



HOLY TRINITY

LUTHERAN CHURCH

# THE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Volume 102, Issue 8 • February 25, 2018

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 and Hans Lee, Pastors

## SERMON FEBRUARY 18, 2018

We are living in wilderness times. I read an article by Brene' Brown in response to the slaughter of school children in Florida on Ash Wednesday. Brene' Brown is super-famous, a professor at the University of Houston. I haven't read any of her books, but I know people who practically stalk her.

In this article—"Gun Reform: Speaking truth to B.S., Practicing Civility, and Effecting Change"—she talks about growing up in Texas, in a hunting family. I too grew up as a hunter, and got my certification in gun safety from the NRA when I was 10.

Brown is ardently opposed to the current mission of the NRA and is not afraid to use her incredible platform to call for changes to our gun laws. But she tells the story of an interaction she had with a woman at one of her events:

...I mentioned that my father and I were looking forward to teaching my son how to shoot skeet. One woman looked horrified and said, "I'm very surprised to hear that you're a gun lover. You don't strike me as the NRA type." I replied, "I'm not sure what you mean by 'gun lover' or 'the NRA type.'" She sat straight up in her chair. "If you're teaching your child how to shoot a gun, then I'm assuming that you support gun ownership and the NRA."... There it was. The false dichotomy.

She uses this example of a false dichotomy to talk about "speaking truth to BS."

Today's NRA rhetoric employs the ominous they, and forces "us versus them" language over and over. Allow anyone to buy any type of gun and ammunition, when and wherever they want, or they will break down your door, take away your guns, crush your freedom, kill everyone you love, and put an end to the American way. They are after us. They are coming. That's the biggest bunch of BS I've heard since someone told me, "If you own a gun—any gun—you might as well be the one pulling the trigger in all of these terrible mass shootings." No and no.

I wonder if what the wilderness means for us—what this forty-day Lenten journey might represent—is taking the time to speak "truth to BS" to ourselves (before we speak it to others), to give up false dichotomies, and to think about what it means to be in the world as prayerful beings, and equally committed to the action of healing the world. This is repentance. Repentance is the biblical word for calling BS! Repentance calls BS to the false dichotomy that inhabits our thinking.

Repentance is turning back to the source of forgiveness and healing, and, as one said at our Tuesday morning discussion about these worship readings: "When we repent, we turn back to the voice that claims us as beloved." It is this promise that empowers and emboldens us to participate in the reign of God that continues to come near.

Hans Lee, Pastor

## NATIONAL LUTHERAN CHOIR PRESENTS 'CALL TO PRAYER'

The National Lutheran Choir presents an evening of song from three sacred prayer traditions together with the Augsburg Choir, Hazzan Joanna Dulkan, and New York guest artist Zafer Tawil. Concluding a landmark season dedicated to the art and legacy of the Protestant Reformation, "Call to Prayer" will feature a new commission by Maryland composer Joshua Fishbein entitled "Allahu Echad: God is One." Saturday, March 3, 7:30 p.m., Hoversten Chapel, Augsburg University. Sunday, March 4, 4:00 p.m., Adath Jeshurun Congregation Synagogue. Tickets: Adult \$28 | Senior \$25 | Student \$10 | 17 and under free.

## SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

*The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.*



## READINGS

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Psalm 22:23-31

Romans 4:13-25

Mark 8:31-38

## ADULT FORUM

10:00 am — in the Library

## FEBRUARY 25 "Word of God, Word of Life, Part Two"

Harry Mueller

"Word of God, Word of Life." What do we think of when we hear that spoken after each of our biblical readings on Sunday mornings? This session will focus on the statement: "Our theology, alone, can't save us but it surely can damn us." By tracing the biblical story and formation from Jesus to the present, we'll see if we can liberate our theology. All are welcome. No prior biblical knowledge necessary!

## MARCH 4 "Exodus Lending"

Sara Nelson-Pallmeyer

Exodus Lending got its start thanks to members of Holy Trinity who were concerned about neighbors in the community trapped by payday loans. Now a free-standing nonprofit, Exodus Lending continues its work refinancing payday loans, charging no interest or fees to its program participants, and also remains committed to ending this usurious practice in Minnesota. Come to hear what's happening in St. Paul and Washington, D.C., with regard to payday lending, learn what Exodus Lending has achieved, what plans we have to spread out to more parts of Minnesota, and how Holy Trinity can continue to support the work!

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Our theme for Lent this year is "From Resistance to New Life." The season of Lent is a time for us to reflect on our callings (vocation) that flow out of the baptismal covenant. One part of the traditional baptismal liturgy is the "renunciation," in which baptismal candidates, together with the assembly that surrounds them, renounce the forces of sin and evil that are in opposition to God's work of justice, peace, and healing. Part of our call as people of God is to resist those things that cause harm to people and the creation. On **Wednesday, February 28**, we will reflect on the theme "Sexism and Toxic Masculinity." Food that night will be provided by Gandhi Mahal. Our worship musicians will be the OK Factor (cellist Olivia Diercks, cello, and Karla Colahan, violin) and Rachel Trelstad-Porter, piano. Please sign up in the Community Room if you plan to join us for dinner.

## PARISH INFORMATION

### WORSHIP LEADERS TRAINING SUNDAY, FEB. 25, 12-1:30 P.M.

If you would like to serve as a leader in worship, this training is for you. From 12-1:30 p.m. we'll offer training for ushers, crucifers, assisting ministers, communion servers, altar guild, and coffee servers. Veterans and novices are welcome!

### FARE FOR ALL WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 3:30-5:30 P.M.

In addition to the standard fresh fruit, veggies, and variety of frozen meat packages, Fare For All will offer a Brunch Box, which includes ham, bacon, sausage, blueberries, strawberries, cinnamon rolls, peppers, hashbrowns, and shredded cheese. In addition to shopping or as an alternative, consider a \$20/month gift card to benefit a Longfellow student.

### OFFERING OF LETTERS FEB. 28, MARCH 4, AND MARCH 11

The Peace with Justice Committee is encouraging congregants to write letters for Bread for the World's annual Offering of Letters advocating for support for hunger and poverty funding. A presentation of the issues and an opportunity to write letters will be offered during the Lenten supper on February 28 (5:30-6:45 p.m.) and on Sundays, March 4 and 11.

### LAST MONDAY OF THE MONTH DISCUSSION FEBRUARY 26

Every Sunday we are reminded that "Wherever you are in your journey of faith, you are welcome at Holy Trinity. We are glad that you are here." Join members and friends of Holy Trinity in conversation about where we actually are in our journeys of faith on Monday, February 26, at 6:30 p.m. Nothing required except a desire to engage in conversation. Sign up in the Community Room.

### FIRST FRIDAYS WITH FRIENDS GOES BOWLING MARCH 2

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 Wednesday, February 28. This event is coordinated with Parents' Night Out, so if you'd like childcare for the evening, sign up for Parents' Night Out in the Community Room as well.

### PARENTS' NIGHT OUT FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 6:00-9:00 P.M.

Adults and youth work together caring for HTLC children while their parents go "out" (or stay "in") from 6:00-9:00 p.m. 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 February 25-March 3, 2018

Sunday	8:45 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:55 am	Sunday School
	9:30 am	Confirmation
	10:00 am	Adult Forum
	11:00 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	12:00 pm	Worship Leader Training
	12:00 pm	Gloria Ringers Rehearsal
Monday	2:00 pm	Swahili Service
	9 am-12:30 pm	AARP Tax Aide
Tuesday	6:30-8:00 pm	Last Mon. Discussion <i>Journeys of Faith</i>
	11:00 am	Worship Readings Discussion
Wednesday	9 am-12:30 pm	AARP Tax Aide
	5:30-6:45 pm	Lent Supper
	5:30 pm	Trinity Singers
	6:00 pm	Children's Choir
	6:30 pm	Cantate!
	7:00 pm	Evening Prayer Service in Bartsch Room
	7:45 pm	Adult Choir
Friday	6:00-9:00 pm	Parents' Night Out
	6:30 pm	First Fridays with Friends
Saturday		<i>Do Justice</i> Retreat at Holy Trinity

### WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FEBRUARY 25, 2018

8:45 AM		11:00 AM
Rick Liedholm	Assisting Minister	Linda Jury
Grayson Wiczorek, Tevy Nou	Acolytes	Lowenna Rian-Fairley, Kennet Rian-Fairley
Carol Masters, Lisa Martens, Tom Cahoy	Communion	Kathy Ohler, Juliann Rohn, Emily Davison
Dianne Mascher, Erin Arifin	Altar Guild	Stella Townsend, Carol Lane
Bob Peschiutta, Samantha Waddick, Cris Engen	Ushers	DeWayne Townsend, Helen and Bob Norheim, Riley Conway
Liz and David Rudrud	Coffee Servers	Juliann Rohn, Nicholas Ellison
Pam Blomgren, Chuck Jordan	Counters	Wayne Vetter, Pam Kildahl
	Closer	Deb Sodt