

Events for the upcoming Week at Holy Cross – Mailing out on July 13th!

*Our bible study, “What is God Saying Today” will **meet in person and on zoom on Thursday, July 15th (noon in person, and 5 pm on zoom)** the Gospel is **Mark 6:30-34, 53-56***

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84055018008?pwd=SLJHN0lkcWhlUVF3aWE4MkEzV1BRdz09> Meeting ID: 840 5501 8008 Passcode: 569519

This Sunday, July 18th we will have Drive up Communion at 12 noon – we will also have a box to receive your donations for the Washington School Supply Drive!

This past week, we had a funeral for Arnold Larson, and a baptism for Henry Owen Schultz – the church goes on, folks. Thank you for being part of it.

Next Sunday, July 25th, we will worship in the garden again (Get your RSVPs in) – we suggest you bring sunhats or umbrellas for shade – and join us for 10 am worship. If you can help set up or take down, please call the office – 503 364 6041.

The worship on July 25th will feature recognition of our Reconciling in Christ status (you did it!) and awarding and recognizing our 7 Scholarship recipients from the Holy Cross Endowment Fund! It’s a big day, hope you can join us.

Note from Pastor P – My last day will be August 1, 2021, and I am attempting to make a lot of connections before that day – call me at church, or email me patriciamakesjam@gmail.com if you want to set something up. Thanks!

Church Council is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, July 20th at 6:30 pm. Your leadership is working hard preparing for What’s Next? For Holy Cross. Be in contact with your leadership if you are willing to help.

Every week, you can find our recorded worship elements on our website – www.holycrosslutheran-salem.org or on Facebook. Bless you all in these fabulous Oregon Days! Please pray for our leadership here at Holy Cross!

Pastor Patricia+

Marked as Christ's Own - Every day in our lives of serving God, many factors come into play. Sometimes, we have immense joy and promise, as on a day when we baptize a new life, stand before God and our peers to promise to raise that child with God's Word and Promise in one hand, and a boatload of human frailty in the other hand. Our eyes mist just a bit as we aspire to the vision of the words of Holy Baptism, and promise to do our best. It's all God asks of us, you know, to do our best. All the while, God knows we will fall short. We will disappoint ourselves, and our friends and family in this life. And yet we will each have a brush or two with greatness, courtesy of a loving Lord. The readings for today are blunt, and real. It's days like this where I marvel at the Revised Common Lectionary, that listing of the cycle of readings put together by a committee (I know, right?) that sometimes challenges me, but always teaches me something. The readings for today are about King David, and also about King Herod. Two sides of the coin of leadership. Two flawed individuals, and two moments in their lives. We catch King David at a high point – the ark of the covenant is coming into Jerusalem, and David is so happy, and so jubilant that he just has to dance! Gotta love that. Even though his wife Michal is embarrassed, it doesn't slow him down. In fact, he finishes his dance by feeding all comers – with bread, meat and raisins! How can you go wrong with raisins? It makes you forget for a minute, David's philandering and treachery with Bathsheba. And Herod, who's also having a party, uses his authority to manipulate his stepdaughter, and the judicial system all at once, in order to finally have John the Baptist put to death for calling Herod out for his sinful and unlawful behavior with his own brother's wife. Yeah, Herod's behavior here is disgusting from all sides. But his behavior simply cannot stop the forward march of Jesus' ministry, nor of His love for the world. So what do these flawed people teach us? Friends, I think they teach us that the love of God is enough. You and I are not enough, even if we were kings or rulers like David, and Herod, to change the world. And yet, we are enough for God's purpose. And through that purpose, the world is certainly changed. How does that work? Since today we shared the joy of baptism, I'm gonna have to start there. Here's our baptism scene – a font, filled with water, a shell, where water is dripped 3 times over the child. Folks gathered around to share the moment. There is a cloth to receive a few stray drops of water. There is oil, and anointing. A candle is lit. But who is the actor, or the 'doer' in the baptism? It is not the child, not the sponsor, not the parents, nor is it the pastor. The actor, the instigator of the action in baptism is God. God, God's power, and God's love are front and center today, as I see it today in our reading from 2 Samuel featuring King David and his dance. It's a big day for the people of God – the ark of the covenant, that symbol of God's power which resides with the people he has chosen, is moved and brought into Jerusalem, the city that will one day house the temple. There's lots of side stories in these scriptures, but for a moment let's just look at that event. God's presence, the ark, which has been with the people since about a year after the exodus, fashioned lovingly at the base of Mount Sinai is moved. And, just being in the presence of that symbol of the God he loves, causes David to dance, and rejoice, and then, have a banquet. I can't help but notice that we aren't in the sanctuary today. We are worshipping outdoors for safety's sake, just as we worshipped in the gym for many months, in order to achieve distancing, just as we have created worship elements and posted them online for many months. But, each of those moments have one thing in common. We are still the church. God is still amongst us. God's blessings continue to be poured out, and we continue to find ways to serve God and God's people, together. Did you know that the father of our baptized child was received into membership here at Holy Cross at an outdoor service? Yep, the church is still the church, even as things change. At the core of that promise, is the life and ministry of Jesus, our lord. This week I had the joy of ordering the cake we will cut and serve after our worship today. It says, "Marked as Christ's Own". Of course its for Henry Owen, who is baptized and made new today. But of course it is for each of you as well. We are marked as Christ's own, and, as flawed and weak as each of us are, we are also called to proclaim Christ crucified and risen – God with us – and together we can change the world for God's glory. Amen. – Pastor Patricia+

**Worshipping at Home with Holy Cross Lutheran Church
July 18, 2021 – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
and of the † Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;
for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;
that we may live out truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;

for life and for love, for our work and our play,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord
**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord
**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

**This is the feast of vict'ry for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.
Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory are his.
This is the feast of vict'ry for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.
Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of vict'ry for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding
and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may
embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

READINGS AND PSALM

Jeremiah 23:1-6

From David's line, a righteous shepherd for Israel

Psalms 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

Ephesians 2:11-22

Reconciled to God through Christ, our peace

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

Christ healing the multitudes

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia.**

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 332 *"I Heard The Voice Of Jesus Say"*

- 1 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was,
so weary, worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting-place,
and he has made me glad.

- 2 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one;
stoop down and drink and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

- 3 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all your day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk
till trav'ling days are done.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

MEAL

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

When our congregation gathered for the celebration of Holy Communion, we heard again the story of God's mighty acts and of the love shown us in the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

With thanksgiving we remembered that "in the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

The people of our congregation were given assurance of our Lord's presence through the gift of his Holy Spirit. Now we bring to you this same bread of life and this same cup of blessing, that you may be strengthened through your participation in the body of Christ.

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life, whoever comes to me shall never hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst."

At this time, you may remember the gift of holy communion with your own bread and cup.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **Amen**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,**

**your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Wellspring of joy,
Through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.
Satisfy the hunger still around us,
And send us as joyful witnesses,
That your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people,

LAMB OF GOD

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.**

BLESSING - HENRI FREDERIC AMIEL

Life is short
and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us.
So, be swift to love and make haste to be kind.
And Go in Peace to love and serve The Lord.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.
Thanks be to God.

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Praying together at Holy Cross – The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost July 18, 2021

Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Tend your church, O God. Encourage bishops, pastors, and deacons in their proclamation of the gospel. Raise up new leaders and encourage those pursuing a call to ministry. Embolden all the baptized to embody your love and justice.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Restore your creation, O God. Sustain croplands and pastures and safeguard all farm animals and livestock. Preserve lakes, rivers, and streams that offer refreshment. Revive lands recovering from natural disasters and protect coastlands threatened by rising oceans.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Reconcile the nations, O God. Break down the dividing walls that make us strangers to one another and unite us as one human family. Equip leaders to deal wisely with conflict and guide diplomats who seek peaceful solutions

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Heal your people, O God. Look with compassion on immigrants, exiles, and all who are afraid or feel lost. Give rest to those who are weary, comfort to those who are grieving, and recovery to those who are ill.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Nourish this congregation, O God. Prepare a table where we receive food for our hungering spirits. Renew our commitment to provide for one another and revitalize our ministries of feeding and nurturing hungry neighbors.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You lead us home, O God. We give thanks for all who have died, now citizens with the saints. As you have received them into your heavenly home, so welcome all of us to dwell in your house forever.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

