/her)
<b>Coffee Servers</b>	Carol Berg (she/her), David Berg (he/him)
<b>Counters</b>	Deb Helmel (she/her)
<b>Closer</b>	Bob Hulteen (he/him)
<b>Video Operator</b>	Bob Hulteen (he/him)

*Hymn texts and music are reproduced with permission under OneLicense #A-704054. Portions of the liturgy are copyright © Augsburg Fortress and reproduced with permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies License SAS017480.*

### STAFF

Ingrid Rasmussen (she/her), *Lead Pastor*  
David Larson-Martínez (he/him), *Associate Pastor (on sabbatical)*  
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*  
Edgar Alvarez (he/him), *Custodian*  
Dana Simms (he/him), *Custodian*  
Logan Olson (he/him), *Handbell Director*  
Andrew Winfield (he/him), *Accompanist*

### LEADERSHIP

Anne Beschrott (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**

### **WEDNESDAY MEAL, CHILDREN'S CHOIR, JUBILATION, GLORIA RINGERS, CANTATE, OPEN GYM RESUME WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7**

Children's Choir (5:45-6:45 p.m.) is open to kids in kindergarten through 5th grade, rehearses most weeks during the school year, and sings in worship every 4-5 weeks. Jubilation (5:45-6:30 p.m.) is open to kids in 6th through 12th grade who want to learn and play handbells. Jubilation rehearses most weeks during the school year and plays in worship 4-5 times per year. Gloria Ringers (6:00-7:30 p.m.) is the adult handbell ensemble, rehearses weekly during the school year, and plays in worship every 6-7 weeks. Cantate (6:45-7:30 p.m.) is a choir open to youth in 6th through 12th grade and sings in worship every 6-7 weeks. For more information on choral and instrumental ensemble and solo opportunities, talk to Cantor Phil.

### **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7—YOUNG ADULT MONTHLY SOCIAL**

Young adults are invited to join the community meal on the first Wednesday of each month from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the church building. Following the meal, the group will walk to Arbeiter Brewing for fellowship and fun! For further information, please reach out to Dave Herrera at [dave.herrera24@gmail.com](mailto:dave.herrera24@gmail.com).

### **SUNDAY, JANUARY 11—POST-CONFIRMATION & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH SPIRITUAL CONVERSATION, SERVICE IN WORSHIP, AND FUN AT CAN CAN WONDERLAND**

Post confirmation/high school youth will join John Buzzia for spiritual conversation in the Community Room at 9:00 a.m., serve as worship leaders in the 10:00 a.m. worship service, and then head off to Can Can Wonderland for lunch, video games, and mini-golf. They will return to the church building by 2:00 p.m. Please reach out to Nicki Hines for more information.

### **SUGARCANE SHOWING SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 11:30 A.M.**

Please join us in the Bartsch Room on Sunday, January 18, at 11:30 a.m. for a showing of the award-winning debut feature documentary from Julian Brave NoiseCat and Emily Kassie. Sugarcane is a groundbreaking investigation into an Indian residential school. More information to follow. Sign up in the Community Room.

### **ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 11:00 A.M.**

Following the 10:00 a.m. service, all are invited to the gym for a free meal and the annual congregational meeting, as we celebrate the 122<sup>nd</sup> year of God's ministry through Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. We will review committee goals, elect new council members, and approve the 2026 budget. The annual meeting is also an opportunity for us to check on our progress made toward congregational goals.

## C H U R C H     S C H E D U L E

Monday, January 5	6:30-8:00 PM	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Tuesday, January 6	11:00 AM 1:30 PM	Worship Readings Discussion Knitting Group
Wednesday, January 7	5:00 PM 5:00 PM-7:00PM 5:45-6:45 PM 5:45-6:30 PM 6:00-7:30 PM 6:30-8:00 PM 6:45-7:30 PM	Choir Families Meal Young Adult Meal and Arbeiter Children's Choir Jubilation Youth Handbell Ensemble Gloria Ringers Supervised Gym Time Cantate!
Sunday, January 11	8:30 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM 11:20 AM-12:30 PM 12:00 PM	Family Coffee Hour Adult Forum Children and Youth Education Worship Service of Holy Communion Post-Confirmation and H.S. Youth Outing Big Meeting Sunday Swahili Service

### ADULT FORUM

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

**TODAY            "Lake Street"**  
**Pastor Doug**

Pastor Doug will facilitate a conversation about Lake Street recovery. Please come with your own thoughts and reflections about where we are and where we need to go.

### January 11

Watch for details in next week's newsletter.

## D O N A T E

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



Venmo



Credit/Debit Card