

THE REDEEMER RECORD

Vol. 112, No. 10

November, 2017



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Rev. James Erlandson, Pastor

285 North Dale Street, St. Paul, MN 55103

651-227-8295

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Tahnea Brown, Office Manager

Jonathan Campbell, Music Director

Katie Thompson, Organist

A Letter From Pastor Erlandson

*"A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."
(Proverbs 11:25) NIV*

I have often wondered what makes people generous? Where does generosity come from?

Years ago, at a confirmation retreat, I asked youth a question:

*"What does the world say about money?" **Spend it.***

*"What do your friends say about money?" **Spend it on ME.***

*"What do your parents say about money?" **Save it.***

*"What does the Church say about money?" **Give it.***

Sometimes we are generous with money, other times less so. It all depends on whether we have it (money), and on the situation - or who is asking!

For example why do we give money for taxes? It's a requirement of the law. Also we give taxes out of obligation or civic duty, as our share to the community.

We also spend money for things that we need for life - food, clothing, housing, transportation, education, and so on. We may spend more money on things that make us happy - which is not generosity, because it is for ourselves.

We who are parents or grandparents give generously to our children and grandchildren - to take care of them, out of responsibility, and also out of LOVE.

When we give to the Church our tithes and offerings, it may be out of obligation, and as our commitment to keep the Church open and running (to pay the heat bills, the mortgage, and ministry happening).

We may also give to God and the Church out of THANKSGIVING, for all that God has given to us (one of the best reasons that we give.) God has created us and all that we have, so we give offerings to God out of thanks and praise.

Finally, we give out of love for God and neighbor, out of compassion for our neighbor in need, to those who suffer from hunger or disaster. When we give GENEROUSLY we do so out of compassion and love - "agape" love, which is like the love that God has for us, freely and without condition or expectation.

Earlier this year many of you gave of your time, gifts, and possessions to support Project Home, out of compassion for families needing emergency housing. Many gave generously over \$2000 to the Sanctuary Network out of compassion for those undocumented needing a safe place to stay. At our Reformation Beer and Hymns event, people generously contributed \$1500 to ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response out of compassion for people in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

When we give generously, it is out of compassion and love for others, just as our loving God has for us. *"May each of you give [generously] what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."*

Pastor Jim Erlandson

November Calendar

Recurring Weekly Events

Sun. 10:00 am ~ Worship
 11:15 am ~ Coffee Fellowship
 12:00 pm ~ Universal Life Church of God
 12:00 pm ~ Praise Covenant Church

Wed. 7:00 pm ~ Choir Rehearsal
 8:00 pm ~ Courage to Change N.A.

Fri. 8:00 pm ~ Words into Action N.A.

Sat. 8:00 am ~ Siloé Church

Other Events

2nd 11:00am Women's Guild Meeting

5th 10:00am The Feast of All Saints

7th ALL DAY VOTE!

7:00pm Vestry Meeting

8th 6:00pm ISAIAH Meeting

9th 6:00pm ISIAH Meeting

11th 10:00am Girl Scouts

12th 2:30pm ISAIAH Meeting

13th 6:30pm ISAIAH House Meeting @ Redeemer

14th 6:30pm Elders Meeting

16th 7:00pm Pop Up Choir

18th 10:00am Pop Up Choir

7:00 pm AA Gratitude Night

26th 10:00am Native American Liturgical Celebration

28th 6:30pm ISAIAH Drafting Session

30th 7:00pm ISAIAH Core Team Meeting

November Altar Servers

If you are unable to serve, please contact an elder or the church office no later than the Tuesday of the week you are signed up to serve so that a replacement can be found.

November 5	Deacon	Subdeacon	Reader	Crucifer	Acolyte
<i>All Saints</i>	Trudy Cretsinger	Bob paddock	Diana Rankin	Michael Mulokozi	
	Thurifer	Torchbearer	Torchbearer	Bannerbearer	Bannerbearer
	David Tannen	Tammy Cownie	Michelle Geschwill		
November 12	Deacon	Subdeacon	Reader	Crucifer	Acolyte
	Bob Paddock	Tammy Cownie	Irene Markley	Todd-Allen Hamilton	Neal Caerwyn
November 19	Deacon	Subdeacon	Reader	Crucifer	Acolyte
	Joel Michael	DeAnne Hilgers	Renee Nunn	Ali Michael	Jack Sprung
November 26	Deacon	Subdeacon	Reader	Crucifer	Acolyte
<i>Christ the King</i>	Michelle Geschwill	Leilani Drake	Paul Jacobson	Ray Hayes	Jared Geschwill
	Thurifer	Torchbearer	Torchbearer	Bannerbearer	Bannerbearer
	Michael Mulokozi			Obang Agwa	

NOVEMBER SCRIPTURES

We invite members and friends of Redeemer to read the appointed scriptures for each Sunday. This is a meaningful way to prepare for worship. It also binds us to our homebound sisters and brothers who we also encourage to read the same scriptures weekly.

	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
Nov. 5 <i>All Saints</i>	Rev 7:9-17	Ps 34:1-10, 22	1 John 3:1-3	Matt 5:1-12
Nov. 12 <i>Lectionary 32</i>	Amos 5:18-24	Ps 70	1 Thess 4:13-18	Matt 25:1-13
Nov. 19 <i>Lectionary 33</i>	Zeph 1:7, 12-18	Ps 90:1-8 [9-11] 12	1 Thess 5:1-11	Matt 25:14-30
Nov. 26 <i>Christ the King</i>	Ezek 34:11-16, 20-24	Ps 95:1-7a	Eph 1:15-23	Matt 25:31-46

Usher/Greeter Schedule at Redeemer



November, 2017

Greeter at Parking Lot Door: Myrna Nelson

PLEASE REMEMBER: ONE USHER AT THE ELEVATOR ENTRANCE EACH SUNDAY

Sunday, November 5 - All Saints

Joel Michael (captain)
Sam Rankin
Lyle Nelson
Carla Johnson

Sunday, November 12

Sam Rankin
Charlene Dickerson
Lyle Nelson
Bob Hausman

Sunday, November 19

Sam Rankin (captain)
Joe Belmonte
Ruth Belmonte
Joann Conroy & Phoenix Mason

Sunday, November 26 - Christ the King

Joel Michael (captain)
Charlene Dickerson
Lyle Nelson
Carla Johnson

*Claude Mikkelson will serve as needed (if we are short an usher)

Celebrate the Festivals! Worship in November

The Feast of All Saints
Sunday, November 5, 10:00 am



We celebrate a Festival Eucharist, and light candles for loved ones who have died this past year.

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**Evening Prayer on Thanksgiving Eve**  
Wednesday, November 22, 7:00 pm

A brief devotional service will be held in the sanctuary, followed by refreshments and fellowship.

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Native American Liturgical Celebration
Sunday, November 26, 10:00 am

This service was created by Kelly Sherman-Conroy, a member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe from Pine Ridge South Dakota, currently attending Luther Seminary. It was written for the ELCA for use by synods and in congregations, after a resolution was passed by the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in 2016 to recognize and celebrate the contributions of Native Americans into the life of the

Church and community.

It is a liturgy of holy communion, integrating Native culture and spirituality with Lutheran Christian traditions.

The service is led by Kelly Sherman-Conroy, the Reverend Joann Conroy, Pastor Jim Erlandson, and the Redeemer Choir.



COME TOGETHER PRAYER WALK

Sunday, November 19th

4:00 - 6:00 pm

Sister of St. Joseph Chapel

1880 Randolph Ave.

Saint Paul, MN

Join neighbors in an ecumenical, interfaith gathering.

Sing. Pray. Share fears and hopes. Talk. Build Community.

Come Together Meetings originated after the shooting of Philando Castile. Father Paul Jarvis, pastor of St. Bridget Church on the Northside of Minneapolis, asked, "What can churches do?" Parishioner Bonnie Steele, answered, "Open up the church. Invite our neighbors to come in, pray, share faith, and share their stories of how violence is impacting them."

At least once a month since September 2016, people have gathered at churches around the Twin Cities in the spirit of seeking peace together.



Photos from September when Redeemer hosted this event.

STEWARDSHIP: OUR FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

The Bible teaches that *stewardship* is the way in which we manage all the gifts that God has given us – our gifts and talents, the environment, and our financial resources (“our time, talent, and treasure”). Every year those who are members of the Church, through baptism and the profession of faith, have the opportunity to make a commitment to God’s work through the Church – by offering their time, talents and treasure. This month of November every member of Redeemer is invited to make a financial commitment (“pledge”) for the work of our congregation. This work includes our ministries of Word and Sacrament (worship, faith formation for children, youth and adults), outreach to the community, social justice ministries, and the maintenance of our church building (including utilities). An invitation to make a financial commitment (pledge) for 2017 is being sent to every Redeemer household. We will “kick-off” the receiving of our financial commitments on **Sunday, November 19th at 10 am worship**. We will continue to request your financial commitments throughout the month of November. *Thank you for your participation in the life of Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, and all your gifts – of time, talents, and treasure – towards God’s work in our world. And remember, the best reason of all to give generously to God’s work is out of thanksgiving for all that we have received from God – the gift of God’s grace and life forever through Jesus Christ!*

ISAIAH MAYORAL FORUM

October 15th, 2017

Redeemer hosted a community forum for the St. Paul Mayoral candidates.





FEED THE HUNGRY

We know that many families in our community face hunger in very real way – when money runs short because of loss of a job, illness or health issue, and rising utility costs – and nothing is left for food purchases. Minnesotans are increasingly turning to foodshelves to feed their families. So the need for foodshelf donations is year-round. Every November and March we highlight this need by participating with the whole faith community in Minnesota Foodshare.

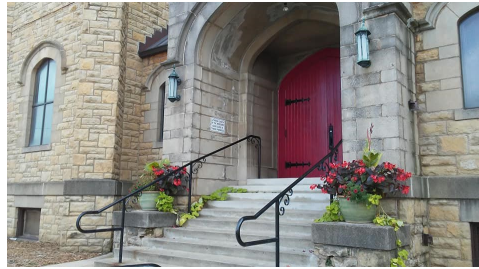
Please bring your donations of food and cash every Sunday to worship in November, which we will bring to the Hallie Q. Brown Foodshelf. Checks can be written to the foodshelf or to Second Harvest Foodbank. For a mark of the church is how we share what we have with those in need. As Jesus said, "For I was hungry, and you gave me food." (Mt. 25:35)

What Makes Hallie's Food Shelf Unique?

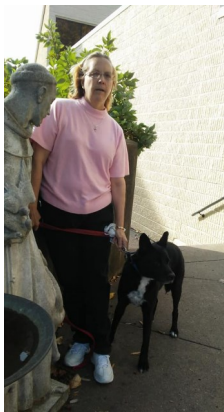
- Hallie Q. Brown offers a client-choice model, where community members can pick the items they will use instead of being handed a stock bag which may contain items that do not meet their dietary or cultural needs.
- In addition to our staple pantry, we offer an additional area featuring fresh produce, bread and other donated items from local grocery stores. This area is open both to Hallie Q. Brown clients and to the entire community, and clients can visit as many times as needed each month.
- Hallie Q. offers—or partners with other agencies to offer— multiple additional on-site programs for clients, including a sliding-fee rate Early Learning Center, a free clothing closet, Prepare and Prosper tax services, Project Cheer music lessons for children, and Fare for All.
- Recognizing that many food shelf clients have work or childcare obligations during daytime hours, we are open one evening a week to better accommodate busy schedules.
- Our exceptional food shelf volunteers contributed over 3,000 hours of service last year, contributing an estimated \$70,000 value to the organization while ensuring clients had a positive shopping experience.



Fall at Redeemer



Blessing of the Animals



ADULT FORUM

Nov. 5, 2017 11:30 A. M. "Remembering Saints in Our Lives" You are invited to bring a picture of a loved one who has died and share how this person's life and their death impacts you today.

Nov. 12, 2017 11:30 A. M. "Hate Crimes" followup on our Oct. 8, 2017 program with action steps-"What to Do" led by the anti-Racism team.

Nov. 19, 2017 11:30 A. M. "The Content and Value of the ELW (Evangelical Lutheran Worship) " presented by the Rev. Robert Hausman. There is a rich source of material available in the ELW to enhance our worship Sunday and throughout the week.

Nov. 26, 2017 11:30 A. M. "Update on The Doctrine of Discovery" presented by Rev. Joann Conroy. This is a followup on synod action concerning justice for Native Americans as first peoples of this land.

There will be an Adult Forum Planning meeting on Thursday, Nov. 9, 2017 at 1:00 P. M. (followed by Midweek Bible Study at 2:00 P. M.) This is a time change. You are invited to attend. For information contact Joan Foreman at 651-699-0266.

WOMEN'S GUILD

The Women's Guild will meet Thursday, November 2nd at 11:00am. Hostesses Elizabeth Currie and Jean Tretsven will serve coffee and dessert. Bring a salad or sandwich and join us.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY

Midweek Bible Study continues on Thursdays in November with the Rev. Robert Hausman leading the study of the book of Galatians. There will be no class Nov. 2. Classes are held in the church library at 2:00 P. M. You are invited to attend. For more information contact Joan Foreman at 651-699-0266.

ISAIAH CORE TEAM NEWS

Thank you! Thank you!! Thank you!!! To each and every member who attended the Mayoral Forum here on October 15th, thank you! Your presence was noted and made a real difference. The attendance was well beyond expectations. In fact, it was the largest turn-out for a mayoral forum in Saint Paul this fall. You made an impression on the candidates. The hope is that the questions and responses were helpful to you in identifying which candidates best reflect your values and the values of our faith that we gather to envision on Sundays.

Remember to vote on November 7th! Saint Paul is using **ranked choice voting**. This means you can vote for up to six candidates ... or just one. But you can only vote for any candidate on the list once. Mark the first section on the ballot by the name of the candidate you most want for our next mayor. Then, if there are other candidates who aren't your first choice, but you could accept them as mayor, mark the names of those candidates in the subsequent boxes in your order of preference. You do not have to vote for multiple candidates; you may vote for just one. Do not vote for the same candidate more than once on the ballot; if you do, your ballot will be voided and your vote will not count.

House meetings continue! We've shared some good conversations around the tables in the undercroft. If you have not yet, you will soon be receiving an invitation to one of the house meetings being hosted by members of the Core Team. Please say yes if you are at all able to come. If you are not able to come, please consider attending the alternate house meeting night at the church; that meeting will be **Monday, November 13th at 6:30 pm**. These are opportunities to engage in deeper relationships with each other as we talk about the things that matter most to us, our fears, and our hopes.

Consider hosting a house meeting ... We all have connections to people who are not part of the congregation. Others around us share the same fears and hopes and longings for deeper connections around things that really matter. Consider hosting a house meeting. If you need help guiding the conversation, please ask someone from the Core Team to assist. You supply the guests; we'll supply the help in shaping the conversation.

*Core Team members are Gretchen Vanderlinden-Wang, Stephanie Stoessel, Myrna & Lyle Nelson, Irene Markley, Carla Johnson, Michelle Geschwill, Joann Conroy, Trudy Cretsinger, and Pastor Jim. **Our next meeting will be Thursday, November 30th at 7:00pm***

OCTOBER 32, 2017: Always Being Made New
A Monthly/Seasonal Invitation to On-Going Reformation
Rev. Trudy Cretsinger, Theologian in Residence

While the date does not exist on any calendar, it conveys a sense of the day after the posting of the 95 Theses, exactly 500 years later as we find ourselves today. Of course, the Reformation didn't start on a single date; it was a long time coming. And it wasn't finished on the same day, either; to some extent, it's never fully finished. Much as our recent celebration of the 125th Anniversary for Lutheran Church of the Redeemer was a chance to look forward as well as backward, the marking of the 500th Anniversary of the Lutheran reform movement is also a chance to look back as well as forward.

At the start of the 21st Century, Phyllis Tickle wrote what was to be one of her last books: *The Great Emergence*. She explored the history of the Church from the time of Christ until the present and discerned a pattern of a major upheaval about every 500 years. The Reformation was such an upheaval ... and we seem to be in the on-set of another one. In her book, she described these times of upheaval as though the Church might be having an estate sale – sorting through what treasures to keep, what no longer suits our needs that we can let go.

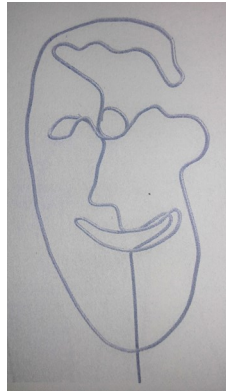
I think of the process of clearing out my grandmother's house when she needed to go into a care center. She has an interesting item of furniture that she called a "secretariat," which was an arrangement of shelves and drawers with a drop-down writing desk. (I think the proper name for it was a secretary.) She was quite pleased about her purchase of the piece, and I spent a considerable amount of time looking at it when I was growing up. I liked the idea of the piece but not so much the specific style. It would never match my furniture style (too dark and the colonial styling wouldn't work for me). Furthermore, I really couldn't imagine actually using it. So, I never considered asking for that piece. Instead, the only item from my grandmother's house I asked Mom to set aside for me was the stoneware mixing bowl, a sister to one my grandmother had given my mom when I was little. I have that bowl and I use it regularly. While we let go of much of her stuff, I have something that is eminently useful and helps me remember her and my mom and the ties of family.

This is a good time of year for such thinking and assessing. We start November with a celebration of All Saints, the saints who have sustained and nurtured the Church through the centuries and the saints who have nurtured our faith. We end the month with Thanksgiving, celebrating with our families, reflecting on the good things we have received from God's hand and the heritage of our land. The year is winding down. What have we learned? How have we changed? What do we want to take with us as we move into the new year ... and what do we want to leave behind?

These are also good things to ponder as we move into the next chapter of our Lutheran reform movement, here in our expression known as Lutheran Church of the Redeemer. What treasures (physical as well as scriptural and theological) continue to nurture and sustain us in faith to this day and into the future? What might we let go in order to embrace the new things God is doing even now, drawing us into the future? I'd appreciate your thoughts. You can talk to me during coffee time on either of the next two Sundays, drop me a note, or send me an email (tkcretsinger@gmail.com) ... or take one of the Theses lists from Reformation Sunday and stick it on the door in the Fellowship Hall.

ART INSTALLATION & OPEN HOUSE

St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church
Thursday, November 9th, 2017
6:30 - 8:30 pm



You are not alone . . . Come experience a reminder of relationships and community through.

Join us for the debut of an art installation titled "**The Cloud of Witness**". This moving encounter to remind us we are not alone. Instead we are surrounded by people who helped shape us. God works through everyday people.

Pastor Glenn Berg Moberg has created a series of wire sculptures that resemble simple line drawings of faces. A large 'cloud' of white fabric forms a wide circle surrounding the sculptures. When you enter this cloud, you see the sculpture images duplicated in shadows on the undulating cloud. You hear gentle voices reminding us we are surrounded by God's messengers. God works through ordinary, and the cloud invites you to remember and discover the ways people have brought liberation and blessing into your life.

The installation will also be open during the month of November during most daytime hours and Sunday after Worship.

FATIGUE GETS IN THE WAY OF FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP

By Diana M. Rankin

Fatigued – that’s how I feel after a day of gardening or a day spent finishing up my articles for *Minnesota Gardener* – barely making (or not) my editor’s deadline. You know the feeling. Synonyms in *Roget’s International Thesaurus* include tired, weakened, worn out.

There is another kind of fatigue that many of us are experiencing today. Some call it “compassion fatigue” and others “disaster fatigue” or “donor fatigue.” A recent article on HuffPost.com explored why and how we get this emotional form of fatigue. We are obsessed with the headlines; we watch the tv news and check Facebook incessantly and receive alerts in our email. Each day we are bombarded with news of hurricanes and wildfires, massacres of innocent people all over the world, overflowing refugee camps, children dying from starvation, and governments that are deaf to our cries for justice. We are shocked to learn that at least 2,900 Americans were shot during the first 25 days after the October 1st massacre in Las Vegas. At least 38 of these were children, 17 of them fatally. So much for all the media coverage, “thoughts and prayers,” handwringing, and talk of banning bump fire stocks. We are overwhelmed and feel hopeless about the state of the world and our own community. After a while it is all too easy to shut out the voices, letting apathy set in.

What do we do when fatigue hits us? When I’m physically or mentally fatigued, I like to “veg out” in front of the tv for an hour or so watching British crime shows or “Law and Order” reruns. When compassion or disaster fatigue hits us, we “veg out” by succumbing to feelings of despair and helplessness. Oh yes, we talk about gun violence, but lack the will to do something about it because the NRA always wins. We talk about natural disasters, bemoaning the role that climate change plays, but conclude there is nothing we can do about it. The problem is simply too big. And, while we are talking, a host of organizations are asking for our dollars to cure cancer, feed widows and orphans, house the homeless, save the whales, enact gun violence prevention laws, combat climate change, resettle refugees, end discrimination and racism, fight for justice, and on and on. We continue to talk but do nothing. We are too busy, too “down,” too overwhelmed with our daily lives, too fearful, and too reluctant to part with our money.

This is where fatigue and stewardship meet. A steward manages resources and stewardship is the practice of managing those resources. Christian stewardship is a way of life which manages all that we have and are: money, possessions, time, passions, skills -- everything that makes us the individuals we are. We are called to faithfully manage what God has given us and to love God and neighbor.

There is no room for fatigue in Christian stewardship. If we give in to fatigue, Luther's "hordes of devils" win. To guard against fatigue, I suggest that, as individuals and a congregation, we

- Remain grateful for all God has given us and be generous in sharing it.
- Pray for the courage to take risks in showing love for neighbor and each other.
- Organize with others to become educated about the issues plaguing our nation and the world, act with others to do justice, and celebrate the accomplishments, no matter how small.
- See the big picture. Floods, famine, war, racism, poverty, violence – not one of these things happens in isolation.
- Stay hopeful. When fatigue sets in (as it probably will at some time), talk about it with others and ask God for guidance and renewed courage.

We have just commemorated the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Martin Luther, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Martin Luther King, Jr., and the ordinary saints in our lives stand as examples for us. Let us learn from them and be faithful stewards of all that we have and are.

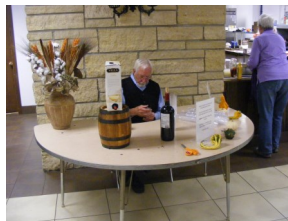
For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. Romans 12: 4-8 (NRSV)



Rohingya refugees, a mostly Muslim ethnic majority, are being driven out of Rahkine State in Myanmar (Burma). Between late August and the end of October, more than 600,000 have fled to Bangladesh, often in small wooden fishing boats. One such boat carrying 41 adults and children capsized on October 31st. A man, a woman, and 4 children drowned and 11 were hospitalized in critical condition. This group of refugees paid \$37 per person to be taken to Bangladesh. In another incident 3 infants slipped from their mothers' arms and drowned as their boat reached the shore.

Reformation Beer & Hymns!

Thank you to everyone who attended our Beer & Hymns event!
We raised \$1,500 for Hurricane Relief!

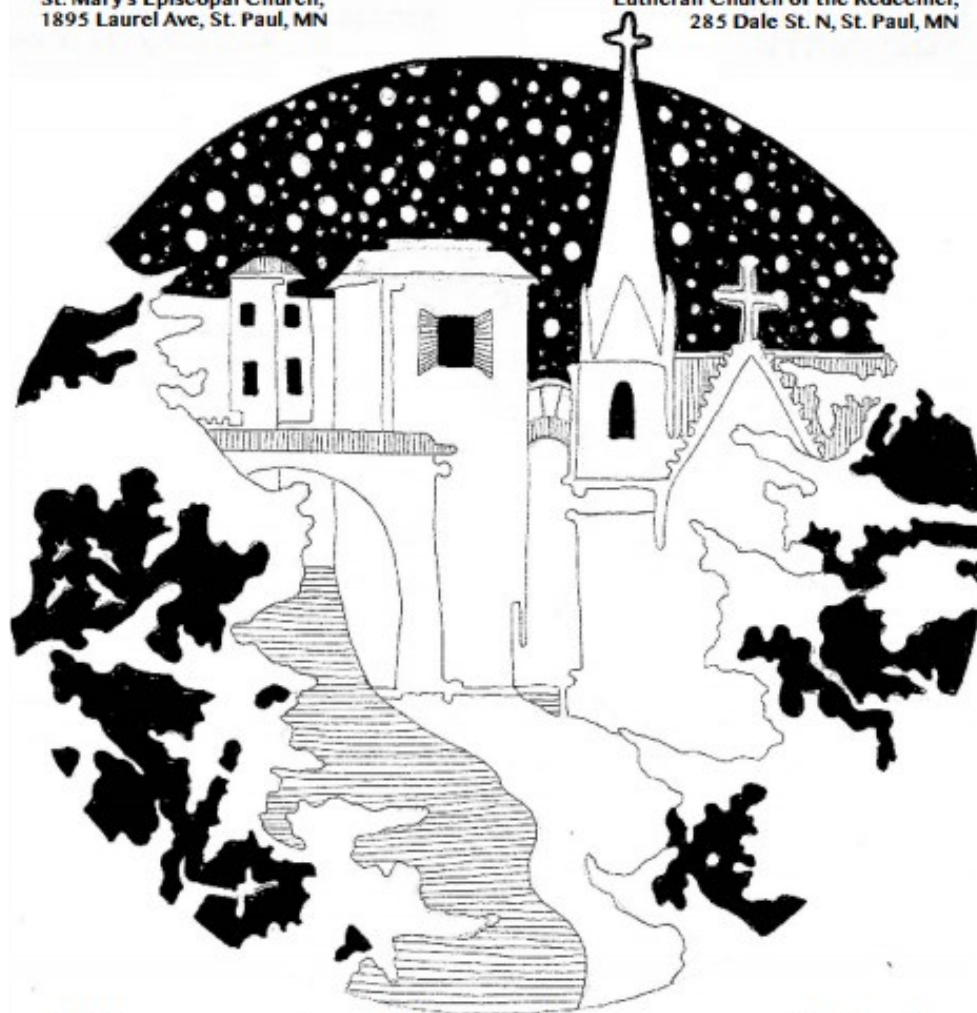


A Renaissance Christmas

Antoine Busnois, Orlando de Lassus, Francis Poulenc, Josquin de Prez, Peter Warlock,
Medieval Christmas Carols, lute, and more!

December 3rd: 3:00 PM
St. Mary's Episcopal Church,
1895 Laurel Ave, St. Paul, MN

December 3rd: 7:00 PM
Lutheran Church of the Redeemer,
285 Dale St. N, St. Paul, MN



Minnesota Renaissance Choir

Twelve Professional Singers, One Glorious Sound

Artistic Director: Jonathan Campbell, Lutenist: Thomas Walker

Website: www.mnrenchoir.org

Discount Tickets available at Brownpapertickets.com
\$25 Adult, \$20 Senior and \$5 Student tickets available at the door

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer
285 N. Dale St.
St. Paul, MN 55103-2486

