



THE COMMUNITY CHURCH

On 31st Street between Minnehaha and 28th Avenues Minneapolis, MN 55406 • 612-729-8358 • office@htlcmpls.org • www.htlcmpls.org
WORSHIP SERVICES: 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. • EDUCATION: 10:00 a.m. • Ingrid Rasmussen and Angela Khabeb, Pastors

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

In lieu of the Advent Devotional Booklet, devotions will be featured in the Community Church Newsletter throughout the season.

*“Do not press me to leave you
or to turn back from following you!*

*Where you go, I will go;
where you lodge, I will lodge;
your people shall be my people,
and your God my God.*

*Where you die, I will die—
there will I be buried.*

*May the LORD do thus and so to me,
and more as well,*

if even death parts me from you!”

—Ruth 1:16-17

With these words, Ruth declares her intention to follow Naomi, her mother-in-law, away from Moab and famine to Naomi’s home in Judah. For Naomi, this is a return to the familiar, but for Ruth it is a choice to look for security and safety in the unknown. Ruth chooses to cling to Naomi, adopting Naomi’s land, people and God for the rest of her life—to follow God’s promise of food for God’s people.

This makes me think about where we choose to turn in times of insecurity. While we are praying to God, who are the people to whom we choose to cling? Advent is a time of waiting, anticipation, and faith in a promise to come. It can also be a time of insecurity. Faith in a promise to come can provide comfort and hope for the future, but it does not fully take away the insecurity of the here and now.

Loving and sustaining God, we thank you for the people you have put in our lives that provide the physical comfort and the immediate help while we wait in anticipation for the final fulfillment of all your promises to your beloveds. Amen.

—Sara Jensen, Holy Trinity Member

NEWS FROM LONGFELLOW HEALTHY SENIORS

Thanks to your advocacy, Hennepin County has restored half its funding for the three block nurse programs: Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors, Southeast Seniors, and Nokomis Healthy Seniors! We now need the City of Minneapolis to increase their funding above Mayor Frey’s proposed budget to sustain the same combined funding level from the county and city we currently have. We need your help.

Please email the entire Minneapolis City Council with this message: “Please vote for the Schroeder Amendment to increase funding by \$110,000 for Aging Support Services including the three Minneapolis block nurse programs. This funding will ensure that over 1,500 frail, older adults and their caregivers continue to remain independent, healthy, and safe in their homes. Thank you for supporting our seniors!”

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

If you would like to sponsor a poinsettia for the altar area at Christmas please call the church office at 612-729-8358. Cost is on a sliding scale from \$3-\$25. Donate according to your ability. The Christmas Eve bulletins will list the names of sponsors and the loved ones they are remembering or honoring.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



READINGS

Isaiah 35:1-10
Psalm 146:5-10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

ADULT FORUM

10:00 am—in the Library

DECEMBER 15 Led by Pastor Ingrid and Pastor Angela

Join Pastor Ingrid and Pastor Angela as they team up once again for today’s adult forum.

DECEMBER 22 “Advent Hymn Sing”
David Sims, Cantor

So many hymns, so little time! We’ll use the forum hour to get a few more Advent hymns in before the season is over. David will collect hymns for Advent around a particular theme for us to sing and think about together—some familiar, some obscure, some brand new. We meet in the Bartsch Room this week.

THE TALE OF THE THREE TREES, SUNDAY, DEC. 15, 11:00 A.M.

In the season in which we carry evergreen trees into our homes, the Trinity Village children have been encouraged to bring the importance of trees into their daily lives. We have studied how humans need the oxygen they provide, and how trees and forests resist soil erosion and provide cooling shade and habitat for a myriad of animal life. On a blustery November 10, Paul Mastbaum, a local tree expert, came and spoke with us about the trees on our church property: what varieties we have, how Native peoples used each kind of tree, when to trim and shape, and the girdling of roots on the Pin Oak out front that will need to be addressed in the spring. We planted some bamboo tree seeds and took them home to watch them grow. And our 4th and 5th grade class joined the Adult Forum folks to watch *Habitat Earth* to view the impressive segment on trees.

This Sunday, the tree theme continues as the Trinity Village and Godly Play classes join forces to tell and sing *The Tale of the Three Trees*, a traditional folk tale about three trees who have big dreams of what their purpose in life will be. Each is surprised to learn in the end that their dreams may be re-shaped by a master craftsman who sees a slightly different, but more profound, potential in them. We hope you’ll join us, and perhaps be awakened by the Spirit’s reshaping of your own purpose in life.

The children encourage you to also consider making a donation to provide fruit-tree seedlings from the ELCA Good Gifts Catalog this year. Visit ELCA.org/goodgifts for more information.

THANK YOU TO ALL MAKERS AND BAKERS

Thank you to everyone who donated handmade goods and baked items for the youth fundraiser. \$2,105 was raised for the purpose of helping to fund upcoming youth trips.

PARISH INFORMATION

WEDNESDAYS IN ADVENT: DECEMBER 18

Join us for the final Advent supper on Wednesday from 5:30-6:45 p.m. in the Community Room. Himalayan Restaurant will provide our meal. Please sign up in the Community Room. \$0-10 sliding-scale donation.

There are two opportunities to engage in worship Wednesday evening. *Watching with Wonder* is designed for parents and young children in the Lobby Conference Room from 5:30-6:30 p.m. At 7:00 p.m., there will be a Service of Evening Prayer in the Bartsch Room. People of all ages are invited to worship.

YEAR-END GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Every year Holy Trinity anticipates and relies on a year-end increase in offerings that helps support the work of the church. This holiday season, please consider making an additional contribution to Holy Trinity or to our special appeals, Sanctuary Support and ELCA World Hunger. To donate online, visit the church website at htlcmpls.org and locate the link to the giving page. ***Please remember: contributions must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2019, to be counted as a 2019 donation. Thank you!***

HOLIDAY SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE AT BRADSHAW DEC. 17

The Bradshaw Family and staff invite you and members of your family to their annual service of remembrance this holiday season. This service is a wonderful way to remember those who have died. The service consists of music, readings, candle lighting, and the presentation of a special ornament to each family in memory of loved ones. Tuesday, December 17, 7:00 p.m., at Bradshaw, 3131 Minnehaha Ave. S., Minneapolis. RSVP to Kate at 612-724-3621 by Friday, December 13.

CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT TOUR APRIL 18-25

There are several openings on the Civil Rights Movement tour sponsored by Holy Trinity, scheduled for April 18-25, 2020. The cost of \$1,500 includes airfare, all meals, lodging, and ground transportation. Included in the tour will be stops in Birmingham, Montgomery, and Selma, AL; Meridian, Philadelphia, Greenwood, and Cleveland, MS; and Memphis, TN. A deposit of \$500 and information to use in arranging flights are due by January 1, 2020. Anyone interested should contact Randy Nelson for information as soon as possible. Deadline for signing up is December 20.

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PARISH EVENTS December 15-21, 2019

Sunday	8:45 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:55 am	Trinity Village and Godly Play rehearse
	9:55 am	OWL Class
	10:00 am	Adult Forum
	11:00 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion, led by Sunday School children
	12:15 pm	Confirmation
	2:00 pm	Swahili Service
	Monday	
Monday	10:00 am	Doctrine of Discovery
	5:45 pm	Executive Committee at El Norteno
Tuesday	6:30 pm	Church Council at El Norteno
	11:00 am	Worship Readings Discussion
Wednesday	6:00 pm	Racial Justice Committee
	7:00 pm	Public Voice and Organizing Committee
Wednesday	5:30 pm	Advent Supper
	5:30 pm	Library Open
	5:45 pm	<i>Dear Church</i> Book Discussion
	6:00 pm	Children's Choir
	6:30 pm	Cantate!
	7:00 pm	Advent Evening Prayer
	7:45 pm	Adult Choir
7:45 pm	Gloria Ringers Rehearsal	

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS DECEMBER 15, 2019

8:45 AM		11:00 AM	
Carol Masters	Assisting Minister	Nicky Hines	
Tom Cahoy	Crucifer	Cliff Brown	
	Acolytes	Lydia Belusa-Niesen, Peter Weiss	
Kevin Proescholdt, Amy Froiland-Parada	Communion	Sean Gosiewski, Deb Sodt	
Nancy Madich, Bev Peschiutta	Altar Guild	Melanie and DeWayne Townsend	
Bob Peschiutta, Ginny and Chuck Jordan	Ushers	Molly Davison, Judy Davison, Troy Davison, Kathy Ohler	
Mary and Chris Engen	Coffee Servers	Kathy Hollander	
Julie Cahoy, David Kohlstedt	Counters	Wayne Vetter, Deb Helmel	
	Closer	Jennifer Frenz	