

WORSHIP WITH HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

During this period of change brought on by Covid-19, we are doing our best efforts to reflect Christian love while following CDC & OHA guidelines.

Ministers: The entire congregation
Pastor: Rev. Patricia Hughes
1998 Lansing Ave. NE Salem, OR 97301
Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9 am - 1 pm
Office Open Tues-Wed-Thurs
Phone: 503-364-6041
Pastor Patricia 503-510-9976
www.holycrosslutheran-salem.org
staff@holycrosslutheran-salem.org

Created for Community: A Midweek Lenten Series *(bring a candle, match or lighter, your Bible, and paper and pen or pencil to this worship opportunity)*

Join us on Zoom or worship privately in your home

Time: Feb 24, 2021 06:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Wed, until Mar 24, 2021, 5 occurrence(s)

Feb 24, 2021 06:00 PM

Mar 3, 2021 06:00 PM

Mar 10, 2021 06:00 PM

Mar 17, 2021 06:00 PM

Mar 24, 2021 06:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89578947810?pwd=ZWZWT2NXcjZlNk9rMXRwdm9GTHIzZz09>

Meeting ID: 895 7894 7810

Passcode: 611757



Overview-*We enter the season of Lent, in this year 2021, here at Holy Cross with several points to ponder.*

Our sanctuary continues to hold the stations of the Cross, which we placed on their picture hangers last Ash Wednesday. They will stay up as long as Covid-19 stalks our humanity.

As a community of Faith, this Lent we will gather mid-week (either on zoom, every Wednesday at 6:30 pm, or on paper, provided for you to worship at your homes.

The invitation to Lent spoken on Ash Wednesday reminds us that we enter this season together “with the whole church” and that “we are created for communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation.”

It is a time when living in harmony feels nearly unreachable. Though many common Lenten practices rightly invite us to individual acts of “repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love,” Lent is also a time for deepening of community.

In the early church, the weeks before Easter were a time in which the whole community took responsibility for the training of those who are interested in committing to a life as Christ followers. Not only were those people enriched by

this formation, but those already within the community were strengthened in their faith along with them.

Using readings from Mark's gospel, this Lenten series invites the assembly to reflect on what it means to be in community with one another, with the world, with creation, and with God.

Gathering Time – light a candle wherever you are as you pray this mid-week service. Focus your eyes, and your thoughts on the light of Christ.

Prayer - Week 1

Gracious Creator, you fashioned us in your image in the midst of a world beyond our knowledge and understanding. Continue to weave us together in community with all created things, and deepen our awareness of the ways you connect us to the earth. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Week 2

Timeless One, you renew your promises in every generation. Deepen our awareness of the communion of saints who have gone before us, the saints in our own time, and the saints who will carry on your message of grace after us. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Week 3

Neighbor to all people, you call us into human communities to serve and be served by one another. Open our hearts to the needs of all our neighbors, and teach us to recognize the gifts you have given each of us to use in service to others. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Week 4

Mender of division, you sent Christ to heal the world and to gather those on the margins. Bring your healing power to us. May we extend your power and grace to those separated from their communities and those longing for a tangible sign of your love. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Week 5

Mysterious One, in Jesus you redeem us and invite all people to a place in your glory. Draw us closer to you, and in so doing, draw us closer to one another, that we may be strengthened to follow in the way of Jesus' cross and resurrection. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Scripture (Get out your favorite Bible and read for yourselves)

Week 1 - In community with creation

Mark 4:35-41 *Jesus calms a storm*

The Sunday readings for Lent 1, year B, highlight the destructive power of the flood as well as the power of God's promise represented there. In the gospel reading Jesus is with the wild animals in the wilderness. While we often think of community as limited to *human* beings, our human existence is interdependent with all the created world. This theme is especially apparent in Mark 4:35-41, the account of the fishermen whose lives depend on the sea but who become afraid of its power in the storm.

Week 2 - In community with all the saints

Mark 9:2-8 *Jesus is in conversation with those who have gone before him*

The Sunday readings for Lent 2, year B, highlight God's promise to many generations; the passage from Romans reminds us that our faith is intertwined with those who have gone before us. The understanding of community expressed in our creeds extends beyond the present time to include those whose faith has influenced our own and those we influence after us. We hear this connection to what has been established before us echoed in Mark 9:2-8, the account of the transfiguration.

Week 3 - In community with our neighbor

Mark 2:1-12 *A community comes together to bring a neighbor to Jesus*

The Sunday readings for Lent 3, year B, center us in the ten commandments, which serve, among other things, as a way of living in community with our neighbor. Jesus' actions in the temple are, in part, a reaction to dishonest dealings with neighbors from near and far who have come to worship. Being in community with our neighbor is complicated and beautiful. Mark 2:1-12, the story of the paralyzed man brought to Jesus through the roof of a crowded room, highlights the way in which it takes a community to care for one another.

Week 4 - In community with those on the margins

Mark 5:1-20 *Jesus crosses barriers to attend to those on the margins*

The Sunday readings for Lent 4, year B, include the visit of Nicodemus to Jesus at night. Though he is a leader in the community, his interest in Jesus pushes him to the outside of his own group and to the edges of Jesus' followers. We continue to read of the Hebrew people wrestling with their wandering in the wilderness, not being part of a settled community. Those on the margins are also a part of our communities. When Jesus crosses over to the land of the Gerasenes in Mark 5:1-20, he encounters and brings healing to a man who has been left on the margins and restores him to community.

Week 5 - In community with Christ

Mark 10:32-45 *Jesus reminds us that we are walking the way of the cross*

The Sunday readings for Lent 5, year B, remind us where we are headed in this season and always—to the cross. When we are at the limits of our own power, overwhelmed by guilt or shame, or confronted with death, we find ourselves in the company of Jesus, who is our community even when all else fails. In Mark 10:32-45, Jesus once again reminds the disciples and us that our call will lead us to the cross.

Engaging with Scripture – *get a piece of paper, and pen to jot down your responses, or use the chart provided.* *We learn a new word this year - **Lectio divina** – all this means is reading and listening to the scripture. We read the text 3 times. You may listen to these three ways if you join us by zoom. If you worship at home, you are invited to read the scripture 3 times for yourself. These are the 3 ways you are invited to listen to scripture:*

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
<i>Reading the first time:</i> Listen for a word or short phrase that stands out to you.					
<i>Reading the second time:</i> Listen for a way in which God is speaking to you personally.					
<i>Reading the third time:</i> Listen for a way in which God is speaking to the community of Holy Cross Lutheran, or other communities of which you are a part.					

After each reading, allow for a moment of silence. On the zoom call, you will be invited (but not forced) to share what you have written down.


Sung Response

The assembly responds in song. Our zoom worship will sing together, a cappella. If you are alone during this worship, please sing to yourself.

We will sing one verse each week – and all verses on week 5.

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

Refrain



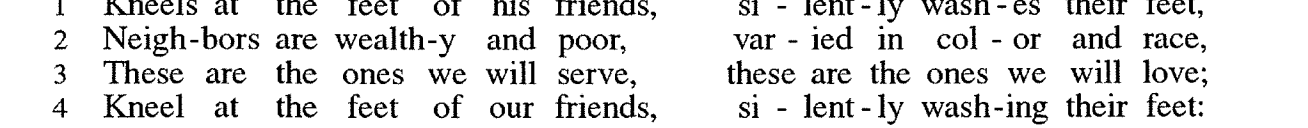
Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show




us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.



1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their feet,



2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and race,




3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;



4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their feet:

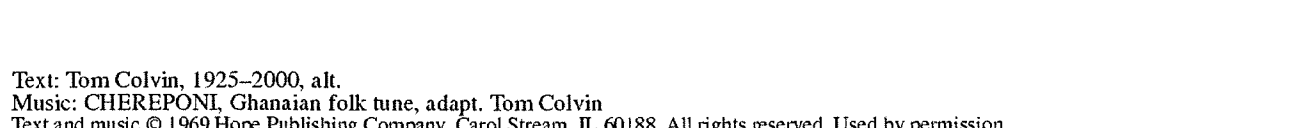
Refrain




mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.



neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.



all these are neigh - bors to us and you.



this is the way we will live with you.

Text: Tom Colvin, 1925–2000, alt.

Music: CHEREPONI, Ghanaian folk tune, adapt. Tom Colvin

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Prayers – Joys and Concerns

Look to your lit candle, and take a moment to think of those things for which you are joyful in your week, and those things for which you are concerned. Take a moment to jot those down on your paper, and next week, as you pray, reflect on

those joys and concerns – are they still part of your experience, or has there been change?

Here's some focus ideas for each week that connect to the readings – (on Zoom we will offer an opportunity to share these thoughts. If you worship at home, make note for yourself)

Week 1 – Think of how you might pray for Holy Cross - with both joys and concerns for renewal, care, and good stewardship.

Week 2 – Think of how you might pray with both joys and concerns for those in your church family and neighborhood who have died in the recent months.

Week 3 – Think of how you might pray for neighbors of our church family – social service agencies, schools, other churches, businesses, or people. What Joys and Concerns can you voice for them?

Week 4 – Think of how you might pray for those who are marginalized in your community. Think of the poor, the neglected, the mentally ill, and the homebound. What Joys and Concerns can you voice for them?

Week 5 – Think of the wider world – beyond your neighborhood. Think of the world community. What Joys and Concerns might you offer for these folks?

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
<i>Joys</i>					
<i>Concerns</i>					

Blessing

The Creator who fashions us together with all things,
the Christ who leads us into a new beloved community,
the Spirit who holds us in the communion of saints,
one God, ✠ bless you now and always.

Amen.

Sending Song

Ubi caritas et amor *Where True Charity and Love Abide*

The musical score is written for a single voice part, using a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and homophonic, with lyrics written below the notes. The first system covers the first two lines of the Latin text, and the second system covers the next two lines. The lyrics are: 'U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor, / Where true char - i - ty and love a - bide, / u - bi ca - ri - tas, De - us i - bi est. / God is dwell - ing there; God is dwell - ing there.' The final line of the score ends with a double bar line.

U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,
Where true char - i - ty and love a - bide,

u - bi ca - ri - tas, De - us i - bi est.
God is dwell - ing there; God is dwell - ing there.

Text: Latin antiphon, 9th cent.; Taizé Community; tr. *With One Voice*

Music: TAIZÉ UBI CARITAS, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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Dismissal

Go in peace, joined together in Christ.

Thanks be to God.

From Sundays and seasons.com, adapted by Reverend Patricia W Hughes

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