



CAMP LUTHERWOOD OREGON

**Can you feel it in the air?
Save the date for the 2nd annual
Spirit of Harvest online event benefitting
Camp Lutherwood Oregon!**

October 6, 2021 | 7:00 p.m.

Join us on **Wednesday, October 6** for a fun and interactive online, livestream program uplifting the Spirit of Harvest that lives year-round at Camp Lutherwood Oregon!

Let's envision the future of camp together, even while we're far apart! Get ready to see some familiar faces, and hear about new ideas!

Just like past Harvest Festivals, this fun, fast-paced evening includes an exciting online auction (items will be announced soon!). This is your chance to bid on exclusive camp experiences and learn how your support will allow us to continue our outdoor ministry and education through 2022.

Tune in at 7PM PST on the Lutherwood website or subscribe to **[Camp Lutherwood Oregon on YouTube](#)**. Dress in black tie or PJs and raise a s'more in support of Camp Lutherwood Oregon from the comfort of your home!

Registration opens September 8th at lutherwoodoregon.org/spirit-of-harvest. Stay tuned for more information about the event and how you can enjoy and participate in the evening.

From your Council President – August 25, 2021

How are you doing? With the case count rising are you taking precautions to keep you and your loved ones safe? We are back to wearing masks in all public places and we continue to practice safe social distancing. Avoid large crowds and monitor your health conditions. Stay home if you are feeling unwell.

It feels like we have repeated that first paragraph time and time again over the past year and a half and are getting tired of it. As a society, a community, a church, and as a family we are worn out in adapting to the latest protocols and trying to comply with the changing mandates. Stress levels are high and the spirit of volunteerism that has been bountiful is waning. This is when you rely on your church, your faith, the power of the Holy Spirit to reenergize your tank and give you the strength you need to persevere.

Coming together weekly is important to many of you and if you cannot come in person, being connected electronically is a bit of a substitute. We know that Holy Cross needs to get back online. Gary Strand has recorded the past two Sunday services with Reverend Swee (8/15 & 8/22), and your Tech Task Force led by Margo Jensen and Karen Halvorson are working to establish our web presence and make those videos available for viewing. It is a small but vital part of our continued ministry.

This past Sunday we had 38 people in attendance as we tried a different format for service. Pastor Swee led the liturgy, singing a capella, and for the most part it came off smoothly. The Tweets again served coffee to go, curbside, and the weather cooperated, both inside and out.

This coming **Sunday, August 29, 2021**, we will be holding service in the Sanctuary at **10:00 AM**, with the Reverend Tom Hiller presiding over the service of Word and Sacrament. This week we will have some musical accompaniment with Sheila Clausen playing the piano and perhaps some choir members up in the chancel singing along with the liturgy. Judy Ruscoe will be the assisting minister. Alas, Gary Strand will not be available to record the service so we may not have video as so many of us will be out of town.

Looking forward a few weeks, we will not be holding service during Labor Day weekend (9/5) but will return on Sunday, September 12 to celebrate God's Work, Our Hands Sunday with special music and a message by guest T.J. Putman of Family Promise/IHN, followed by a walk over to the Easter House for a prayerful blessing as it transitions to a new chapter in its life.

Speaking of Interfaith Hospitality, beginning September 26th 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 for more specific information.

Another way we have shared our gifts is in the annual school supply drive, spearheaded by Suzanne Stephen and Gae Nichols. Between your donated supplies and your dollars, the ladies used for shopping, we nearly filled the Sunday school room and have now taken the items down to Washington Elementary. Great Job everyone!

On Friday we received a proposal from Maria Lemus of La Casita on behalf of Mano a Mano to lease space for a parenting childhood development program that they have received a grant for. It would require devoting more space than they are currently using, and we have our property team looking into the idea.

Also on Friday, we received a message in the church office about lifeguarding opportunities at the Kroc Center. They are looking for Christian youth to help fill out their roster. Please see their website for more details.

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.

Finally, your church council met with the Bishop's Associate for Inter-cultural and Inter-religious Mission, Juan Carlos La Puente Tapia. He brought with him a candidate to possibly fill our need for an Interim Pastor. All of us were able to express our feelings about this time of transition, the future of the church and ask the candidate how she would respond to some of these concerns.

The meeting went well, we discussed what a typical week might look like, the need for continued pulpit supply and the flexibility in scheduling to allow her and our church to build relationships and time for the discernment process to discover where the Holy Spirit is leading us.

The desire to "ground our mission in the history of the community" was expressed and the need to be part of the Synod initiative to form a cohort to study "Reckoning with Racism" along with other congregations in Oregon. The council directed me to follow up with Juan Carlos on a few of these points and investigate the possibility of bringing the Interim candidate down to meet our congregation.

In closing, many things are happening with your church amid the pandemic rates rising up again. Please pray for your leadership as they make decisions concerning both the short- and long-term future of Holy Cross Lutheran 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
August 29, 2021 – Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,

help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding
rather than trusting in you.**

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you.

Where else can we turn?

**Share with us the words of eternal life
and feed us for life in the world.**

Amen.

Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, † the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

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 strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

READINGS AND PSALM

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

God's law: a sign of a great nation

Psalm 15

LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? *(Ps. 15:1)*

James 1:17-27

Be doers of the word, not hearers only

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Authentic religion

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 532 "Gather Us In"

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

Let us pray.
Jesus, Bread of life,
you have set this table with your very self,
and called us to the feast of plenty.
Gather what has been sown among us,
and strengthen us in this meal.
Make us to be what we receive here,
your body for the life of the world.
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

Jesus, Bread of life,
we have received from your table
more than we could ever ask.
As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.
In your name we pray.

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.

We pray for the church, that it is a safe haven for all who seek your presence. Fill it with pastors, deacons, and leaders who echo your expansive and generous welcome. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for the whole of creation, that plants and animals have the habitat and resources to thrive and flourish. Inspire us to protect threatened habitats and ensure a sustainable future for generations to come. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for individuals in positions of authority (*national and local leaders may be named*). Raise up wise and discerning leaders in federal, state, and local governments and guide them to seek the benefit of every person. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for all who are in need. Support and encourage those who are unemployed, underemployed, or experiencing poverty. Bring food, shelter, clothes, and stability for daily life. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for this congregation, especially those beginning a new school year (*students, teachers, or others may be named here*). Empower teachers and school administrators. Guide students in their learning and development. Accompany parents, foster parents, and caregivers who provide encouragement and love. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for the faithful departed who showed us how to honor God with our heart. Inspire us by their example and renew our faith, trusting that we will be united with them in glory. 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.