

## **From your Council President – June 7, 2022**

Dear members of Holy Cross and friends in Christ:

Thank you for your continued support in spreading the Love of Christ through our congregation and community. I assure you that both the Council and Transition Team are as anxious to find a new pastor as you are. Two fundamental tasks need to be completed for this to happen.

First, we must complete the Ministry Site Profile. This document describes who we are as a congregation and sets our ministry expectations for the pastor we want to call. Once completed it must be approved by you, the congregation. Once approved it will be recorded in the synod office and can be made available to pastors who are looking for a call. Your transition team is well on the way to completing the task and as the team leader, Karen Halvorson, explained in last week's newsletter, they hope to bring it to you by the end of June.

The second task that must be completed before we can call a pastor is to decide just where we are as a congregation and what direction we wish to proceed. We have some big decisions to make. The Transition Team and the Council have listened to you and written some group agreements that I hope you can support. To be in group agreement does not mean that you personally agree with everything. It does mean that you can accept the group statements and support them so that we may move forward. The proposed group agreements are:

- While we are currently solvent, we do not have the financial means to support a full-time pastor long term.
- We own a beautiful but aging building that is costly to operate and maintain.
- Our congregation is changing.

We realize that it is important for many of you to continue worshiping in this space and we hope to be able to honor that in the call process. One way to do so is to partner with another congregation in the area and put out a joint call for a two-point parish pastor. In this scenario both congregations maintain their own integrity and worship space. The pastor would serve both congregations, holding two services each Sunday, one at each site. Those of you from the Midwest may have experienced this option as I have.

We have just begun to explore this option and another congregation has expressed an interest in exploring it together. As we explore, we will keep you informed of any progress. To seriously pursue this option would take both Council and Congregational input and approval. If you have thoughts or

questions about either this option or the process, please contact a transition team or council member.

Thank you for your continued prayer and support,

Loran B. Sell, President.

### **Worship notes and other upcoming events**

Last Sunday we celebrated Pentecost during a Service of the Word and Sacrament led by our Interim, Pastor Curtis Zieske. He reflected on the events our society has experienced recently and how God has infused us with the Holy Spirit to make us whole and to sanctify us for life with Christ. If you were unable to attend worship with us last week, 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>

This coming **Sunday, June 12, 2022, at 10:00 AM**, we will hold a Service of the Word and Sacrament led by Pastor Zieske. All are welcome, please join with us for worship if you are able, Sunday at 10 AM.

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

On Sunday, June 12, 2022, at 3:00 PM you may attend an Organ Recital by Christopher Wicks at Trinity Lutheran Church in Silverton. He will be playing music from the Baltic nations of Latvia and Estonia. All free-will donations go to benefit Lutheran World Relief.

Finally, Salem Leadership Foundation's annual celebration and fundraiser, *FANCY FRIDAY* is back at the Salem Convention Center on Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup>. Please join us at one of Holy Cross' two tables. Contact Loran, Bryan or the church office for details and reservations.

**Worship at Home - Holy Cross Lutheran Church**  
**June 12, 2022 – Holy Trinity Sunday**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose steadfast love and mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**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.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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

**Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31**

*Wisdom rejoices in the creation*

## **Psalm 8**

Your glory is chanted above the heavens. (Ps. 8:2)

## **Romans 5:1-5**

*God's love poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit*

## **John 16:12-15**

*The Spirit will guide you into the truth*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 413 "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty"**

### **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**

United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

One God, giver of life, you established peace through your Son and gave your church the hope of sharing in your glory. Enliven us by your Spirit to speak and act in love for the sake of the world. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Creator of all, you rejoice in creation and have given humankind responsibility for the works of your hands. Instill in everyone your Spirit of care for the earth, especially in areas threatened by ecological devastation (*areas may be named*). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Loving Redeemer, you delight in the human race. Move the hearts of world leaders to seek wisdom, speak truth, and care for all endangered by poverty, prejudice, or violence. Further the work of international collaboration and peacemaking. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Abiding Comforter, you call out to all who live. Restore severed relationships and protect children who lack trustworthy caregivers. Grant

hope to those who are experiencing fear, pain, or grief. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Holy Three, you are community and you create community. Build up ministries that support those who are isolated or lonely. Give endurance as we nurture vital relationships in our congregation and beyond. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Holy God, we remember your saints for their strong faith and witness, even unto death (*especially the Emanuel Nine, whom we commemorate this week*). Console grieving families. Stir up in us the resolve to end the sin of white supremacy and pursue the courageous path of justice. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of every time and place, in Jesus' name and filled with your Holy Spirit, we entrust these spoken prayers and those in our hearts into your holy keeping. **Amen.**

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

God of abundance:

you have set before us a plentiful harvest.

As we feast on your goodness,

strengthen us to labor in your field,

and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all,

in the name of Jesus. **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**

Life-giving God,  
through this meal you have bandaged our wounds  
and fed us with your mercy.

Now send us forth to live for others,  
both friend and stranger,  
that all may come to know your love.

This we pray in the name of Jesus.

**Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

The God of peace, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life  
this day and always. **Amen.**

### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

**Thanks be to God.**