

From your Interim Coordinator – May 3, 2022

Welcome to May! We may have had record rainfall during the month of April in Portland, but so much of our state and country is still suffering under drought conditions. Let us hope for a cooler summer and reduced wildfires.

Last Sunday, May 1, 2022, we celebrated May Day with a Service of the Word and Sacrament held in our Fellowship Hall/Gym. Our Interim Pastor Curtis Zieske presided, and your Transition Team continued the conversations started the prior week with the congregation. We sat in several small groups around tables and many thoughts and ideas were shared. If you were unable to attend, you may watch a recording of this service on the Holy Cross YouTube channel at; <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiHbmFBDWLG1W-jcI8jRhOQ>

Spring does indeed bring renewed life, not only in Jesus Christ but in nature around us. After the worship service on Sunday, there is a sense of renewed hope for the future of Holy Cross. Both the Strengths and Challenges we face as a congregation were discussed in a friendly, positive manner. There are many steps ahead of all of us on this new journey and while we know it will be difficult, and perhaps look very different, it is comforting to know we have such a strong core working together to discern where we will end up.

This coming **Sunday, May 8, 2022, at 10:00 AM**, we will be back in our sanctuary with a Service of the Word and Sacrament led by our Pastor Curtis Zieske. You are welcome to join us if you are able, to celebrate families and mothers everywhere.

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.

Again, I ask for your continued 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 in Christ, Bryan Struve, Interim Coordinator

Worship at Home - Holy Cross Lutheran Church
May 8, 2022 – Fourth 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 God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, 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 9:36-43

Peter raises Tabitha/Dorcas from the dead

Psalms 23

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

Revelation 7:9-17

A white-robed multitude sings before the Lamb

John 10:22-30

Jesus promises eternal life to his sheep

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Jesus says, I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me. *Alleluia.* (John 10:14)

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 502 “The King Of Love My Shepherd Is”

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.

Gentle Shepherd, enable your church to respond to the voice of Jesus. Give us unfailing trust, unafraid to join in Jesus’ work of renewing all things.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Feed your people at the table of creation. Prepare a safe place for those whose environments are dangerous or unhealthy, especially those making difficult journeys. Prosper your creation for the sake of every living thing.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Warm the hearts of all who celebrate and all who mourn on Mother’s Day. Accompany those yearning to be mothers. Help us to heal from broken family relationships and open us to receive your nurturing love from all

who serve mothering roles in our lives (*especially*). God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Seek out those who weep while they await healing or consolation (*especially*). Set people in their path who can provide the care they need, and wipe away every tear from their eyes. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Inspire the words of prophets and saints who employ innovative imagery to stretch our understanding (*as did Julian of Norwich, whom we commemorate today*). Send Christ to instruct us with motherly care. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Enfold us in the great multitude of saints from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages. Wash us in your saving grace every day, guiding us to your waters 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.**