



On 28th Avenue between Lake and 31st Streets Minneapolis, MN 55406 • 612-729-8358 • office@htlcmpls.org • www.htlcmpls.org
WORSHIP SERVICES: 8:45 and 11:00 am • CHURCH SCHOOL: 9:45 am • Jay Carlson and Ingrid Rasmussen, Pastors

EPIPHANY AT CANA

The Day of Epiphany is one of the oldest festivals of Christian worship. Falling on January 6, it originally celebrated four events in the life of Christ: the baptism of Jesus, Jesus' first miracle, the birth of Jesus, and the visit from the magi. Each of these stories reveals something important about who Jesus is. The Gospels demonstrate in various ways that God is manifested uniquely in and through him.

Three of those Epiphany events still receive attention in our worship each year, whether on January 6 or the weeks surrounding it. But the miracle of turning water to wine in Cana seems to have decreased in significance for our liturgical observances. We read the story only once in the three-year lectionary cycle. I don't know the reasons for the apparent lessened popularity of that event. Perhaps it reflects a modern hesitancy about miracles.

I also think that we are surprised to hear that the first public miracle performed by Jesus in the Gospel of John was at a wedding. With all of the turmoil going on in the first century and such profound need to be addressed, why would Jesus begin his ministry in such a dramatic way at a wedding reception? John writes with complex symbolism, of course, that foreshadows deeper meaning, but still the setting seems somehow too ordinary, even too worldly.

I had a lot of conversations about marriage over the last couple of years, and I know that many of you did, too. Leading up to the vote on the marriage amendment in November of 2012 and the legalization of same-sex marriage last summer, we have had a statewide conversation about marriage. We acknowledged the right of every couple to be married and to receive the dignity that accompanies it for couples in love.

But I am also convinced that marriage is not only a right but a means for serving God's world. Marriage, friendship, and other close relationships serve a larger good that extends beyond just two people.

In his book, *The Hungering Dark*, Frederick Buechner reflects on the wedding at Cana and a scene from Dostoevski's *The Brothers Karamazov*:

Dostoevski describes Alexei Karamazov falling asleep and dreaming about the wedding at Cana, and for him too it is a dream of indescribable joy, but when he wakes from it he does a curious thing. He throws himself down on the earth and embraces it. He kisses the earth and among tears that are in no way sentimental because they are turned not inward but outward he forgives the earth and begs its forgiveness and vows to love it forever. And that is the heart of it, after all, and matrimony is called holy because this brave and fateful promise [two people] to love and honor and serve each other through thick and thin looks beyond itself to more fateful promises still and speaks mightily of what human life at its most human and its most alive and most holy must always be.

In that sense, it is no surprise that Jesus would begin his teaching about the kingdom of God by blessing and celebrating a marriage. A commitment to love with patience and forgiveness is a great place to start.

— Jay Carlson, Pastor

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Today's gospel opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism.

He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One, and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.



LESSONS

- Isaiah 42:1-9
- Psalms 145
- Acts 10:34-43
- Matthew 3:13-17

SUNDAY ADULT FORUM

10:00 am — In the library

- January 19 "Preview of the Annual Meeting"
- January 26 "Meditations on Creativity and the Anatomy of Inspiration" Sarah Wieben

My work as an artist and as an art educator has led me to ponder the question of just what it means to be creative and to reflect on the nature of imagination. In my presentation I will share my thoughts and the conclusions that my musings have led me to.

FAMILY RETREAT FEBRUARY 14-16

All are welcome to a retreat at the Chi Rho Center in Annandale, MN. Our group will leave on Friday night and families can return at their leisure on Sunday. Chi Rho offers broomball supplies, foosball, ping pong and pool and families can bring gear for sledding, snow-shoeing, cross country skiing, or ice fishing. A schedule for the weekend is forthcoming, but there will be quiet times and loud times, a time for worship and a time for a dance party! Meals on Saturday and breakfast Sunday included. Cost is \$60 for adults, \$45 for children 4-10. Children under 4 are free. Talk to Jay if you're in need of scholarship funds or if you'd like to sponsor a family to attend!

OPEN GYM

Every Tuesday from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. the gym will be available for families with children 0-5 yrs old. A parent must accompany children.

PARISH INFORMATION

CONVERSATIONS ABOUT THE END OF LIFE, PART II

Thursday, January 23, 6:00-8:30 p.m., Community Room

Join Holy Trinity members for a second evening focused on significant and sensitive issues surrounding the end of life in the context of our faith. We will spend time creating living wills and advanced care directives. All are welcome, even if you were not able to attend our December Part I session. Hosted by Holy Trinity's *50s and Beyond* group, and presented and facilitated by Reverend Mark Peterson of the Graceful Journey program of the MN Council of Churches. A potluck dinner will begin at 6:00 p.m., bring a dish to share! Sign up in the Community Room.

FAMILIES IN NEED

A family of a Sullivan School student had a house fire last weekend and is in desperate need of the following items: clothing- boys (pants size 8), tops (boys medium), socks, underwear, winter boots (boys size 1), hygiene supplies, bedding (twin), blankets, towels, detergent, cleaning supplies, and bus cards. Items may be brought to the Holy Trinity office no later than Friday, January 17. A regular visitor at Holy Trinity is in need of a bed. If you have a twin or double bed that you can donate, please call Pastor Ingrid.

NEW MEMBER CLASSES

We at Holy Trinity believe that community is integral to faith, which is why we invite interested persons to consider membership in this congregation. Our next new member orientation will be held on February 27 from 6:00-8:00 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. Please speak with Pastor Jay or Pastor Ingrid if you intend to come.

AARP TAX AIDE

Holy Trinity hosts AARP income tax assistance for seniors and low income taxpayers. Mondays and Tuesdays 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., February 3 through April 15. No appointment necessary.

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT!

The next parents night out will be on Friday, January 24, 6-9 p.m. Drop kids fifth grade and younger off between 6 and 6:30 and pick up before 9. Sign up in the Community room or contact the church office for more details. We also need adult and youth volunteers to sign up in the Community Room.

PARISH EVENTS January 19 - 25, 2014

Sunday	8:45, 11 am	Worship Services with Holy Communion
	9:45 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Adult Forum
	12:00 pm	Annual Meeting and meal
	2:00 pm	Swahili Service
Tuesday	3:30-5:30 pm	Open Gym
Wednesday	10:00 am	Lectionary Text Study
	4 - 6 pm	Fare for All Express
	5:30 pm	Children's Choir Family Meal
	6:00 pm	Children's Choir 6:40 Cantate, 7:30 Adult Choir
Thursday	6:00 pm	End of Life Conversations - 50s and Beyond
Friday	10:00 am	Yoga for Seniors
	6-9 pm	Parents Night Out
Saturday	3:00 pm	Tanzania Trip Departs

Boiler Fund by Ron/Margaret Peterson, Sally Parks. **World Hunger** in honor & memory of Calgary Townley family by Linda/Phil Jury, in memory of Lauri Isaacson by Paul/Lois Eid. **Central America Fund** in memory of Lauri Isaacson by Linda/Phil Jury. **Rain Garden** in memory of Pat Townley by Linda/Phil Jury. **Special gift** in memory of Lauri Isaacson by Doris Neuendorf, Kristi Holmquist/Ted Dooley. **African Pastors Fund** in memory of Martha Kibira by Dan/Gloria Okrina, in memory of Lauri Isaacson by Wayne Vetter

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS January 19, 2013

8:45 AM		11:00 AM	
Jay Carlson	Preacher	Jay Carlson	
Joel Wiberg	Presiding Minister	Rob Englund	
Jeff Weiss	Crucifer	Troy Davison	
Acolytes		Will Kelley, Louis Kelley	
Stella Townsend	Assisting Minister	John Sulzbach	
Lyle Steinfeldt	Communion	Dennis/Lynda Nordholm	
Joyce Peterson			
Carol/David Berg	Altar Guild	Meagan/Karen McLaughlin	
BobPeschiutta,	Ushers	Deb Sodd, Kathy Ohler	
Sally/David Kohlstedt		Ron Peterson	
Nursery		Kris Christians	
Dennis/Turid Ormseth	Coffee Servers	Annual Meeting	
Pam Blomgren	Counters	John Sulzbach,	
Joyce Peterson			
Closer		Vicki Mann	

Financial Report	January 12	Year to Date
Budget Receipts	20,532.31	42,668.06
World Hunger	-	25.00
Disaster Relief	-	-
Boiler Donations	-	82.00
African Pastors Endowment	25.00	65.00

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