



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: 9:55 am • Ingrid Rasmussen, Pastor

### LENTEN THEME: BIND US TOGETHER

After September 11, 2001, American journalist Richard Rodriguez was overwhelmed by his sense of “otherness.” He realized that he worshipped the same God as those with whom we were beginning to go to war, and yet he felt little kinship with them, only a profound sense that they were different. His response was to take a pilgrimage of sorts, to move to the Middle East and live in the desert. What Rodriguez found was a sense of solidarity, not only with the residents of the Middle East today, but also solidarity with the texts and traditions of each of the religions founded there. He better understood what bound him to his Jewish and Muslim neighbors, and what binds us together with all of humanity. He says this about his experience:

“I moved to the desert, to the great desert of the Middle East. And I realized that the God of Abraham, who is the God of the Jew, the Christian, and the Muslim, revealed himself in the desert. You know, the distinction that these religions claim temporally, is God intrudes in a moment of time. He revealed himself that day, that moment. Well, he also reveals himself in a place. What is that place? What is that place that the Israelis and the Palestinians are fighting over? It’s sand. It is desolate sand.

There are deserts in Saudi Arabia that are as lunar as anything I expect to encounter in my life. This is a holy landscape. It is also a landscape that drives us crazy. Somehow in this landscape, we got the idea that there is a God who is as lonely for us as we are for Him. And there is in this landscape, also, a necessity for tribe. You do not live as an individual on the desert. You live in tribes. And that tribal allegiance, that tribal impulse, leads on the one hand to great consolation, but also to the kind of havoc we are seeing now.”

At Holy Trinity, our Lent theme this year is “Bind Us Together,” an exploration of the solidarity we seek with one another and with others, including the LGBT community, Muslim neighbors, people of color, refugees, and Lutheran-Catholic relationships. On Sundays the lectionary readings also give us texts about solidarity, including Jesus with the Samaritan woman at the well and the presence of the Spirit for the renewal of life in the valley of dry bones. I look forward to exploring these themes with you in words and music, starting with Ash Wednesday on March 1st at noon and 7 p.m., and the five following Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in the Bartsch Room.

—David Sims, Cantor

### NAVIGATING DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RACE WORKSHOP

**Presented by Holy Trinity member Sara Jensen and YWCA staff**  
**Tuesday, March 14, 7:00-9:00 p.m. (tea and cookies provided)**  
**Sunday, March 19, 12:30-2:30 p.m. (bring a bag lunch, beverages provided)**

Race, politics, religion...these can be difficult subjects to hold a meaningful dialogue around, but it is important that we do. In this workshop we will explore five techniques for engaging in difficult conversations. We’ll talk about when, where, and with whom each technique is most effective and have a little time to practice some techniques with each other. Sign up in the Community Room for one of these dates (workshop content will be the same both days) and indicate if child care is needed. Free will offering will go to the YWCA Minneapolis Racial Justice Department.

### TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

*Today’s festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle that comes to a close today and the Lent-Easter cycle that begins in several days. On the mount of transfiguration Jesus is revealed as God’s beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem. We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter. Some churches put aside the alleluia at the conclusion of today’s liturgy. This word of joy will be omitted during the penitential season of Lent and will be sung again at Easter.*



**READINGS**  
Exodus 24;12-18  
Psalm 99  
2 Peter 1:16-21  
Matthew 17:1-9

**ADULT FORUM**  
10:00 am

**FEBRUARY 26** “Sanctuary Movement” in the Community Room  
Meghan Olsen Biebighauser and Sanctuary Team

Learn more about the rapidly developing Sanctuary Movement and how our congregation is being called to respond to the threats our community is facing at this time.

**MARCH 5** “Adult Forum with David Weiss”

For the next three Sundays, David Weiss reflects alongside—and beyond—the Pope’s encyclical, *Laudato Si’* (On Care for Our Common Home), on a Christian spirituality for a changing climate. Asking, “What do these times require of us?” Weiss sketches the shape of a response that is at once fully human and fully Christian. He suggests three distinctive dimensions to our personal and communal spiritual response: anguish, hope, and resistance. Indeed, Weiss asserts that—perhaps more than ever before—in this time of climate change, being faithful means becoming an apocalyptic evangelical prophetic church. These lectures will be public theology, offering a thoughtful, provocative, and accessible adventure in theology.

**Session One:** Apocalyptic: owning the anguish that is ours. In the Bible, apocalyptic literature seeks to make sense of world-ending events. Climate change is an apocalyptic event. There is no “do over,” no turning back the clock—or turning down the temperature. So the first dimension in a Christian spirituality that can undergird a faithful response to climate change is one that enables us to own the anguish that is ours. We need ways to feel the sorrow, to grieve for what has been lost. At the same time, we must counter the temptations to denial and despair. Considering examples from biblical imagery and the Christian tradition, we will look for ways to plumb the depth of almost unfathomable lament...without altogether losing hope.

**2016 CHOICE DOLLARS® EXPIRE ON MARCH 31, 2017**

If you are a Thrivent member, please remember to direct your 2016 Thrivent Choice Dollars before they expire on March 31.

## PARISH INFORMATION

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST AND BAKE SALE SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 8:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.**

The middle school and high school youth invite everyone to breakfast in the gym before or after worship. Proceeds from the breakfast and the bake sale will support summer youth trips.

**"DO JUSTICE" HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT MARCH 3-5**

"Do Justice" is a retreat for Twin Cities churches designed to accompany high school youth and young adults in a journey of discovery, awareness, and action around the realities and issues of social justice which contribute to hunger, poverty, and violence. This year's retreat will be held at Bay Lake Camp in Deerwood, Minnesota.

**FARE FOR ALL AND SHOE BUS AT HOLY TRINITY MARCH 15, 3:30-5:30 P.M.**

Fare For All is an organization that buys fresh fruits, vegetables, and frozen meat in bulk to save buyers up to 40% off grocery store prices. The Shoe Bus sells children's shoes for \$2 and adult shoes for \$5. Shoes are new or gently used. The Shoe Bus and Fare For All are open to everyone.

**KINSHIP MEALS APRIL 7 AND 8**

Twice a year the Nurturing Relationships Committee organizes kinship meals, which allow members to dine together and learn about each other in the warmth of someone's home. We choose dates around the time that we receive new members, so that we can invite these newest branches of God's living tree to a gathering soon after their arrival. The meals are for anyone interested in a more intimate gathering of people from church. Sign up in the Community Room by April 2.

**FIRST FRIDAYS WITH FRIENDS MARCH 3**

Join members Erin Walding-Heitman and Russ Heitman and the 20s, 30s, 40s group at Memory Lanes for food and bowling beginning at 6:30 p.m. Members of all ages are invited to join the fun! Sign up in the Community Room by Sunday, February 26.

**PARENTS' NIGHT OUT FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 6:00-9:00 P.M.**

Adults and youth work together caring for HTLC children while their parents go "out" from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Sign up in the Community Room to help with childcare or to save a spot for your kid(s) in the nursery. Volunteers must complete a background check through Holy Trinity.

Ingrid Rasmussen, Pastor  
Office phone: 612-729-8358

U.S. Postage Paid  
Periodical

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH (USPS 777-060)  
Mpls MN 55406. Periodicals postage paid at St. Paul, Minnesota  
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Community Church, c/o Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31 Street, Mpls, MN 55406.

### PARISH EVENTS February 26-March 4, 2017

Sunday	8:00 am-1:00 pm	Pancake Breakfast and Bake Sale
	8:45 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:55 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Adult Forum in the Community Room
	11:00 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	2:00 pm	Swahili Service
Monday	9 am-12 pm	AARP Tax Aide in the Library
Tuesday	11:00 am	Worship Readings Discussion
Wednesday	9 am-12 pm	AARP Tax Aide in the Library
	12:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Worship Service
	5:30 pm	Trinity Singers
	6:00 pm	Soup Supper
	6:00 pm	Youth Choirs
	7:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Worship Service
	7:45 pm	Adult Choir
Friday	6:00-9:00 pm	Parents' Night Out
	6:30 pm	First Fridays w/Friends: Bowling
Friday-Sunday		<i>Do Justice</i> Retreat

Special gift in memory of Irene Carlson by Sandra Nelson; African Pastors' Endowment Fund by Bud Dixen; World Hunger by Neil Anderson; Special gifts in memory of Ted Dooley by Joyce Peterson and Randy Nelson

### WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FEBRUARY 26, 2017

8:45 AM		11:00 AM	
Rick Liedholm	Assisting Minister	Linda Jury	
Will Kelley, Louis Kelley	Acolytes	Soren Kung, Linden Kung	
needed	Crucifer	Paul Chindvall	
Nicki Hines, Liz Rudrud	Communion	Anna Brelje, John Sulzbach	
Tina/Robert Russell	Altar Guild	Roberta Shaw, Linda Woytasek	
Bob Peschiutta, De Townsend, Marcea Mariani	Ushers	Mike Mann, Judy Davison, Molly Davison, Sam Kleven	
Ginny/Chuck Jordan	Coffee Servers	Pat/Alan Libra	
Chris Engen, Bob Peschiutta	Counters	Vicki Mann, Gary Johnson	
	Closer	Vicki Mann	

Financial Report	February 12	Year to date
Budget Requirement	14,725.00	117,800.00
Budget Receipts	35,841.47	118,350.74
African Pastors' Endowment	50.00	75.00
Opening Doors	1,429.37	23,330.93
World Hunger	10.00	259.00