

## **From your Council President – September 14, 2021**

Last week we celebrated God's Work, Our Hands Sunday with special music presented by our choir along with a timely message by guest T.J. Putman of Family Promise/Interfaith Hospitality Network. After service we walked over to the Easter House for a prayerful blessing as it transitions from Holy Cross to Family Promise. After a short prayer and commemoration, we had a chance to tour the house and see the many rooms staged to host a needy family.

The sale of Easter House to Family Promise/IHN closed on Friday, the 10<sup>th</sup>. With the proceeds we paid off our mortgage with Thrivent and our church is now debt free! I am not sure if people still "burn the mortgage" but since it is fire season we will dispense with the ceremony, along with the monthly mortgage payment.

For many, the chance to be debt free opens lots of possibilities for their futures. Holy Cross is no different. Even though we are in the transition time between called pastors and it may be a while before we have an Interim Pastor, we are beginning to assess our vitality, viability, and vision for our future.

Please consider being part of our team as we schedule table talks, surveys and personal reflection on where we have come from, where we are now and where we want to go.

We are holding a Service of the Word and Sacrament in our Sanctuary with Reverend Rebecca Swee this **Sunday, September 19, 2021, at 10:00 AM.**

Your safety and well-being are always our priority. We will continue to sit socially distant and remain masked during the entire service. The congregation will not be singing; however, the choir will provide special music and lead the liturgy along with Reverend Swee. You are welcome to bring your own communion elements if you prefer those to the gluten free bread/grape juice provided. Please monitor your health and stay home if you are feeling unwell.

Another reminder that our rotation for Interfaith Hospitality begins on September 26<sup>th</sup>, and we are looking for volunteers to prepare meals to take over to Madison House for the families that are in the program. Please contact Doug Odell at 503/856-5151 for more specific information.

Pastor Charles Mantey at St. Mark's Lutheran Church continues to provide pastoral care for our members during this time of transition. Please route all communication through Janet or me so we can keep track of what is going on with our church family.

If you are or know of someone in middle or high school, please give your contact information to the church office so we can coordinate planning Youth activities with the other two FLY churches.

Also, if you are aware of someone needing to go through confirmation (typically grades 6-8<sup>th</sup>), please let the office know. Pastor Charles has graciously offered to assist the other two churches as they both are going through transition.

The Property Committee has met with Mano a Mano and is recommending their proposal to council. A reminder that your church council will be meeting this Thursday evening (September 16, 2021) at 6:30 PM. Please contact your elected leaders with any questions or concerns.

To paraphrase some of T.J.'s message to us last Sunday, "Life is more like a river than a lake." We will not be able to go back to the way it was before. Time continually moves forward, and events occur that necessitate a change in the way we do things. Change is hard for everyone, at all ages and stages of life. We all react differently to change and accept it at various levels and speeds.

Now is the time for our church to gather together our hopes and dreams to determine what changes we would like to see put in place to help guide and shape our legacy here on the corner of Lansing and Sunnyview. All ideas are welcome as we prayerfully listen to what the Lord has in store for us.

Thank you for your ministry and support of your church. Do not hesitate to reach out via email or phone with your questions or concerns.

Your Servant in Christ, Bryan Struve, Council President

**Worshipping at Home with Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
September 19, 2021 – Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
whose teaching is life,  
whose presence is sure,  
and whose love is endless.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God our comforter:

**like lost sheep, we have gone astray.**

**We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.**

**We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.**

**We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.**

**Free us from our sin, gracious God.**

**Listen when we call out to you for help.**

**Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.**

**Amen.**

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in † Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

**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, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **READINGS AND PSALM**

### **Jeremiah 11:18-20**

*The prophet led like a lamb to slaughter*

### **Psalm 54**

God is my helper; it is the Lord who sustains my life. (Ps. 54:4)

### **James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a**

*The wisdom from above*

### **Mark 9:30-37**

*Prediction of the passion*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia.* Christ suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. *Alleluia.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 641 "All Are Welcome"**

### **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**

God of abundance,  
you cause streams to break forth in the desert  
and manna to rain from the heavens.  
Accept the gifts you have first given us.  
Unite them with the offering of our lives  
to nourish the world you love so dearly;  
through 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**

Lord of life,  
in the gift of your body and blood  
you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.  
Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,  
bearing witness to the abundance of your love  
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **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. You are the body of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

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## **Prayers of Intercession**

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

God of community, we pray for the church around the world. Unite us in our love for you. Help us overcome our divisions, that we are encouraged to work together for your sake. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of creation, we pray for this hurting earth. Awaken in us a new desire to care for this world and empower us to support agencies, organizations, and individual efforts to heal our environment. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of cooperation, we pray for nations of the world embroiled in conflict (*especially*). Inspire leaders to listen to each other and work towards peaceful solutions to disagreements. Protect the vulnerable, especially children, who cannot find safety in their home or country. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of comfort, we pray for all who live with mental or physical illness. Help them find appropriate care. Bring healing and wholeness when the path forward seems bleak. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of compassion, we pray for the young people of this congregation. Renew in us your call to welcome the children in our midst. As they grow, strengthen their faith and our commitment to them. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God of consolation, we give you thanks for our loved ones who have died and pray for all who grieve today (*especially*). Shine your grace on all your saints. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**