



# THE COMMUNITY CHURCH

On 28th Avenue between Lake and 31<sup>st</sup> 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

## RECOGNIZED GRACE

*As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.* – John 15:9-11

When we catch up with Jesus and the disciples this morning, they are in the midst of saying what they need to say to one another before they unwillingly part ways. The words heard from Jesus' lips and reported by the Evangelist are part of what is known as the Farewell Discourse—Jesus' not-so-long goodbye. We find them all huddled together with troubled hearts and a big ol' pile of tissues, listening to Jesus talk about love, which makes perfect sense, and friends, which makes perfect sense...and joy, which seems totally out of place—like that pesky dandelion that pops up uninvited in a newly sown garden.

A quick consultation with Ms. Merriam Webster tells us that our working definition of joy is this: "an emotion evoked by well-being, success, or good fortune or by the prospect of possessing what one desires." In short, you and I have been taught to think of joy as a state of happiness. But the Greek word translated as "joy" here has a different connotation. Interestingly, the word for "joy" has the same root as the word for "grace." This means that another way to translate "joy" is to say "recognized grace." Think for a minute how this changes the tenor of Jesus' words: "I have said these things to you so that my grace may be recognized in you, and that your recognition of grace may be complete." This is less about what the disciples are feeling and more about the disciples' attentiveness to what God is doing in them and around them, even in the midst of very troubled circumstances.

In the midst of Nepal and Baltimore, our unrelenting depression or our aunt's diagnosis, our unsuccessful search for work or our beloved's fading memory, where do we see and recognize God's grace showing up? I think it's a question worth our consideration. From my limited vantage point this week, God's grace appeared in the green shoots arising from bulbs I didn't plant, in the song of the cardinals that I don't control, and in the Mississippi's sparkle; God's grace appeared in the care of nurses in a mental health unit, in the love of a mother poured out for her son, and in the memories shared by the homebound; God's grace appeared in the wildly different gifts of congregants, in people across the country organizing for equity, and in friends and family carrying a young man's body on the final leg of his baptismal journey. God's grace showed up. Sometimes when I wasn't ready for it. And often in the midst of very troubled circumstances. But there it was. There was joy.

—Ingrid Rasmussen, Pastor

### MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND—PENTECOST

Sunday, May 24, is the Day of Pentecost. Holy Trinity will have only one worship service, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Please plan to join us!

## SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

*The gospel for Easter's seventh Sunday is always taken from the long prayer Jesus prays for his followers in John's gospel on the night before his death and always includes Jesus' desire that his followers will be one as he and God are one. This oneness is not mere doctrinal agreement or institutional unity, but mutual abiding, interpenetrating life, mutual love and joy. This oneness is the work of the Spirit whom we have received but also await. Come, Holy Spirit!*



### READINGS

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26  
Psalm 1  
1 John 5:9-13  
John 17:6-19

### ADULT FORUM

10:00 am – in the Library

MAY 17

"Salvation/Eternal Life"

Jeff Olsen Biebighauser

Before he died last year, Dr. Marcus Borg, the presenter at our first Johnson Symposium on Faith and Society in 2010, wrote a book called *Convictions* with the subtitle "How I Learned What Matters Most." During Adult Forums in May we will have opportunities to reflect on what matters most to us with stimulation provided by comments from Borg on what mattered most to him.

MAY 24

Memorial Day Weekend—No Adult Forum

### WALKING TOGETHER—PART TWO (RESCHEDULED)

There will be a friendly walk on **Tuesday, June 2**, (note the new date) from 7-8:30 p.m. around Minnehaha Falls. Walkers will meet at the south side of Sea Salt Restaurant in Minnehaha Park. Plan to wear sturdy walking shoes as we may head off of paved trails. Sign up in the Community Room so we know to look for you.

### GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY

We will celebrate high school graduates in our congregation and pray for God's continued blessing for them on Sunday, May 31, at the 11:00 service. During the service we will also present new Bibles to this year's 6th graders who will begin confirmation in the fall. Join us in celebrating these significant milestones in the lives of Holy Trinity members.

### THANK YOU FROM AARP TAX AIDE

"Thank you for providing space for the AARP Tax Aide program during the past tax season. Once again almost 400 people had federal and state tax forms prepared during our 11 weeks at Holy Trinity. ....By providing space for the AARP Tax Aide program, your church continues to contribute to the AARP goal of giving tax assistance for the elderly and low-income individuals."

## PARISH INFORMATION

### ENCORE! EVENT: DELIGHTFUL BIRDING

Join enthusiastic birder Keith Olstad for a few hours of early morning birding by sight and ear. On Wednesday, June 3, we'll be at Wood Lake Nature Center, Richfield, and Friday, June 12, at the Old Cedar Ave. Bridge parking lot in Bloomington. Meet at the Holy Trinity parking lot, departing at 7:10 a.m., to carpool to the birding site OR drive/bike directly to the site by 7:30 a.m. We'll finish at 10:00 a.m. No previous experience necessary; bring binoculars and/or field guides if you have them. People can contact Keith for directions or concerns about weather.

### BIKE TO CHURCH ON MAY 17

In conjunction with Bike to Work Week, all who are able are invited to bike to church on Sunday, May 17. Extra bike parking will be available.

### MEALS ON WHEELS DELIVERY

Our next scheduled week for delivering Meals on Wheels will be May 26-29. We do not deliver on Memorial Day. Volunteers are needed to deliver meals for 1-4 days that week. Sign up in the Community Room or call Mary Engen. Meals are picked up at Nokomis Square delivery area, 50th St. and 35th Ave. S. at 11:10 a.m.

### BOOK STUDY WITH ELENI WOLKING AND PASTOR INGRID

Join Eleni Wolking and Pastor Ingrid on Tuesdays, June 23 and 30, 7-8:30 p.m., to discuss Walter Brueggemann's book, *Sabbath as Resistance: Saying No to the Culture of Now*. Participants are asked to acquire their own copies of the book. Weather permitting, we'll meet outside! Sign up in the Community Room.

### JOINT SERVICE WITH SWAHILI CONGREGATION ON MAY 17

Holy Trinity and Minnesota Swahili Christian Congregation will worship together at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, May 17. Immediately following the service, we'll share a meal.

### SUMMER CHILDREN'S ART CAMP

Children age 5-completed grade 3 are invited to participate in this summer's camp. Reflecting on Psalm 1 and the theme "Like a Tree," we will meet 9:30-11:30 a.m. June 8-11. Join us for singing, dance, art projects, stories, and fun! Registration forms are available in the Community Room. There will also be a day camp for all ages (adults and accompanied children) on Saturday, June 12, during which we will serve God's creation by planting trees. Please sign up for either or both of these opportunities by June 1.

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

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612-729-8358; Periodicals postage paid at St. Paul, Minnesota; Pastors Jay Carlson,  
Ingrid Rasmussen

PARISH EVENTS May 17-23, 2015	
Sunday	8:45 am Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:30 am Confirmation
	9:45 am Sunday School
Monday	11:00 am Worship Service w/ Swahili Congregation
	12:00 pm Lunch w/ Swahili Congregation
Tuesday	6:00 pm Executive Committee
	7:00 pm Council
Wednesday	10 am-3 pm Mosaic Workshop
	11:00 am Bible Study
Thursday	10 am-3 pm Mosaic Workshop
	5:30 pm Choir Families Supper
	6:00 pm Youth Choir Recognition Event Adult Choir at the Muellers'
8:00 am	Encore! at Turtle Bread

Gifts to African Pastors by Bud Dixon; Disaster Relief/Nepal by Linda/Gerry Berglin, Ray Sanders, Mary Ellen Olson

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS MAY 17, 2015		
8:45 AM		11:00 AM
Anne Beschnett	Crucifer	Wayne Vetter
Tevy Nou, Grayson Wieczorek	Acolytes	Mason Helmel, Marianna Hefte
Rick Liedholm	Assisting Minister	Lynda Nordholm
Mary/Chris Engen	Communion	Stephanie/Scott Cole
Nancy Madich, Bev Peschiutta	Altar Guild	Stella Townsend, Cori Gershon
Bev/Bob Peschiutta, David Kohlstedt	Ushers	M. Olsen Biebighauser, Lee Kampinen, Kathy Ohler
Jenny Wheatley, Lee Fisher	Coffee Servers	Helen/Bob Norheim
Donna Heyer, Gerry Berglin	Counters	John Sulzbach, Scott Cole
	Closer	John Sulzbach

	May 10	Year to date
Financial Report		
Budget requirement	13,982.69	265,671.15
Budget receipts	11,362.49	273,819.80
African Pastors' Endowment	50.00	265.00
Broadway School		1,399.00
Disaster Relief	425.00	820.00
Exodus Appeal	5.00	1,941.00
World Hunger	31.00	1,763.00