



THE COMMUNITY CHURCH

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THE SONGS WE KNOW BY HEART

We speak his name.

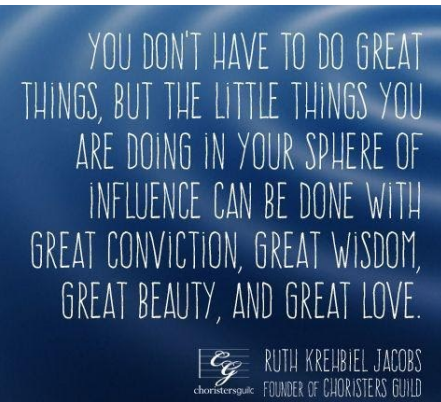
George Floyd.

Black Lives Matter.

You are not alone.

God is here today.

When overwhelmed with everything that we know needs to be done to dismantle racism and bring about justice, we may be tempted to give up. As I spent time this weekend evaluating my own responsible and loving path forward in this struggle, I was reminded of a quote by Ruth Krehbiel Jacobs, the founder of the Choristers Guild organization to which I belong, who said:



I can't do *everything*, but I can do *something* each day. And though my small acts of listening, kindness, advocacy, and healing may seem insignificant on their own; they will gather momentum when added to those from countless others.

Last Wednesday, when I sat down for the first time to sing since before George Floyd was killed, I couldn't sing. Instead, I wept. I was emotionally and physically spent from trying to help respond to the critical needs of Holy Trinity's neighbors. I also believe the tears fell because my actions had been disconnected from the thing that not only sustains my spirit, but also inspires my actions. I was reminded that music creates a necessary internal soundtrack by which I live my life. As I set out on Sunday's walk, the following hymn by David Haas with words from the Prophet Micah, Chapter 6, seemed to rise up from the very beat of my feet:

We are called to act with justice. We are called to love tenderly.

We are called to serve one another. To walk humbly with God.

I should know by now that the songs I know by heart come to me when I need them. I need them now more than ever; we all do. I pray that each of you can find a quiet moment in the coming days, to allow the songs to come that will carry your actions forward with great conviction, wisdom, beauty, and love, so that justice for all becomes the very soundtrack by which we all live.

—Ann Schrooten, Director of Youth Choirs and Gloria Ringers

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

READINGS

Exodus 19:2-8a; Psalm 100; Romans 5:1-8;
Matthew 9:35—10:8 [9-23]

HOLY TRINITY IN THE NEWS

- **Minnesota Daily**—“The last days of May: A visual timeline of the George Floyd Protests”
<https://www.mndaily.com/article/2020/06/pf-the-george-floyd-protests-a-visual-timeline>
- **The New York Times**—“Appeals for calm as sprawling protests threaten to spin out of control”
<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/30/us/george-floyd-protest-minneapolis.html?auth=login-email&login=email>
- **USA Today**—“Minneapolis church distributing food after riots close businesses”
<https://www.usatoday.com/videos/news/nation/2020/05/31/minneapolis-church-distributing-supplies-after-riots-close-businesses/5300902002/>
- **Religion News**—“In Minneapolis, faith groups rush to aid demonstrators as they decry racism”
<https://religionnews.com/2020/05/29/in-minneapolis-faith-groups-rush-to-aid-demonstrators-as-they-decry-racism-protest-floyd/>
- **The Christian Century**—“Being church while the neighborhood burns”
<https://www.christiancentury.org/article/interview/being-church-while-neighborhood-burns>
- **WCCO**—“Holy Trinity pastor shares video of the damage in her community”
<https://wccoradio.radio.com/articles/holy-trinity-shares-video-of-the-damage-in-her-community>
- **FOX 9**—“Food donations overwhelm Holy Trinity”
<https://www.fox9.com/video/690089>
- **Star Tribune**—“A quiet army of generosity gains strength”
https://m.startribune.com/in-minneapolis-a-quiet-army-of-generosity-gains-strength/570970882/?fbclid=IwAR1E9oNGS851wfxmJxOVGBUif1mbNKESlJ7FmD92fE3tuXMRj4_ntzI2Vgw
- **Star Tribune**—“Minneapolis nonprofits: Need still urgent for food donations to help families affected by riots”
<https://www.startribune.com/minneapolis-nonprofits-need-still-urgent-for-food-donations-to-help-families-affected-by-riots/571054892/>

PARISH INFORMATION

HOLY TRINITY RACIAL JUSTICE TEAM RESOURCE NO. 5

In the current climate, talking about anything other than racial oppression and coronavirus can feel irrelevant. Holy Trinity's Racial Justice Team continues to share resources uplifting the importance of talking about and taking action on racism in this current moment and always.

Taking Steps, But Not on the Streets

Many Holy Trinity members struggle with current tensions between feelings and choices. Feelings of sorrow and anger over George Floyd's murder through police brutality can conflict with choices about how to best use our agency to respond. There are protests that we want to support and we think, "I should be there." We see pictures of our church property used to meet emergency needs and we think, "I should be there." We want very much to take steps to address the terrible wrongs we've seen this week.

Applause and gratitude go to those bravely protesting and volunteering. Some of us are left with moral dilemmas. I might be a Longfellow resident traumatized by the violence and yet held back by anxiety exacerbated in crowds. Should I push myself to show up for a protest, or do I exercise self-care and take a break? I might be a person deemed highly vulnerable to COVID-19 due to age. Do I step into a situation where social distancing is unpredictable, or do I follow cautions for limiting community spread of COVID-19? I could be someone with underlying medical problems putting my health at great risk. Do I take my place volunteering and risk my health, or do I stay home hoping not to take up limited hospital beds and medical resources? What are my civic, moral, and Christian responsibilities? There is not one right answer on how to respond in this time of multiple crises, but that doesn't prevent us from taking action—action that still counts in the long road ahead toward racial equity and inclusion. The article linked below provides advice today and for the days to come. I found it motivating. Note that this is from Charlottesville in 2017. Not much has changed, and we can still make use of many of the suggestions.

Resource: <https://advice.shinetext.com/articles/12-ways-you-can-be-an-activist-without-going-to-a-protest/>

Reflection Questions

- What actions did I take this week that promote racial equity and nudge me a little out of my comfort zone?
- What else can I do?

Action Steps to Consider

- Donate online to Holy Trinity Justice Fund. If you already did this, do it again. Donations can be made through our website: <https://htlcmpls.org/donate/>. They can also be given through our Give MN page: <https://www.givemn.org/story/Pelucg>. (Feel free to forward this information to your networks. If you use social media, please share these links.)
- Drop off a donation of food or supplies to Holy Trinity or another neighborhood resource (you don't need to get out of your car).
- Pray that we will continue to feel discomfort with centuries of racial oppression, and that we will channel that feeling into action.

2020 JOHNSON SYMPOSIUM

After thoughtful deliberation, we have decided to cancel the 2020 Johnson Symposium on Faith and Society. We made this decision to exercise an abundance of caution, in keeping with our deep and abiding love for the neighbor. We pray that we will again be able to welcome participants to the Johnson Symposium in 2021.

WORSHIP LINK FOR SUNDAY, JUNE 7

If you missed it, the worship link for Trinity Sunday, June 7, can be found here: <https://vimeo.com/426655123>. We lamented the death of George Floyd, welcomed Presiding Bishop as our preacher, and celebrated the gifts of Josiah Kibira, Holy Trinity's newest high school graduate.

MAIL DELAYS

As most of you know, the post office next to Holy Trinity burned down last week. It's likely that some of the mail that was lost was mail addressed to Holy Trinity. If you sent mail to Holy Trinity after May 24, (checks, personal notes, receipts, etc.), it may be necessary to re-send it. Keep an eye out for canceled checks and call Pam (651-398-7980) if you have concerns about checks that haven't yet cleared your bank.

PASTORAL CARE

Please don't hesitate to contact us with pastoral care emergencies (Church Office: (612)729-8358; Pastor Ingrid: (612) 875-6679; Pastor Angela: (612)248-9121). We will do our best to care for you from a distance. Please contact one of the pastors if your household is suffering because of COVID-19 or the effects of social unrest (e.g., health, food or housing insecurity, employment changes); we have resources to help.

CONCERNING PEOPLE

We celebrate with Holy Trinity friends and family who are graduating this spring, including **Josiah Kibiria** (high school); **Camilo Rudolph** (Dunwoody College); **Isabel Rose O'Grady**, granddaughter of **Rob and Sharon Englund** (Richfield High School); and **Karina Mai Sieber**, granddaughter of **Michael and Marilyn Miller** (from St. Olaf College).

RACIAL JUSTICE OPEN CONVERSATION MONDAY, JUNE 8

Members of the Doctrine of Discovery and Racial Justice Task Force will host a virtual open conversation Monday, June 8, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Members of Holy Trinity are invited to share their reactions to the death of George Floyd while in police custody. We will consider how we can respond as individuals and as a congregation committed to racial justice in the presence of pervasive racism.