

Holy Trinity United Methodist Church

January 7, 2024

9:30am

Theme: How Does A Weary World Rejoice?

If you have a prayer request today, please fill out the card in your pew rack and hand it to an usher prior to the Prayers of the People.

Prelude

Welcome

*Song of Praise “Down by the Jordan” W&S 3045

*Greeting

Leader: There are some days when I need the reminder that I belong to God. Do you ever feel that way?

People: Yes. We do. The world can be a harsh place; we often need that reminder.

Leader: Well then, let us care for one another. Let us speak the truth we each need to hear. Church, you belong to God. You are God’s beloved.

People: Friend, you belong to God. You are God’s beloved.

Leader: Let us worship the God who knows our names.

ALL: LET US WORSHIP THE GOD WHO CALLS US BELOVED. AMEN.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Loving God, from the very beginning, you breathed life into us and called us good. However, somewhere along the way we replaced “good” with “not enough.”

Somewhere along the way we turned the volume up on that phrase and began to doubt our own self-worth. Forgive us, for this is not what you have taught us. For when the world tells us we are not enough, you call us beloved. Show us how to return to that truth. Show us how to let go of our weariness and rest in that good news. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Leader: Family of faith, God’s grace and understanding is deeper and wider than we could possibly imagine. So say these words of grace with me:

ALL: Our story begins with belovedness. Even when we lose our way, even if we stumble and fall, God never stops breaking through the clouds to claim us. We are known. We are forgiven. We are beloved. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Prayer Song “Jesus, Name Above All Names” TFWS 2071

Prayers of the People/Our Lord’s Prayer

Prayer Song “Jesus, Name Above All Names” TFWS 2071

Gospel Reading Luke 3:21-22

Children’s Message

*Hymn “Shall We Gather at the River” Hymnal 723

Sermon “We Trust Our Belovedness” Pastor Chad Gilbertson

Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant Begins on Hymnal p.50

*Hymn “Loving Spirit” (vs 1-4) TFWS 2123

Holy Communion

Please bring your Offering forward and place it in the plate/basket as you come to receive Communion.

Announcements

*Affirmation of Faith/Benediction

Leader: I believe that the God I see in scripture is a God of love.

People: I believe that God created me and delights in that creation.

Leader: I believe the psalmist who says, “I am fearfully and wonderfully made.”

People: I believe that, just as God called Jesus “beloved,” God extends this same term of endearment to us.

Leader: I believe that no matter our earthly challenges, nothing could strip me of that sacred title. I could fail every test, miss every goal, drop every ball, and I would still be God’s beloved. Therefore, I cling to this promise like a rock in the storm. I anchor myself with this good news, allowing the anxiety of the day to roll over me as best I can, because I know where I belong.

ALL: I am a child of God. I am beloved. I strive to live this way. Amen.

*Hymn “Spirit Song” (vs 1) Hymnal 347

Postlude

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Chad Gilbertson
pastor@htumc.org
(952) 356-4616

Church Admin: Tina Chant
office@htumc.org
(952) 447-2990

Children, Youth & Family Coordinator:
Lynnette Dobberpuhl
kidsandfamilies@htumc.org
(651) 492-8188

Choir Director: Randi Erlandson
Pianist/Organist: Randi Erlandson
Liturgist: Don Oram
Ushers: Mike and Lori Huss
Greeters: Connie Scott & Patrick Rasmussen

This Week:

Monday, Jan. 8	7:00pm	Al-Anon (Parsonage)
Tuesday, Jan. 9	2:00pm 7:00pm	United Women in Faith (Fellowship Hall) Co-Dependents Anonymous (Parsonage)
Wednesday, Jan. 10	8:30am 7:00pm	Moment of Prayer for Holy Trinity Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, Jan. 11	6:00pm	Veterans AA (Parsonage)
Sunday, Jan. 14	9:30am 10:30am	Worship/Live-Stream <i>Dynamite Prayer</i> Small Group

Prayer Requests:

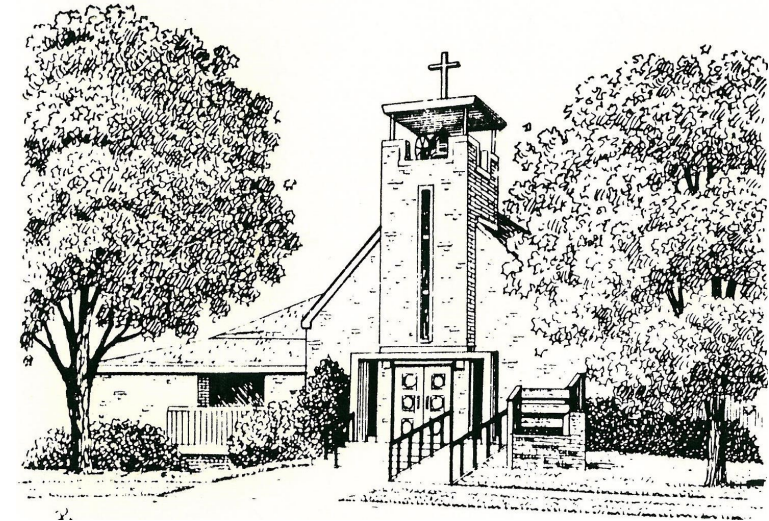
Liz Weninger—currently hospitalized at St. Mary's/Mayo in Rochester for an infection and other tests. Please pray for Liz, her care team, and for Jim as he supports her during this time.

Sean T—diagnosed with type two diabetes. Pray for Sean and his family as they adjust to new patterns of health and wellness.

Paula Johnson— had hip replacement surgery on Tuesday. Pray for the success of that surgery.

Grace Swanson—daughter in Montana is very ill with the flu. Pray for rest, healing, and strengthening.

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16150 Arcadia Ave. SE
Prior Lake MN 55372
(952) 447-2990

Email: office@htumc.org

Website: www.htumc.org

Pastor Chad Gilbertson