



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

THE SPACES BETWEEN

Keep alert! is our Advent call. Keep watch for the coming of Christ in peace and hope.

News of violence and injustice in the world may give us heavy hearts; it can often seem that there is little light amid the darkness. Practicing Advent is therefore a kind of protest against despair. We light candles and proclaim our hope. Luther Seminary's Matthew Skinner has written, "As the swiftly tilting planet enacts its slow and steady march toward cold dormancy, candles flickering in a sanctuary defy the suggestion that hope, too, is waning."

We know that Christ is present with us and that the darkness will not prevail. Still, this waiting and watching for signs of grace and new life takes intentional effort, as well as the support of a worshipping community. Advent requires practice.

How do you practice keeping watch? Psychologist and coach Emma Derman Teitel offers one interesting practical suggestion for cultivating a watchful life: "Notice the spaces between." She writes:

Commit to noticing the pauses before the actions for an entire day. Feel the gap before the key unlocks the door or starts the car. Feel the space before food enters your mouth or the stillness before your finger hits the computer key.

We go through thousands of tiny transitions each day; see if you can be more conscious of what is happening before each new action.

The symphony of life can easily create the illusion that something is happening only when the tempo is fast and the beats are audible. And yet, there would be no symphony without the silence, there would be no beauty to the sound without the gaps in between.

Noticing the smaller transitions of life may help keep us watching for new arrivals of Christ, too. Christ comes into our world not only on Christmas but in various ways each day. Keep alert!

—Jay Carlson, Pastor

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN LEAD WORSHIP DEC. 20 AT 11:00
The Sunday School children will present "The Peace You Bring" and lead worship on Sunday, December 20, at the 11:00 service.

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

If you'd like to buy a poinsettia for the altar area at Christmas, please call the church office. \$14 each.

PRAYER OF EXAMEN MONDAY, DECEMBER 14

The Prayer of Examen is a spiritual exercise typically credited to St. Ignatius of Loyola [1491-1556]. At the heart of the practice is increasingly becoming aware of God's presence and the Holy Spirit's movement throughout your day. If you were able to attend the fall retreat at Villa Maria and want to continue your practice, join us. Those unfamiliar with the practice are welcome, too! We'll meet in the Bartsch Room from 12:00-12:40 p.m.

GAME NIGHT SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 2016

Chili, snacks, and games galore! Holy Trinity members and friends of all ages are invited to an evening of comfort food, laughter, and some fun competition playing favorite games and new games. Sign up in the Community Room by January 3.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The presence of the Lord "in your midst" in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the Lord in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one "more powerful" than John, even with his winnowing fork in his hand, is good news—and cause for exultation—for us who are being saved. Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.



READINGS

Zephaniah 3:14-20
Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-6
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:7-18

ADVENT CHORAL WORSHIP ON SUNDAY

On Sunday, December 13, both services will be led by the Adult Choir, Trinity Singers, Andrew Martin on marimba, and, of course, the singing of the congregation. They will present a sermon through hymns, anthems, and readings that explore our Advent theme this year, "In the Peace of Jesus." Join us for these services that reflect on our journey through Advent together.

ADULT FORUM

10:00 am — in the Library

DECEMBER 13 "Hope in Resettlement" Yusuf Abdi, Lutheran Social Service

We are pleased to welcome Yusuf Abdi, Director of Refugee Services at Lutheran Social Service. Yusuf will lead our conversation about hope in resettlement, beginning with his own experience as a refugee from Somalia and moving into his work with resettlement in Minnesota.

DECEMBER 20 "Hope in Singing" David Sims, Cantor

David Sims believes that hope resides in communal singing. Join us as we drink hot cider and sing our favorite Advent and Christmas hymns.

ADVENT SOUP SUPPER

On Wednesday, December 16, we will be having our final Advent soup supper from 5:30-6:45 p.m. followed by a Service of Evening Prayer in the Bartsch Room. LuAnn Kibira will offer a reflection on peace. Join us!

PARISH INFORMATION

SCHEDULE FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 13

Worship led by Adult Choirs at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 16

Labyrinth Open from 5 - 8 p.m. in the Gymnasium

Soup Supper from 5:30-6:45 p.m. in the Community Room

Advent Evening Prayer at 7:00 p.m. in the Bartsch Room

Sunday, December 20

Worship with Holy Communion at 8:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Worship led by Holy Trinity Children and Youth at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Thursday, December 24

Christmas Eve Worship with Holy Communion at 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Sunday, December 27

Festival Worship for Christmas at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, January 3

Festival Worship with Gloria Ringers at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

LONGFELLOW/BROADWAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS UPDATE

Thank you for your generosity this holiday season. All 83 Longfellow students and their children have been "adopted." A celebration will be held Friday, December 18 at 3:15 p.m. at Longfellow School. Please bring your gifts to the school. If you can bring a holiday treat for this celebration, please let Kathy Ohler know. If you are not able to come on the 18th, please bring the gifts (wrapped and labeled with recipient's name) to Holy Trinity by Sunday, December 13. If you can help load the gifts at 1:30 and/or help set up or clean up on the 18th, please call Zoe Martinez.

DEMONSTRATE YOUR THANKFULNESS THIS SEASON

Every year Holy Trinity anticipates and relies on a year-end increase in contributions that help support the work of the church. This holiday season, please consider making an additional contribution to Holy Trinity or to our special appeals, Longfellow/Broadway High School and World Hunger. To donate online, visit htlcmpls.org and locate the link to the giving page.

Office phone: 612-729-8358
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Ingrid Rasmussen

PARISH EVENTS December 13-19, 2015

Sunday	8:45 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:45 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Adult Forum
Monday	11:00 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	2:00 pm	Swahili Service
	12:00 pm	Prayer of Examen
Tuesday	7:00 pm	Stewardship, Peace w/Justice Committees
	11:00 am	Worship Readings Discussion
Wednesday	5 - 8 pm	Labyrinth in the Gym
	5:30 pm	Soup Supper
	6:00 pm	Youth Choirs
	7:00 pm	Advent Evening Prayer
	7:45 pm	Adult Choir
	8:00 am	Encore! at Turtle Bread
Saturday	9:30 am	Sunday School Rehearsal

Special gifts in memory of Ben Meeks by Tom Lee and in memory of Bob Kelly by his family
Opening Doors in memory of Maddy Mann by Carol Johnson

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS DECEMBER 13, 2015

8:45 AM		11:00 AM	
Paul Thorson	Crucifer	Anna Brelje	
Lowenna Rian-Fairley, Ellie Brand	Acolytes	Kristen Townsend, Kayden Nordby	
Adult Choirs	Assisting Minister	Adult Choirs	
Theresa Rian, Anne Beschnett	Communion	Linda/Phil Jury	
Anne Beschnett/Josh Becker	Altar Guild	Betty/Dick Pittelkow	
Bob Peschiutta, Marcea Mariani, DeWayne Townsend	Ushers	Deb Sodt, Mark Hiner, Helen/Bob Norheim	
Donna/Elsie Heyer	Coffee Servers	Amy/Peter Johnson	
Bob Peschiutta, Annie Hines	Counters	Gary Johnson, Deb Helmel	
	Closer	Deb Sodt	

Financial Report	December 6	Year to date
Budget requirement	13,982.69	685,151.92
Budget receipts	14,240.15	628,205.19
Longfellow/Broadway School	10.00	2,511.00
Exodus Appeal	5.00	31,658.74
Opening Doors Bldg. Fund	1,000.00	49,510.00