

From your Interim Coordinator – May 10, 2022

Last Sunday, May 8, 2022, we observed Mother's Day with a Service of the Word and Sacrament held in our Sanctuary. Pastor Curtis Zieske presided and in addition to his sermon led us in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. If you were unable to attend, you may watch a recording of this service and other previous worship events on the Holy Cross YouTube channel at; <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiHbmFBDWLG1W-jcI8jRhOO>

Synod Assembly is this coming weekend in Sunriver, Oregon, Friday through Sunday, May 13, 14, 15. It will be held in person for the first time since 2019 and our Oregon Bishop, Laurie Larson Caesar and her staff have been looking forward to hosting this event for quite some time. In addition to an address by the keynote speaker, Dr. Susan Abraham, a theologian from the Pacific School of Religion, there will be several workshops with discussion on various social issues. These include Pathways Toward a Hybrid Church, Pathways to Reckoning with Racism as Communities of Faith in Oregon, Pathways to Community Vitality and Engagement: Sacred Organizing & Reckoning with Racism Cohorts, Pathways to Reparations: Bearers of the good news of reparation and healing?, and Pathways of Transformational Transitions for Congregations: Renewed Vitality, Ecumenical Partnership, Holy Closure and more. Please pray for our representatives that will be attending, Loran & Peggy Sell, Andrew Miller, and Pastor Curtis Zieske. Please visit the Oregon Synod website for more information and a link to view the events via Livestream.

This coming **Sunday, May 15, 2022, at 10:00 AM**, while our Pastor and President are away attending the Assembly, we will hold a simple Service of the Word and welcome to our church the Executive Director of Salem Leadership Foundation, Sam Skillern. He will provide a message of partnership within our community and the many ways we can reach out to bridge the barriers of religion and secular organizations. All are welcome to join with us for worship at Holy Cross, Sunday at 10 AM.

You are also invited to attend Bible Study on Thursdays at noon in the Holy Cross library. Contact Carolyn Ford or the church office for more information.

In closing, please continue your prayers for your Church and your leadership. Also pray for those members that have special concerns. Contact the church office if you would have needs that you would like addressed by the prayer chain, or if you are interested in praying for those in need. Do not hesitate to reach out via email or phone with your questions or concerns.

Together with you in Christ, Bryan Struve, Interim Coordinator

Worship at Home - Holy Cross Lutheran Church
May 15, 2022 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

In the waters of baptism, we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ, and we are a new creation. For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God, who was, who is, and who is to come.

We thank you, God, for your river of life, flowing freely from your throne: through the earth, through the city, through every living thing.

You rescued Noah and his family from the flood;

You opened wide the sea for the Israelites.

Now in these waters you flood us with mercy, and our sin is drowned forever. You open the gate of righteousness and we pass safely through.

In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters.

You nourish us and enclose us in safety. You call us forth and send us out.

In lush and barren places, you are with us. You have become our salvation. Now breathe upon this water and awaken your church once more. Claim us again as your beloved and holy people.

Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.

To you, our Beginning and our End, our Shepherd and Lamb, be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

READINGS AND PSALM *God speaks to us in scripture reading and song.*

Acts 11:1-18

Peter's vision: God give the Gentiles repentance that leads to life

Psalms 148

The splendor of the LORD is over earth and heaven. (Ps. 148:13)

Revelation 21:1-6

New heaven, new earth: springs of living water in the new Jerusalem

John 13:31-35

Jesus gives a new commandment: Love one another as I have loved you

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Everyone will know that you are my disciples if you have love for one another. *Alleluia.* (John 13:35)

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 377 “Alleluia, Jesus is Risen”

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

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Loving God, lead us to follow your Spirit, rather than our own prejudices or desires, as the church cares for one another. Open us to perceive your gifts in those we least expect. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Inspire us to praise you through the beauty and majesty of the natural world around us (*local natural areas may be named*). Urge us toward more deliberate care of the world you have made. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Humble the rulers of nations before your splendor. Direct them to the people who need their attention most, and turn them from the temptation to hoard wealth or power. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Hasten to dwell among those who are in pain or distress (*especially*). As Christ enters our deepest suffering, remain with those experiencing despair and great need. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Place holy love at the center of all our relationships and communities. By your love heal us, convict us, and renew us. Bring an end to racism in our churches and communities. Let everyone know your goodness by the love we show one another. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Give us a place in the diverse company of your beloved saints. Teach us the value of each person's identity, and bless us with a shared identity as your children, kindred of Christ. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

OFFERING PRAYER

Living God, you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

✠ GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

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.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, generous God,

for in this bread and cup

we have tasted the new heaven and earth

where hunger and thirst are no more.

Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection,

that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

BLESSING

God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving
Spirit of adoption, † bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. Tell what God has done. **Thanks be to God.**