



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 LOVE SONG

Sermon Excerpt from April 10, 2016

My mother recalls a time when I was a teenager when I fell head over heels for a particular love song on a music album. My 13-year-old-self was really moved by the melody and the lyrics. I had just made the jump from cassette tapes to CDs, which meant that I could play this favorite song on repeat. I played it incessantly, I'm told. My mother says that a particular crooner's voice was floating across the hallway from my bedroom when she fell asleep, and the same crooner's voice was the first thing she heard in the morning. I contend the phase didn't last very long—a few months at most.

We all have tracks playing on repeat, so to speak. Some of them are songs we choose; some of them are given to us. They are highly conditioned by gender, race, and culture; by ability, age, and family; by religion, geography, and economics. I hear y'all describe these tracks in my office and in the emails you write week after week. Some are wonderful and say things like: *I am loved. I have gifts to share. My voice matters. I can participate in the healing of the world.* The tougher tracks say things like: *I am not enough. This grief will never soften. I'm sick. I have no purpose. I really messed up this time. This arc cannot be bending toward justice. My kids.* These—and others like them—are often the melodies to which we fall asleep; they're the first voices we hear in the morning.

We cannot know for certain how the disciple Peter would title his track at the end of John's gospel, but we can make some pretty good guesses. We need to remember that Peter was the disciple that publicly denied his relationship with Jesus. Not once. Not twice. But three times. He abandoned his dearest friend when his friend most needed him. The rooster crowed, and his friend was crucified by those who didn't like the changes his very presence demanded. From that point on, I have to imagine that Peter's was a song of shame and regret and sorrow and fear that none of us would want on repeat, though I suspect some of us have heard its melody.

I bet Peter's song was playing that hazy morning on the Sea of Galilee. Without much warning, we hear Jesus shouting instructions from the shoreline, "Drop your nets on the other side." The naked fishermen do as they're told. They catch 153 fish, which in bible talk is a gazillion fish. And in that moment they know that Jesus is back. He's managed to find them, again. Peter gets dressed and jumps in the water. Some say it's silly; I think it's one of the most beautiful confessions I've ever seen played out on paper. Peter starts swimming toward the one who can forgive him, toward the one he knows—despite all of his missteps—will offer him a new tune. We see Peter show up on the shoreline wet and out of breath and filled with hope that shame and regret and sorrow and fear isn't the end of his story.

Jesus asks a question that he already knows the answer to. Why? Because it allows Peter three opportunities to say, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." It's so merciful. Fredrick Buechner says that "What we really want in our deepest need is not proof that there is a God somewhere who exists or even scientific evidence that a resurrection happened some time ago in history. What we need is a God who is right here, knee-deep in the mud and mire of human existence—a risen Christ who comes to us every day to give life and hope." Here we see Jesus take Peter's spinning record of shame and regret and sorrow and fear off of the player. Peter is no longer bound by a melody that undermines his ministry. At the end of the scene, all that Peter is left with is a love song.

—Ingrid Rasmussen, Pastor

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those "who have come out of the great ordeal" in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.



ADULT FORUM

10:00 am—in the Library

READINGS

Acts 9:36-43

Psalm 23

Revelation 7:9-17

John 10:22-30

APRIL 17

"Spiritual Reflections on 2015 Academy Films: Hidden Identities"
Doug Wallace

Attention specifically to the films "Spotlight," "Bridge of Spies," and "The Danish Girl" will enable an exploration of the challenges of hidden identities, including the costs to our relationships, to ourselves, to our children, to our communities, and to our sacred inner spirits.

APRIL 24

"What's Next for MN on Climate Action after the Paris Agreement?"
Melissa Hortman, J.D., Deputy Minority Leader

Ms. Hortman is a sixth-term legislator in the Minnesota House of Representatives from the northwest suburbs of Minneapolis. As a legislator, she has focused on energy, transportation, the environment, and civil law.

DIALOGUE LUNCH THURSDAY, APRIL 28

Our guest, Francisco Muñoz, will address how climate change is affecting both farming in the Miraflor and his bird diversity studies throughout Northern Nicaragua. He will comment on our shared responsibility for the well-being of migratory species and offer insights into the challenges of sustainable development and ecotourism. Lunch will be provided with a suggested donation of \$5. Sign up in the Community Room or online at htlcmpls.org/dialogueevents.

BIKING WITH FRIENDS FRIDAY, MAY 6, 6:15 P.M.

The 20s, 30s, 40s group invites adults of all ages to join a casual bike tour through Minneapolis on Friday, May 6. We will meet at Bruce/Lisa Martens' home at 6:15 p.m. and explore the great web of bike trails our city has to offer! We will make our way to Sea Salt Eatery at Minnehaha Falls for refreshments towards the end of the ride. If you are in need of a bike to ride for the evening, please contact Lisa at lisajmartens@gmail.com. Sign up in the Community Room by May 1.

2016 GRADUATES

Is there a graduation from high school, college, or graduate school taking place in your family this spring? Please let the church office know so that your church can celebrate with you.

PROPERTY WORK DAY, SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 9:00 A.M.

Come and help us with digging and bagging, weeding and trimming. We'll work from 9:00 a.m.-noon.

PARISH INFORMATION

PENTECOST SUNDAY, MAY 15

We will gather for festival worship services at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. All Holy Trinity members are also encouraged to attend a joint service with the **Minnesota Swahili Christian Congregation** at 2:00 p.m. Bishop Ann Svennungsen will be present with us and will give the sermon. The Swahili Congregation will host a meal following the worship service. Sign up in the Community Room.

BIRD WATCHING OPPORTUNITY FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 7:30 A.M.

Join Keith Olstad in the parking lot at the Wood Lake Nature Center at 7:30 a.m., Friday, April 22, for bird watching and listening. Call Keith with questions.

LULLABY CONCERT WITH VOCALESSANCE AND LONGFELLOW H.S.

You are invited to a Lullaby Concert at Holy Trinity, May 20, 6:30 p.m. As part of Carnegie Hall's Lullaby Project, VocalEssence will host a listening and sharing session of 6 newly written lullabies, jointly composed by students from Longfellow Alternative H.S. and composer Francisco Zúñiga. Sign up in the Community Room.

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT FRIDAY, MAY 6, 6:00-9:00 P.M.

Adults and youth work together caring for HTLC children while their parents go "out" from 6-9 p.m. Sign up to help with childcare or to save a spot for your kids in the nursery.

EARTH DAY RALLY, THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 11:30 A.M.

On the eve of Earth Day we'll gather to show our legislators that we must keep fossil fuels in the ground and engage in a just transition to a renewable energy economy. Through music, song, and movement we'll share stories of the world we know is possible and our plan for how to get there.

What: Earth Day Rally and Lobby Day at the Capitol

When: Thursday, April 21, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Where: Start at Christ Lutheran Church (105 University Ave. W., St Paul), then we'll march to the State Office Building.

BOUNDARY WATERS CANOE TRIP

The annual trip to the BWCA is scheduled for August 12-15; we plan to leave the evening of August 11. The cost is \$150 with a \$75 deposit due by May 23. Travelers will meet a few weeks before the trip for information and planning. Sign up in the Community Room.

ENCORE! DATE CORRECTION

Encore! Breakfast will be Thursday April 21 at Turtle Bread. There may have been some confusion because the church bulletin had it posted for this Thursday.

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

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PARISH EVENTS April 17-23, 2016

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
Monday	2:00 pm	Swahili Service
	6:00 pm	Executive Committee
	7:00 pm	Council
Tuesday	10:00 am	Mosaic Workshop on 4th floor
	11:00 am	Worship Readings Discussion
Wednesday	5:30 pm	Choir Families Supper
	6:00 pm	Youth Choirs
	7:30 pm	Adult Choir
Thursday	8:00 am	Encore! at Turtle Bread
	11:30 am	Earth Day Rally
Saturday	3:30-7:00 pm	Confirmation: Trinity Apts. Meal

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS APRIL 10, 2016

8:45 AM		11:00 AM
Elena Alpizar	Acolytes	Alyssa Krig, Linnea Krig
Jeff Weiss	Crucifer	Emily Davison
Andrea Hansen	Assisting Minister	Ben Martinez
Kevin Proescholdt, Anne Beschnett	Communion	Sara/Kirk Jensen
Dianne Mascher	Altar Guild	Libby/Keith Olstad
Bob Peschiutta, Chris Engen, John Goring	Ushers	Judy Davison, Molly Davison, Jeff Olsen Biebighauser, Riley Conway
Jean Swanson, Kevin Proescholdt	Coffee Servers	Arlene Helvig, Margaret Peterson
Gerry Berglin, Dennis Nordholm	Counters	Vicki Mann
	Closer	Vicki Mann

Financial Report	April 10	Year to date
Budget requirements	14,432.69	216,490.38
Budget receipts	17,036.60	235,693.26
Opening Doors	13,611.87	121,276.63
World Hunger	36.00	584.00

Special gift to **World Hunger** by Mary Peterson
Thrivent Choice Dollars designated by H.T. members and friends