



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

CHRISTMAS HERE IN NORTHERN LANDS

Aaron Kloss and Chuck Haavik, an artist and an author from Duluth, published a children's book this year entitled *Christmas Here in Northern Lands*. It's brought beauty into our home. I hope this excerpt offers you a similar gift. Merry Christmas, Holy Trinity!

The ancient light from distant stars
That left before our world began
To meet me there this very night

In still cosmic rendezvous
All the while shining through
Breathless mosaics of
Deep purple darkness and cool winter light
All spilling down upon
Snowy white blankets on
Billowing landscapes all
Burning alive with white crystal fire.

Such a wondrous sight,
To come at night, the mystic lights
All crashing down around
My unbelieving heart.

Then once again at Christmastime
We bow our heads and open our hearts
And lift our voices together and sing
Of no room at the inn,
And remember the night so long ago
When love came down.

Now the Christmas feast is calling us home
Every fierce maiden daughter and prodigal son
Every outcast and sinner and poor lonely soul
We all have a place at the table tonight.

Nordic darkness and Northern light
Waiting winter and coming spring
Life and death and awakening,
These rhythms like wild lonely rivers
Run deep in our lives,
Given to us to hope and wait
For Christmas light to come again,
Here where we live
In a white arctic dream,
The boreal mystery we call our home...

Deep in the heart
Of Christmas lies
A living flame
Of perfect love.

One true light
In a muddy world
With a broken heart
That lights the hidden
Pathways of our hearts.

—Ingrid Rasmussen, Pastor

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

On the first Sunday of Christmas we find the boy Samuel and the boy Jesus, both in the temple, both growing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and humankind. We too have returned to the house of God "to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God," who has gifted us with a savior. As the festival continues, "let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts." It is Christmas, still.



READINGS

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26
Psalm 148
Colossians 3:12-17
Luke 2:41-52

ADULT FORUM

10:00 am – in the Library

DECEMBER 27 "Hope in Ferguson" Korla Masters, Seminarian

Korla Masters is one of our seminarians; she's in her second year at Eden Theological Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri. This past year, her theological convictions led her to be deeply involved in the work for racial justice following the murder of Michael Brown. Come and hear how she thinks about hope in the midst of unrest and change.

JANUARY 3 "Hope in Internship" Meagan McLaughlin, Seminarian

Meagan McLaughlin is one of our seminarians; she's just completed her theological education at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities. She will soon be a fine pastor somewhere in the southeastern region of Minnesota. Before we send her off into that new adventure, however, we have the opportunity to hear how she thought about hope during her internship at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Minneapolis.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

The Annual Congregational Meeting will take place on Sunday, January 31, 2016, immediately following the 11:00 worship service. Lunch will be provided. All members are encouraged to attend.

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 School and World Hunger. To donate online, visit the church website at htlcmpls.org and locate the link to the giving page.

Please remember: contributions must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2015, to be counted as a 2015 donation. Thank you!

PARISH INFORMATION

THIRD ANNUAL FAMILY RETREAT FEBRUARY 12-14, 2016

All are invited to join the family retreat from Friday, February 12-Sunday, February 14, at the Chi Rho Retreat Center in Annandale, Minnesota. Cost is \$80/adult and \$50/child age 4-18 (0-3 are free). Cost includes lodging and four meals. This lightly-structured weekend includes a family art project, a ping pong tournament, some outdoor activities, and a worship service. Scholarships are available; talk to Pastor Jay Carlson. Sign up in the Community Room.

GAME NIGHT SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 5:30 P.M.

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.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

The annual confirmation retreat will be held January 16-18 at Luther Park in Danbury, Wisconsin.

COMMUNITY SOLAR UPDATE

Holy Trinity's Faithful Energy team reports that 35 Holy Trinity people have signed up for up for the first step of Community Solar for their homes or apartments. The next step is to send in their electricity use history report. If you have not done so, you can still sign up at www.mncommunitysolar.com/sustainablecommunities. Holy Trinity members Sean Gosiewski and David Moe are available to help with this process. The solar garden should be switched on this summer. The earth will be relieved!

CONFIRMATION AND SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

There will be no Confirmation or Sunday School classes on Sunday, December 27 and Sunday, January 3. They will resume the following week, January 10.

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

U.S. Postage Paid
Periodical

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH USPS 777-060
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 December 27, 2015-January 3, 2016

Sunday	8:45 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10:00 am	Adult Forum
	11:00 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
Tuesday	2:00 pm	Swahili Service
	11:00 am	Worship Readings Discussion
Friday		Building Closed for New Year's Day

Special gifts for World Hunger and Longfellow Alternative School by Phil and Linda Jury.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS DECEMBER 27, 2015

8:45 AM	11:00 AM
Jeff Weiss	Crucifer Camilo Rudolph
Johnny Waddick, Amelia Waddick	Acolytes Alyssa Krig, Linnea Krig
Carol Masters	Assisting Minister Bob Hulteen
Communion	
Kirk Jensen, Deb Sodt	
Linda/Gerry Berglin	Altar Guild Libby/Keith Olstad
Bob Peschiutta, Sally/David Kohlstedt	Ushers DeWayne Townsend, Ethan Townsend, Kathy Hollander, Rod Johnson
Jane/Bob Aldrich	Coffee Servers Kristen Carlson
Chris Engen, Joyce Peterson	Counters John Sulzbach, Vicki Mann
Closer	
John Sulzbach	

Financial Report	December 20	Year to date
Budget requirement	13,982.69	713,117.31
Budget receipts	18,754.28	661,734.61
Broadway/Longfellow School	60.00	2,581.00
Exodus Appeal	305.00	31,968.74
Opening Doors Bldg. Fund	5,395.00	60,765.00
World Hunger	211.00	3,327.50

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Holy Trinity office will be closed
New Year's Day.

