



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

### A NIGHT DIFFERENT FROM ALL OTHER NIGHTS

Celebrating the Easter Vigil, a worship service on the night before Easter Sunday, has become much more common in the Lutheran Church than it once was. It was not a part of my church-going tradition growing up, but now I especially look forward to our Vigil every year, a lovely gathering in which the Trinity Singers and volunteer readers lead us in remembering the stories of faith, celebrating Christ's resurrection, and being renewed in baptism. I have heard from other Holy Trinity members that the Vigil is their favorite service of the year.

There is good reason to be excited about the upcoming Vigil. Lutheran seminary professors Gail Ramshaw and Mons Teig write, "The Easter Vigil intends to be the most significant worship of the year, at which the whole church gathers to celebrate the resurrection now." That is, the Vigil isn't a time of prayer before Easter takes place; it is already a celebration of Easter. As people of faith, we do not need to wait until the sun dawns on Easter morning to rejoice in the new and resurrected life of Christ. Instead, we know that even during the dark of night we can praise the light of Christ and sing the good news of resurrection.

Churches observe the Easter Vigil in many different ways. Some start early Saturday evening. Some meet later so that they finish after midnight. Some gather a couple of hours before sunrise on Sunday morning. The service for the Vigil might be a solemn three-hour liturgy, or it can simply feel like a big church party. For instance, when Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber was here in November, she mentioned that her church in Denver once chose to set up a chocolate fountain in the baptismal font. They could think of no better expression of pure joy to include in their Resurrection celebration.

Our celebration of the Vigil will be unique for our congregation, too. But when it arrives we will join Christians throughout the world and throughout the generations in singing our Alleluias.

One way we are preparing for our Vigil is by reading the Vigil readings on Wednesday evenings during the season of Lent. Members from the congregation are leading reflections on five important Bible stories: Creation, the Flood, God's promise to Abraham and Sarah, the Deliverance from Egypt, and the Valley of the Dry Bones. While we reflect on these great stories of our faith, children are invited to work on art projects that emphasize something in the reading. Those projects will serve as part of the decoration for worship when we hear the stories again at the Vigil.

We hope you will join us for all of the worship opportunities during Holy Week and Easter. If you have never been to the Vigil before, this would be a great year to give it a try. It might become an important annual tradition for you, too.

—Jay Carlson, Pastor

### HOLY TRINITY THEATRE CIRCLE PRESENTS ANATOMY OF GRAY!

This play was written by Jim Leonard, Jr in the 1990s. Moved by his friend's diagnosis of AIDS, he started thinking about a host of things that he included in this play; how communities react to crises is certainly one of them. Performances are April 16, 17, 18 at 7 p.m. and April 19, 4 p.m. Mark your calendars now—you'll be intrigued by this play!

### FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

*The fourth of the Old Testament promises providing a baptismal lens this Lent is the promise God makes to Moses: those who look on the bronze serpent will live. In today's gospel Jesus says he will be lifted up on the cross like the serpent, so that those who look to him in faith will live. When we receive the sign of the cross in baptism, that cross becomes the sign we can look to in faith, for healing, for restored relationship to God, for hope when we are dying.*



ADULT FORUM

#### LESSONS

- Numbers 21:4-9
- Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
- Ephesians 2:1-10
- John 3:14-21

10:00 am – in the Library

#### MARCH 15

#### "Reflections"

Holy Trinity Writers' group

Members of the Holy Trinity Writers' Group will invite forum attendees to get a glimpse of their work and creative process.

#### MARCH 22

#### "Broadway School and Holy Trinity: a Creative Relationship"

Members of Holy Trinity have helped to support the Broadway High School for pregnant and parenting students and their children through leading a career day, a knitting class, helping with the school store, providing clothing donations, and much more. We have also been blessed by getting to know teachers and students and by their volunteering at Holy Trinity. Come learn more about this partnership and opportunities for the future.

#### GRINNELL SINGERS TO PERFORM AT HOLY TRINITY

The Grinnell Singers, the premier choir of Grinnell College in Iowa, will present a concert at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 14 at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. The performance is free and open to the public, and a freewill offering will be collected.

#### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

There will be a congregational meeting Sunday, March 22, following the 11:00 a.m. service for the purpose of approving the constitutional bylaw changes. For more information about the bylaw changes, call the church office.

#### ARTICLE STUDY

Join Jeff Olsen Biebighauser and Pastor Ingrid on Tuesdays, April 21 and 28, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. for discussion of Ta-Nehisi Coates' article "The Case for Reparations." Originally published in June 2014, Coates makes the case that after 250 years of slavery, 90 years of Jim Crow, 60 years of separate but equal, 35 years of racist housing policy, we need to reckon with our compounding moral debts in order to become whole. Hosted by the 20s, 30s, 40s group; adults of all ages welcome. Sign up in the Community Room, where copies of the article can be found.

## PARISH INFORMATION

### **BOTTOM: A PLAY ABOUT SEX TRAFFICKING IN MINNESOTA**

Come learn about the serious issue of sex trafficking, happening right here in our own neighborhoods, from the point of view of a former sex trafficking victim, Saturday, March 14, 7:00 p.m. at Minnehaha Academy, 3100 W. River Parkway. This play is free and open to the public. Freewill donations will be accepted. A panel, featuring experts on the issue of human trafficking in Minnesota will follow the performance.

### **LVC ANNOUNCES AMAZING gRACE 2015: MAY 2, 2015**

LVC's Amazing gRace is a fundraising and community-building event that aims to build support for the work of LVC Volunteers locally and the organizations that they serve. The event combines brain-twisting challenges, service work, community outreach, and social justice education. On this one-day event, teams of two people will compete against each other to solve a specified number of challenges spread out across the city. Each team will have to raise \$1,000 to participate in the event. The top three teams will designate their prize money to the local LVC placement organization of their choice. The race will end with a community celebration at the end of the day.

### **MEALS ON WHEELS DELIVERY**

Holy Trinity will be delivering meals for South Minneapolis Meals on Wheels the week of March 30-April 3. Volunteers are needed to deliver meals for 1-5 days that week. Sign up in the Community Room or call Mary Engen. Meal delivery takes about 1 hour; meals are picked up at Nokomis Square (35th Ave.S. and 50th St.) at 11:10 a.m.

### **BREAD FOR THE WORLD OFFERING OF LETTERS**

There will be two opportunities to write letters to our Congressional representatives to protect child nutrition programs as suggested by the organization Bread for the World. Information and materials for writing will be available on March 18 from 6-7 p.m. during the soup supper prior to the evening Lenten service and on Sunday, March 22, in the Community Room following each of the services.

### **STUDY TRIP TO GERMANY**

The Adult Education Committee is encouraging a study trip to Germany on the cusp of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. Learn more on Sunday, March 15, at 12:15 p.m. in the library.

Office phone: 612-729-8358  
Jay Carlson and Ingrid Rasmussen, Pastors

U.S. Postage Paid  
Periodical

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH USPS 77-060  
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Community Church, c/o Holy Trinity  
2730 E. 31 St. Mpls., MN. 55406. Published weekly by Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.  
612-729-8358. Periodicals postage paid at St. Paul, Minnesota. Pastors Jay Carlson,  
Ingrid Rasmussen

PARISH EVENTS March 15-21, 2015	
Sunday	8:45 am Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:30 am Confirmation      9:45 am Sunday School
	10:00 am Adult Forum
	11:00 am Worship Service with Holy Communion
	12:00 pm Broadway School volunteer check-in
	12:15 pm Germany study trip meeting in library
	12:30 pm HTTC rehearsal "Anatomy of Gray"
Monday	2:00 pm Swahili Service
	11:00 am-2:30 pm AARP Tax Aide
	6:00 pm Executive Committee
Tuesday	7:00 pm Council
	11:00 am-2:30 pm AARP Tax Aide
	11:00 am Text study
	3:30-5:30 pm Open gym
Wednesday	6:30 pm HTTC rehearsal "Anatomy of Gray"
	10 am-3 pm Mosaic workshop
	5:30 pm Soup Supper      6:00 pm Youth choirs
	7:00 pm Evening Prayer in Bartsch Room
Thursday	7:45 pm Adult Choir
	8:00 am Encore! at Turtle Bread
Saturday	10:00 am HTTC rehearsal "Anatomy of Gray"

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS MARCH 15, 2015			
8:45 AM			11:00 AM
Tevy Nou, Linden Kung	<b>Acolytes</b>		Linnea Krig, Mason Helmel
Rick Liedholm	<b>Assisting Minister</b>		Linda Jury
Pam Blomgren, Kevin Proescholdt	<b>Communion</b>		Laura Bolstad, Allison Johnson
Lisa/Bruce Martens	<b>Altar Guild</b>		Betty/Dick Pittelkow
Bob Peschiutta, John Goring, DeWayne Townsend, Marcea Mariani	<b>Ushers</b>		Lee Kampinen, Deb Sodt, Kathy Ohler
Trelstad-Porter family	<b>Coffee Servers</b>		Stephanie/Scott Cole
Donna Heyer, Pam Blomgren	<b>Counters</b>		Vicki Mann, Gary Johnson
	<b>Closer</b>		Rod Johnson

Financial Report	March 8	Year to date
Budget requirement	13,982.69	139,826.92
Budget receipts	14,987.64	138,452.11
African Pastors' endowment	50.00	165.00
Boiler Fund	15.00	124.00
Exodus Appeal	5.00	1,750.00
World Hunger	125.00	512.00

African Pastors' Endowment by Bud Dixen  
World Hunger by Ray Sanders and in memory of Pastor Ingrid's grandfather by Bob/Helen Norheim