

From your Interim Coordinator – May 17, 2022

Last weekend our Oregon Synod held an in-person assembly for the first time in three years. We had three representatives attend (Loran and Peggy Sell, and Andrew Miller) along with Pastor Curtis Zieske and his wife Sonya. You can expect to hear about the workshops and discussions that took place at the assembly in the next few weeks.

While the assembly was concluding on Sunday, May 15, 2022, we held a short Service of the Word at Holy Cross with a special message from guest speaker Sam Skillern, the Executive Director of Salem Leadership Foundation. He spoke on the history of Holy Cross, from the merger of Central and Grace Lutheran Churches in 1984 through the partnerships with community organizations that began in the mid-1990s.

In 1996, our Pastor Doug Dobson saw a need in our community and brought together several organizations and from those meetings the Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) in Salem was conceived. While Holy Cross has since been a regular participant in the IHN rotations (now Family Promise), the networking with community partners also helped launch Churches as Neighborhoods (CaN), La Casita, the Community Garden in our courtyard and our ongoing relationship with Washington Elementary. We have provided a template for other churches and community partners to follow.

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-jcI8jRhOQ>

You may also find links to recordings of the Synod Assembly on the Oregon Synod website at oregonsynod.org.

This coming **Sunday, May 22, 2022, at 10:00 AM**, we will hold a Service of the Word and Sacrament led by our Interim Pastor Curtis Zieske. All are welcome, please 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.

As we move forward, remember Sam's comments regarding the creativity and courage our church has shown in facing the changes within our church and out in the community. Now we are in another period of change. Let us keep the words of Isaiah 43: 18-19 close at hand;

“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you perceive it?”

Working together with you in Christ, Bryan Struve, Interim Coordinator

Worship at Home - Holy Cross Lutheran Church
May 22, 2022 – Sixth 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

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through 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 16:9-15

Lydia and her household are baptized by Paul

Psalms 67

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy. (Ps. 67:4)

Revelation 21:10, 22--22:5

The Lamb is the light of the city of God

John 14:23-29

The Father will send the Holy Spirit

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 631 “All Love Divine, All Love Excelling”

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.

God of new life, open your church to the unexpected ways your Spirit is at work. Guide bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders in their visioning, partnership, and planning. Surround us with your peace. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give a vision of increase and abundant harvest for farmers, laborers, and gardeners who are beginning their growing season. Join their efforts with the goodness of creation to feed all living things. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Shine your light of wisdom and peace among nations. When those in power seek to assert dominance over others, confound their ways and make them yield to your humble authority. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give safe haven to those who seek healing, liberation, or peace (*especially*). Create places filled with hospitality where hurting people find your loving presence and wholeness. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Uphold the work of ministries and organizations in our communities who assist people experiencing homelessness, citizens returning from prison, and all marginalized people (*especially*). Accomplish your will through their efforts. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Assemble your people at rivers, streams, and fonts, where we remember our baptism and welcome others into the communion of saints. Gather us

with those who have died (*especially*) when we meet together at your river of life. 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.**