



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: 9:55 am • Hans Lee and Ingrid Rasmussen, Pastors

## THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATION FOR SANCTUARY FOR REFUGEES (PART 1 OF 2)

I was raised to believe the bible was written for me and “my” people. What I have come to see over years is that while much in the bible can inform my life, it actually was not put together for me or for people in my life circumstance. Rather, the bible was written for immigrant people—refugees and immigrants who were exploited, oppressed, and usually unwelcomed by their oppressors or hosts. Insofar as I am not an immigrant and actually know relatively little about the experience of my immigrant ancestors, I need to pay close attention to the lives and challenges of today’s immigrants and refugees if I want to understand the bible.

Even in the bible’s beginning, the first human beings—Adam and Eve—were expelled from the garden of Eden, and were forced to migrate elsewhere. Leaping ahead to one of the next critical biblical characters, Abram begins his career as an immigrant. God—YHWH—sends Abram out of the land where he was raised to an unknown destination, simply on the promise that God would provide a better life for Abram and his family. For many years Abram and his family wandered throughout the Mideast, receiving both qualified welcome and persecution from various tribes and courts. Twice the stresses of nomadic life led to divisions in Abram’s extended family. Abram and his brother, Lot, split their belongings and separated, and later Abram’s first son, Ishmael, was banished from the family and forced to migrate, eventually becoming the nation of Islam.

When drought and famine caused the descendants of Abram—the Israelites—to emigrate to Egypt, they were forced there into slave labor and treated terribly. The story of Moses, the slave woman’s son who narrowly escaped death at the hands of the Egyptian oppressors, follows the bible’s ongoing story about how God travels with—accompanies—exiles, refugees, and immigrants. Later, under YHWH’s direction, Moses leads the Israelites out of slavery to migrate to the land from which their ancestors had fled generations earlier. God’s leading the Israelites out of Egypt into the “promised land” is used throughout scripture as a basis for understanding God’s promises to be with and save God’s wandering people from adversity.

When the Israelites finally arrive in the so-called “promised land,” they find the land occupied and settled by others. So, believing that God is on their side, they attack and conquer the inhabitants and make the land their own. (The European invasion of the Americas can be seen in a similar light, as our ancestors slaughtered—both by violent aggression and by disease—a vast percentage of first nation indigenous people.) The instructions Moses gave his people before they entered the so-called “promised land” are instructive here. Repeating what God has told him, Moses tells the Israelites: “...you, together with... the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that YHWH your God has given to you and your house.” Let me repeat that phrase: you shall celebrate with the aliens who reside among you!

If we skip ahead for a few hundred years, we find invading armies conquer God’s chosen people and cart virtually all of them off into exile and slavery in Babylon. Once again, God accompanies the people. According to the biblical record God brought them out of captivity to migrate back into the so-called “promised land.” During the remarkable return of the exiles, the Hebrew torah, the first five books of our bible, are written. The returning pioneers want their descendants to remember YHWH’s faithfulness to them during their immigrant, refugee history. Their remembering becomes our resource for remembering in our age. Next week, we will glance at how these themes reverberate in the New Testament.

—Keith Olstad, Holy Trinity Member

## ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*In Isaiah we hear that God’s house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today’s gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.*



### READINGS

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

Psalms 67

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

### ADULT FORUM

10:00 am — In the Library

**AUGUST 20** “How Do We Challenge the Misuse of Scripture Against Women and Girls?”  
Sister Joan Mitchell

Join us as we explore the interpretation of scripture. We’ll reflect on how to understand scripture passages that have been used to devalue or harm women and girls. Our question today is: How do Lutherans—in all our variety—interpret scripture, especially the messy bits?

We’re delighted to be led by Sister Joan Mitchell, CSJ, a St. Kate’s alumna and a local religious leader. A founding editor of Good Ground Press, Sister Joan now blogs and edits *Sunday by Sunday* and *Spirit for Teens*, weekly faith sharing magazines.

**AUGUST 27** “The Role of Mothers in Muslim Families in Dakar, Senegal, and What It Can Teach us About Our Ideas of Women and Islam”  
Emily Goodhue

Come learn about the division of labor in Muslim Senegalese families, how decisions are made for the family, and how family dynamics change when women work outside of the home. The first part of the forum will be a sharing of information from 28 interviews conducted in Dakar, Senegal, in 2012 and 2013. The second part of the forum will be small group and then large group discussion about the role of mothers in U.S. families and how an understanding of the role of Muslim Senegalese women challenges U.S. stereotypes about gender roles in Muslim families.

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3—ONE SERVICE ON LABOR DAY WEEKEND

8:45 and 11:00 a.m. worship services will join together for ONE SERVICE at 10:00 a.m. This is your opportunity to see and to connect with members and friends from “the other service.” We are pleased to welcome seminarian and child of this congregation, Korla Masters, as preacher!

### LUNCH DISCUSSION OF DON AND EMILY SALIERS’ WRITINGS, SEPT. 18

Pack a bag lunch and join Randy Nelson, Pastor Hans, and other symposium-goers on Monday, September 18, at noon, for an introduction to the writings of Don and Emily Saliers. Copies of the material to be discussed are available in the Community Room. Sign up by September 17, so we know how many to expect for the discussion.

### SUMMER POP-UP CHOIR AUGUST 20, 9:45 A.M.

Everyone is welcome for the last summer pop-up choir of 2017. Family and friends who are visiting are also welcome! Rehearse at 9:45 a.m. in the sanctuary for the 11:00 a.m. worship service.

### END-OF-SUMMER PICNIC, SUNDAY, AUGUST 27, 4:00 P.M.

Join fellow members at an end-of-summer picnic on Sunday, August 27, at Wabun Park Pavilion F. Games at 4:00 p.m., we’ll eat at 5:00 p.m. Bring a dish to pass, as well as your own utensils and beverage.

## PARISH INFORMATION

### A NOTE FROM PASTOR INGRID AND PAUL

We want to express our deep and heartfelt thanks for the wonderful celebration that this community created last weekend in anticipation of the birth of our daughter. When Lynda Nordholm and Linda Jury asked months ago if they could host a shower, we couldn't have imagined the outpouring of support that we would experience through such an event! We are grateful for your presence, your words, your gifts, your creativity, your laughter, and your love. We now have everything we need to track this little girl's growth, to wheel her around the neighborhood, to safely snap her into the car, to read her bedtime stories, and to mark her age by the growth of the quaking aspen in our backyard.

We admit that this sometimes seems like a strange time to be bringing a child into the world. Often over the past weeks and months, we've listened to the radio or read one another a news article and wondered aloud to one another about the community into which our child will be born and grow. This weekend's events in Charlottesville certainly made us take pause. Y'all help us to believe, week after week, that God's love is stronger than human hatred, that Christ does not abandon us, and that the Holy Spirit gives us what we need when we feel depleted in the work for peace and justice. We are grateful that our little one will learn these truths from all of you, too.

Peace and light,

Pastor Ingrid and Paul

### REHEARSALS BEGIN SEPTEMBER 6 FOR HOLY TRINITY CHOIRS

Choirs meet Wednesdays: Children's Choir rehearses from 6-6:45 p.m.; Cantate! Youth Choir rehearses from 6:45-7:30 p.m.; and the Adult Choir rehearses from 7:30-9:00 p.m. Gloria Ringers, Holy Trinity's handbell ensemble, rehearses Sundays from 12-1 p.m. For more information on choral and/or instrumental opportunities, talk to Ann Schrooten (children, youth, and handbell) or David Sims (adult).

### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 12:00 P.M.

The congregation will meet at 12:00 p.m. in the sanctuary for a formal congregational meeting. Bishop Svenningsen will be with us to discuss our Ministry Site Profile. The Council will recommend the names of approximately six Call Committee members; the congregation will then vote on the Call Committee.

### JOHNSON SYMPOSIUM NOVEMBER 10-11

Dr. Don E. Saliers and Emily Saliers will be here for the 2017 Johnson Symposium November 10-11, 2017. Tickets are \$50. Scholarships are readily available; simply talk to Pastor Ingrid. Because of high demand, we will not be able to offer refunds for unused tickets this year.

### LAY COMMUNION LUNCHEON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 12:30 P.M.

A luncheon for Lay Communion Ministers will be held Sunday, September 17, following the 11:00 service. Sign up in the Community Room.

U.S. Postage Paid  
Periodical

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH (USPS 777-060)  
Published weekly by Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E 31 St.  
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 August 20-26, 2017

Sunday	8:45 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:45 am	Children's Voice Checks in Choir Room
	9:45 am	Summer Choir in Sanctuary
	10:00 am	Adult Forum
	11:00 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	2:00 pm	Swahili Service
Tuesday	11:00 am	Worship Readings Discussion
Wednesday	6:00-7:30 pm	Children's Voice Checks in Choir Room

### WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS AUGUST 20, 2017

8:45 AM	Assisting Minister	11:00 AM
June Prange		Ben Martinez
Johnny Waddick, Amelia Waddick	Acolytes	Alyssa Krig, Linnea Krig
Samantha Waddick	Crucifer	Jeff Olsen Biebighauser
Chris Engen, Nicole Hines	Communion	Kathy Hollander, Allison Johnson
Julie/Tom Cahoy	Altar Guild	Betty/Dick Pittelkow
Bob Peschiutta, Julie/Tom Cahoy	Ushers	George Madich, Mike Mann, Riley Conway, Lee Kampinen
De Townsend, Marcea Mariani	Coffee Servers	Connie Adams, Joyce Peterson
Chris Engen, Donna Heyer	Counters	Lee Kampinen, Deb Helmel
	Closer	Cliff Brown

Financial Report	August 13	Year to date
Budget Requirement	14,725.00	485,925.00
Budget Receipts	23,226.52	475,911.72
Opening Doors	365.00	113,121.22
World Hunger	47.00	2,597.00