



HOLY TRINITY

LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Volume 103, Issue 49 • December 8, 2019

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.

There are 3 texts assigned to the devotion today. I read them several times to see which made me think.

Psalm 21 is a celebration psalm, thanking God for victories, for a good life and for future good times to come. I am thankful for all the blessings I have been given, but I want to think beyond thankfulness.

Isaiah 41:14-20 starts with a rather graphic picture of God providing a sharp-toothed threshing instrument which can tear enemies apart, making chaff of mountains. Having grown up on a farm and seeing what these sharp-toothed harvesting machines can do, I find the imagery a bit too graphic.

So that brought me to Romans 15:14-21. Paul says to the Romans in Verse 14 that "[he] is convinced, brothers and sisters, that you are filled with goodness, filled with knowledge, able to instruct each other." Certainly that can be written to us at Holy Trinity. But then Paul goes on to say that at times we must admonish each other. That resonates with me as well, and seems to say that people who are well-meaning with good intentions can still make mistakes.

I read these lines today at the same time I was reading a front-page article in the Tribune about a Minneapolis church whose members had created beautiful tapestries. The tapestries had been commissioned and designed by a British artist and were stitched over a long period of time by a dedicated group of church members called the "needlers." The tapestries were displayed in the community room of the church. Unfortunately, the tapestries portrayed an idealized view of the "first Thanksgiving" which we now know is not correct, as well as a painful image of a slave ship. The church finally voted to retire the tapestry, but acknowledge the "needlers." I could put myself in both places. I can feel empathy for the needlers, who answered a call to create something of beauty for their church, who worked many hours and developed a camaraderie with friends. They did not design the tapestry and did the work before our current awareness of how hurtful and dishonest these images are. In the article in the paper, it seems as if the church has found a way to acknowledge the goodness of all and also remove the tapestry with its hurtful images.

I had a smaller, but similar experience. Both of my grandmothers were knitters, crocheters, and embroiderers. In the '20s and '30s, they embroidered on pillowcases and flour sack dish towels. Patterns were printed on these flour sacks. They were packed away by my mother and other relatives, not used. When my mother died, I inherited boxes of dish towels, pillowcases, table cloths, and doilies. I thought that after 70-80 years, it was time to use them. I pulled out the dish towels with flowers, with butterflies, with tasks for each day of the week. Then I came to the bottom of the box. There they were, a carefully stitched set of 7 racist dish towels. They depicted black children at various tasks, carefully embroidered dots of black for hair, stereotypical sayings mimicking black speech. I had a dilemma. First, I knew I couldn't use them or donate them to any place. I finally found someone doing workshops on racial awareness who could use them. I also decided that my grandmothers were still "full of goodness." I knew that they would not have done this embroidery if they felt anyone would feel pain on looking at them. I thought of the work they had put into doing them. It led me to wonder what I may be doing to cause pain to someone today.

I will long think of how we can be "full of goodness" and inadvertently cause pain to others. I pray that we will all continue to learn, listen to each other, and admonish each other.

—Ginny Jordan, Holy Trinity Member

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



READINGS

Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
Romans 15:4-13
Matthew 3:1-12

ADULT FORUM

10:00 am—in the Library

DECEMBER 8 Led by Pastor Ingrid and Pastor Angela

Join Pastor Ingrid and Pastor Angela as they team up for today's adult forum.

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.

"WE COME BEARING PEACE"

A Procession, a Prayer, a Cry Through the Streets of Our City.
Sunday, December 15, 4:00 P.M.

Join the Posada—a procession in the Mexican tradition of re-enacting the journey of Mary and Joseph seeking shelter—in a bilingual, multi-sensory prayer of solidarity. We will travel one mile from Powderhorn Park to St. Paul's Lutheran Church (2742 S. 15th Ave.). We will walk for those that journey with hope towards the U.S. border. We will walk for those separated from their families by borders. We will share food and music together at the end. For more information, contact Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts (semillacenter@gmail.com / 612-724-3862).

NEW OLIVE OIL FOR HOLIDAY GIFTS

Give a special gift with olive oil from the Mount of Olives. Each year the Lutheran World Federation Jerusalem Program, located on the Mount of Olives in East Jerusalem, receives a special blessing. After harvesting, olives from the 800 trees on their property are pressed into olive oil. Some of the oil is used in the Augusta Victoria Hospital kitchen to feed patients, family members, and staff. The rest is used in kitchens around the world by friends and visitors whose donations help to support the work of the LWF Vocational Training Program and help to reduce the fees of students. Support for this program is a direct aid to Palestinians in Jerusalem. Available in the Community Room, a 250mL bottle is \$15.

PARISH INFORMATION

WEDNESDAYS IN ADVENT: DECEMBER 11, AND 18

All are invited to partake in the Advent suppers on Wednesdays from 5:30-6:45 p.m. in the Community Room. In an effort to support our Lake Street neighbors, we are bringing in food from nearby immigrant-owned businesses. On December 11, the meal will be provided by Native Food Perspectives. Himalayan Restaurant will provide food on December 18. Signing up in the Community Room is strongly encouraged. \$0-10 sliding-scale donation.

There are two opportunities to engage in worship on Wednesday evenings in Advent. *Watching with Wonder* is designed for parents and young children in the Bartsch 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. This year's theme is "Sacred Darkness."

WORSHIP PARTICIPANT SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY-FEBRUARY

The new schedule will be generated on December 17. Please log in to your account to sign up for the dates you want and to opt out of dates that don't work for you or your family.

ADULT CHOIRS LEAD WORSHIP ON DECEMBER 8

Hymns, choral anthems, poetry, and scripture combine as we explore the themes of Advent Sunday, December 8. Trinity Singers and the Adult Choir will lead worship at both services as we sing together as a congregation.

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.

FARE FOR ALL WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 3:30-5:30 P.M.

Stock your freezer, a friend's, or someone in need for the Christmas season. The Holiday Pack for \$30 will include frozen spiral half ham, a whole chicken, pork roast, chicken drumsticks, meatballs, mixed vegetables, corn, and Dutch apple pie! Fare For All is community supported and open to everyone. The usual packs of frozen meat and fresh vegetables will be available. Fare For All accepts cash, credit, debit, and EBT cards. Bring a friend.

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PARISH EVENTS December 8-14, 2019

Sunday	8:45 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:55 am	Trinity Village and Godly Play
	9:55 am	OWL Class
	10:00 am	Adult Forum
	11:00 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	12:15 pm	Confirmation
	12:15 pm	Caring for Creation
Monday	2:00 pm	Swahili Service
	6:00 pm	Second Sunday Supper @ Houlihan's
Tuesday	7:00 pm	Financial Stewardship
Wednesday	11:00 am	Worship Readings Discussion
	3:30-5:30 pm	Fare For All
	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
Saturday	9:30 am	Godly Play and Trinity Village Rehearse

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS DECEMBER 8, 2019

8:45 AM		11:00 AM
Bob Aldrich	Assisting Minister	Melanie Townsend
Bob Hulteen	Crucifer	Jeff Olsen Biebighauser
Peter Schroeder, Caroline Nevergall	Acolytes	Frances Olsen Biebighauser, Francis Kelly
David Broberg, Rick Liedholm	Communion	Sara and Kirk Jensen
Tina and Robert Russell	Altar Guild	Melanie Townsend DeWayne Townsend
Bob Peschiutta, Needed	Ushers	Mike Mann, Alan Libra, Deb Sodt
Erin and Johannes Arifin	Coffee Servers	Pat and Alan Libra
Bob Peschiutta, Chris Engen	Counters	Needed, Vicki Mann
	Closer	Needed