



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

### IMMIGRATION, ROMANS 13, TEMPTATION, AND HOPE

Many of you have expressed sadness and outrage at Attorney General Jeff Sessions' use of a bible verse to defend his department's "zero tolerance" policy that supports the prosecution of everyone who crosses the border without previous authorization and the separation of immigrant parents from their children. According to the Department of Homeland Security, 1,995 minors were separated from 1,940 adults between April 19 and May 31, 2018.

Sessions spoke to law enforcement officers, saying, "I would cite you to the Apostle Paul and his clear and wise command in Romans 13, to obey the laws of the government because God has ordained the government for his purposes. Orderly and lawful processes are good in themselves. Consistent and fair application of the law is in itself a good and moral thing, and that protects the weak and protects the lawful." This isn't the first time that Romans 13 has been invoked in our nation's history. If one looks back, they'll see it used by the loyalists during the American Revolution and during the mid-nineteenth century to defend the practice of slavery.

Religious leaders responded quickly to Sessions' misuse of scripture. Many suggested that had Sessions simply read a little further in Romans 13, his eyes would have rested on these words in verse ten: "Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law." The Pope tweeted out his own biblical response to the atrocities on the border, citing Deuteronomy 10:18-19: "The Bible teaches that God 'loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing. And you are to love those who are foreigners, for you yourselves were foreigners in Egypt.'"

This past week, we've also seen religious leaders unite to oppose the administration's egregious policy. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton penned a letter with leaders from the Armenian Church, the Islamic Society, the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, the United Methodist Church, the Episcopal Church, the United Church of Christ, the Moravian Church, the Mennonite Church, the Disciples of Christ Church, the Presbyterian Church, the African Methodist Episcopal Church, the Reformed Church, the National Council of Churches, and leaders of Reform Judaism. They wrote, saying, "As religious leaders representing diverse faith perspectives, united in our concern for the wellbeing of vulnerable migrants who cross our borders fleeing from danger and threats to their lives, we are deeply disappointed and pained to hear this news."

I suspect that for some of you—you whose families and lives are most intimately affected by policies like these—the disappointment and pain and fear feel deeply personal. I suspect that for others of you—you whose families and lives are not immediately threatened by the policies such as these—the scale of the issues at hand feels overwhelming, debilitating. The temptation to retreat, whether from danger or heartache, is real for so many of us.

Princeton theologian Eric Barreto asks us to resist retreating and, instead, recommit to our engagement with political questions. He writes: "Let's re-enter them with the love of our neighbors at the very center of all we do. Let's not despair that there's nothing we can do. Let's not give up hope. Let's also remember that we will get things wrong and will need both accountability and repentance...Let's love. After all, "love never ends." And let's hope, for "hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us."

May this reading of scripture guide our hearts and our minds, our words and our actions this week.

Ingrid Rasmussen, pastor

### FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



#### READINGS

Job 38:1-11  
Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32  
2 Corinthians 6:1-13  
Mark 4:35-41

#### ADULT FORUM

10:00 am – in the Library

#### JUNE 24 "Holy Trinity's Trip to Israel and Palestine"

This congregation's next global travel trip will be to Israel and Palestine. The trip, scheduled for November 6-16, 2019, will guide travelers through Galilee, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, and more. We'll explore biblically significant sites, as well as learn about the social, political, and religious situations facing the region's current residents. Come and hear Kate Peer from Group Travel Directors, a travel company that works closely with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and Bright Stars of Bethlehem, a ministry of Christmas Lutheran Church. Approximate cost is \$4,200, which includes all air and ground travel, lodging, and meals.

#### JULY 1 "Biblical Concept of Home" – Joyce Besser

This summer during the adult education hour, we'll be dedicating our attention to racial justice in housing. We'll learn about the past and present of housing segregation in Minneapolis. We'll talk about faithful responses to gentrification. We'll think together about how racism in housing affects education, policing, and quality of life. We'll consider biblical and theological conceptions of "home," learn about concrete obstacles in our city and neighborhood, and hear from people who are working to improve access. We trust that this topic is worthy of your sustained attention, and we welcome your voice.

Following the lead of the Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota, we ask you to call your elected officials and tell them that President Trump's "zero tolerance" policy at the border is unacceptable and that it must end now.

**Senator Amy Klobuchar:** Washington, D.C.: (202) 224-3244; Minneapolis: (612) 727-5220;

**Senator Tina Smith:** Washington, D.C.: (202) 224-5641; St. Paul: (651) 221-1016

**Representative Keith Ellison:** Washington, D.C.: (202) 225-4755; Minneapolis: (612) 522-1212

**Representative Jason Lewis:** Washington, D.C.: (202) 225-2271; Burnsville: (651) 846-2120

**Representative Betty McCollum:** Washington, D.C.: (202) 225-6631; St. Paul: (651) 224-9191

**Representative Erik Paulsen:** Washington, D.C.: (202) 225-2871; Eden Prairie: (952) 405-8510

When calling, you may use the following text:

*Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am one of your constituents. Please let President Trump know that the new zero tolerance policy at the border is cruel and inhumane. No child should have to be separated from their parent, particularly if they are trying to flee life-threatening conditions in their native country. This policy will inflict life-long trauma on parents and their children and it must end now. The United States has a long history of being an immigrant-welcoming nation. We are better than this.*

Remember, calling is more effective than any other method of contacting your elected officials.

## PARISH INFORMATION

### REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT INFORMATION MEETING JUNE 24

Plan to stay after the late service for some refreshments and a presentation by Kathryn Berger, Refugee Program Specialist at the Minnesota Council of Churches. Holy Trinity has co-sponsored several refugee families in partnership with MCC and Kathryn will give an overview of the recently restructured model. There is a wide variety of opportunities to help in the resettlement of a family, so if you think you might be interested in contributing to this ministry in some way, come and we'll learn together from about 12:15 until 1:30 p.m.

### LUTHERAN NIGHT AT THE TWINS TUESDAY, JULY 31

Join us as the Twins play the Cleveland Indians. Cost is \$27. Sign up in the Community Room or call the church office by July 11. If you are interested in joining the choir to sing the National Anthem, please indicate that when you sign up. Those interested in traveling to the game together on the light rail will meet at church. For more information or to request a scholarship, contact Pam Kildahl.

### MEALS ON WHEELS DELIVERY JUNE 25-29

Holy Trinity will deliver meals for South Minneapolis Meals on Wheels the week of June 25-29. Volunteers are needed to deliver meals for five routes. Meals are picked up at Nokomis Square, 35th Ave. S. and 50th St. at 11:15 a.m. Delivery takes about an hour. Sign up in the Community Room or contact Mary Engen.

### FIRST SUNDAY MUSINGS JULY 1

Head to a nearby restaurant at 12:30 p.m. with several other members for lunch and conversation. No sign up necessary. The group meets by the brightly colored sign in the Community Room.

### SAVE THE DATE FOR THE FALL RETREAT

The Adult Retreat will be at St. John's Abbey on Friday-Saturday, October 19-20. Cost is \$125. We have individual rooms for 25 people.

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### PARISH EVENTS June 24-30, 2018

Sunday	8:45 am Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10:00 am Adult Forum
	10:00 am Heifer Ranch Information Meeting
	11:00 am Worship Service with Holy Communion
	12:15 pm Refugee Resettlement Meeting
Tuesday	11:00 am Worship Readings Discussion

African Pastors' Retirement Fund in memory of Virginia Jury by Carol Johnson  
Special gift in memory of Virginia Jury by Carol and John Kelly

### NO PARENTS' NIGHT OUT OR FIRST FRIDAYS WITH FRIENDS IN JULY

Both Parents' Night Out and First Fridays with Friends are taking the month of July off because of the Fourth of July holiday. We'll be back in action in August!

### WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS JUNE 24, 2018

8:45 AM	11:00 AM
David Kohlstedt	Assisting Minister Sandy Hoverson
Tom Cahoy	Crucifer Cliff Brown
Nicki Hines, Andrew Johnson	Communion Paul Chindvall, Michael Douglas
Libby and Keith Olstad	Altar Guild Rosemary Foley, Linda Woytasek
Bob Peschiutta, Chris Engen, Ginny Jordan	Ushers Kathy Ohler, Donna Scott, Jeff Olsen Biebighauser, Deb Sodt
David Broberg	Coffee Servers Liz Conway, Matt Kane
Gerry Berglin, Chuck Jordan	Counters Lee Kampinen, Pam Kildahl
	Closer Cliff Brown

Financial Report	June 17	Year to date
Budget Requirements	15,051.92	361,246.15
Budget Receipts	9,307.87	373,499.30
Opening Doors	674.50	57,414.21
World Hunger	62.00	2,853.00
Refugee Resettlement	10.00	110.00
CTUL	20.00	120.00