HOLY TRINITY UUTHERAN CHURCH THE COMMUNITY CHURCH

On 31st Street between Minnehaha and 28th Avenues Minneapolis, MN 55406 • 612-729-8358 • office@htlcmpls.org • www.htlcmpls.org Ingrid C. A. Rasmussen, Angela T. Khabeb, and Doug Mork, Pastors

PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION



As I began in the alley, I remembered that week in May that there were daily meetings of masked neighbors in this alley planning for night watches and water sources as fires and looting and unmarked cars had arrived literally within sight of our homes and our children.

Hosanna in the lowest. Save us O God when we're afraid.

As I headed down 27th Avenue, I passed the vivid yellow and blue of what for so long was Skol Liquor, and now seems to be emerging as something new.





Hosanna in the highest! Save us O God when we're emerging.

Next I passed the crumbled remains of the Hexagon, the shattered glass of the Ivy building and the beauty and brokenness of the China Wok.

Hosanna in the lowest! Save us O God when we are in between times.

As I approached the 3rd precinct to collect my palm branch, I was approached by a stranger. I was unnerved by the way I was being watched and aware of my fear as he joined my procession but also I was given the chance to take not one but two palm branches. I offered him one and said something I can't remember about my church putting them there to honor Black Lives. When he asked what it was I again fumbled through something about the story of palm branches being used to honor Jesus as he entered the place where he would be killed. "This come from a palm tree?" He wanted to know. "I think so," my reply. "Well, thanks for the palm. Enough said." He continued down Lake Street and I down Minnehaha, both carrying our palms.

Hosanna in the highest! Save us O God when we're finding our way through the unexpected.

As I paused in front of the church, I spied more palm branches tucked near the door and knew I was not alone on this procession although I was alone on this procession.

Hosanna! Save us O God when we're feeling alone.

As I circled back to my block, I saw the signs that have sprouted from seeds planted during those alley meetings in May. Signs of hope that together we can awaken the vision of all being welcome...

Hosanna in the highest! Save us O God when we are hoping. Hosanna!

EASTER SUNDAY

READINGS

Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Mark 16:1-8

ADULT FORUM

Login at zoom.us or call 312-626-6799 or click <u>here</u> Meeting ID: 858 5687 1594 / Password: 317879

To view the recorded Adult Forum from March 28, <u>click here</u>.

SUNDAYS, 9:30 A.M.

APRIL 4 EASTER SUNDAY—NO ADULT FORUM

APRIL 11 "The Enbridge Three Pipeline"

Anna Kleven and others

More information coming next week.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Thursday, April 1—Maundy Thursday (via Zoom)

On Thursday evening we will meet for worship at 6:00 p.m. on Zoom to begin our observance of the Three Days. The liturgy on this day contains the elements that define Christianity: the church announces that sins are forgiven; we approach one another and God in vulnerability through foot washing; money is collected for the care of the neighbor; and we share Holy Communion. This year, we want to eat together! Position your computer at the dinner table, light a candle, and gather a bowl of water and a towel.

Friday, April 2—Good Friday (video link will be emailed)

The night's liturgy tells the story of Jesus' Passion. Tonight we meet Jesus at the foot of the cross. As we grieve his death, we voice our lives' laments: Asian American and Pacific Islander violence and discrimination; policing and the criminal justice system; growing economic inequality; gun violence; and COVID deaths. Even in the sorrow of this day, we trust in the resurrection promises given to us. We end tonight's service in silence.

Saturday, April 3—Vigil of Easter (video link will be emailed)

Keeping vigil on Easter eve is an ancient practice for the church. For centuries Christians have come together in vigil in darkness as night falls. The liturgy is multifaceted, rich, and playful. Twelve readings are appointed, not all of which are read each year, but as a whole they lift up some of the greatest moments of the history of God's salvific work. This year, we hear: Creation told by the Olsen-Biebighausers; the Ark by the Liedholm household; Deliverance at the Red Sea told by the Aldrich duo; Isaiah 55 by the Weiss-Lunds; and the Valley of Dry Bones told by the Rodriguez family. And we're also adding in a bonus story: David and Goliath told by Mike Mann. The evening will end with Peter and Amy Johnson telling the Resurrection story.

Sunday, April 4—Easter Sunday (video link will be emailed)



PARISH INFORMATION

MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP **LIVE** ON ZOOM

Remember how lovely it was to enjoy a meal of homemade soup and bread with your family and friends on Maundy Thursday and then head down to the Bartsch Room to worship together? Hasn't it also been a gift to be able to "see" our siblings in Christ at our congregational meetings this year. We'd like to invite you and your beloveds to join others from our faith community on Thursday, April 1, at 6:00 p.m. to gather together with other households over Zoom to do just that.

Set your table, cook up your favorite soup or chili recipe, bake some bread (or visit your favorite neighborhood bakery), position your laptop at the table, and have a candle (or two) ready to light, and a bowl of water and towel to wash hands. Deacon David will lead us in praising God for the water around us. We'll hear Jesus' words to his followers to "love one another," and remember his surprising act of servant leadership in washing the feet of his friends. We will bless the bread of life and the cup of salvation with those in our homes, just as we have all year long, but this will feel a little different, as we witness even out of the corner of our eyes, our siblings in Christ sharing likewise in their own homes. We will be together; synced in time and in spirit.

Why not check in with someone you've been longing to see and let them know you're hoping to eat and worship with them on Maundy Thursday? Oh, and please don't stress over wiggly, active young ones! We'll actually encourage you to stay muted throughout so that some wondering conversations can happen around your table.

The Zoom link was sent Saturday to all who receive weekly worship videos. If you wish to be added to the worship email list, contact Sue Roberts (sroberts@htlcmpls.org).

NOLAN GUSDAL NOW A PUBLISHED POET

Nolan Gusdal, building maintenance, had his poem, *Stand Down & Stand By*, published in the Reflective Practice: Formation and Supervision in Ministry Journal. Find it <u>here</u>. Congratulations to Nolan!

BIG MEETING NIGHTS FOR APRIL

Due to a conflict with Maundy Thursday, Thursday's Big Meeting Night will be Tuesday, April 13 (same time), except for Adult Education, who will meet April 8 at 7:00 p.m. This change is for April only.

WORSHIP SERVICE FROM PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 2021

The worship service for March 28, 2021, can be viewed by clicking <u>here</u>.

BECOME A MEMBER OF HOLY TRINITY

We at Holy Trinity believe that community is integral to faith, which is why we invite interested persons to consider membership in this congregation. If you or someone you know is interested in formalizing your relationship with this community, please let one of the pastors know, or contact the office (office@htlcmpls.org). The Spirit works in amazing ways, even during this period of physical separation.

MINNEAPOLIS AREA SYNOD ASSEMBLY (VIRTUAL) Friday, April 23, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 24, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

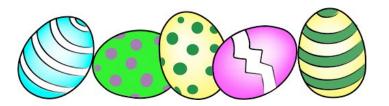
The Minneapolis Area Synod gathers annually to conduct business in the Synod Assembly, which is the synod's highest legislative authority. More than 600 participants attend the Synod Assembly each year, including representatives from each congregation and all active rostered leaders. The gathering is filled with worship, inspiration, presentations, and necessary business. Under the theme "Jubilee Reclaimed: Opening the Way," synod assembly participants will explore Biblical insights into the general welfare of the community. Can we imagine together ways to explore opportunities for the Church to be the leading edge of caring for the vulnerable in our world?

Holy Trinity seeks three people to attend as our representatives. Please talk to a pastor if you are interested.

SWAHILI WORDS FOR TODAY

Another quarantine opportunity: Learn some Swahili words! Pastor Andrea will teach us some common Swahili words and phrases.

> Easter: Pasaka Easter Lily: Lily ya Pasaka Eggs: Mayai Easter Eggs: mayai ya Pasaka.



INFORMATION FROM HOLY TRINITY'S COVID TASK FORCE

Holy Trinity will look forward to considering holding in-person events—including worship—once the COVID vaccination rate (column A) in Hennepin County reaches 50-69%. Once this threshold has been met, then we will look at columns B and C. Once B and C are consistently low enough, we will start planning for a return to some in-person events.

Date	Column A Vaccination rate	Column B Cases/100,000 population	Column C Test positivity rate (weekly rolling average)
Threshold/ goal	50-69%	5-10/100,000	<10%
As of 3/14/21	12.3%	16.0	3-<5%
As of 3/18/21	13.4%	15.7	3-<5%
As of 3/26/21	15.9%	21.8	3-<5%