

From your Council President – November 16, 2021

Past, Present, and Future are all coming together this November at Holy Cross. Since Pastor Patricia retired, we have had fifteen Sundays. Three of these, one Sunday each month, we have intentionally held no church service. The other weeks have been filled with nine services of Holy Communion with four different guest pastors, and three services of the Word with special messages from community partners and your church council.

Now we end the church year with an Interim Pastor designated to our church, **Pastor Curtis Zieske**. As we move on to the next phase of our journey, we will develop a transitional team to discern where we are in our ministry currently, contemplate where we would like to be, and complete our Ministry Site Profile. All of this work will prepare us to elect a Call Committee, who will interview prospective candidates and then give their recommendation to the congregation to extend a Call to a permanent Pastor.

As we move on from the past, specifically Pastor Patricia's time with us at Holy Cross, please take note of the lovely quilt hanging in the Narthex. Lorraine Odell created it to commemorate Pastor's service to Holy Cross and her retirement. Thank you to everyone who contributed a square to the project.

While last Sunday may not have had music like we did the prior two weeks of festival Sundays (Reformation and All Saints), it did have a service of the Word and Sacrament led by a returning guest pastor, Reverend Steve Carlson. A recording of the service and his sermon may be viewed on YouTube at; <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiHbmFBDWLG1W-jcI8jRhOQ>

This coming Sunday is the final service of the church calendar year and is commemorated as Christ the King Sunday. Please join us as we welcome our new Interim Pastor Curtis Zieske into worship with us. In addition to hearing music and liturgy, please plan to stay for a bit after service to meet with Pastor Curtis. He would like to get to know you too! It all starts **at 10:00 AM** this **Sunday, November 21, 2021**. Please join us if you are able.

In closing, please note that your church Council is working on drafting next year's budget along with forming the Transition Team. Your Worship & Music Committee is making plans for the Advent season and Christmas. Both groups will be meeting with Pastor Curtis via Zoom this week to get his time with us off to a fast and productive start.

Your continued thoughts and prayers for all the workings of your church are appreciated. It takes all of us pulling together to build a successful ministry here on the corner of Lansing and Sunnyview. Please do not hesitate to reach out via phone or email with any questions or concerns.

Your servant in Christ, Bryan Struve, Council President

**Worshipping at Home with Holy Cross Lutheran Church
November 21, 2021 – Christ the King Sunday**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
and of the † Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Have mercy on us, O God.

**We confess that we have sinned against you
and against our neighbor.**

**We have built walls instead of tables
and have turned away the stranger.**

**We have sought glory for ourselves
and have treasured that which does not satisfy.**

**Help us to love as you love,
to welcome those you send,
and to treasure mercy and justice.**

**Turn us from our ways to your ways,
and free us to serve those in need. Amen.**

God, who makes all things new,
forgives your sins for † Jesus' sake
and remembers them no more.

Lift up your heads and your hearts.

Yours is the kingdom of God.

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

Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of 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

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

The one coming with the clouds rules over all

Psalm 93

Ever since the world began, your throne has been established. (Ps. 93:2)

Revelation 1:4b-8

Glory to the one who made us a kingdom

John 18:33-37

The kingdom of Christ

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.* Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David. *Alleluia.* (Mark 11:9)

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 430 “Rejoice, For Christ Is King”

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

Holy God,
the earth is yours and everything in it,
yet you have chosen to dwell among your creatures.
Come among us now in these gifts of bread and wine,
and strengthen us to be your body for the world
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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

Blessed Jesus,

at this table, you have been for us both host and meal.

Now send us forth to extend our tables

and to share your gifts

until that day when all feast together

at your heavenly banquet. **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

Led on by the saints before us,
go in peace to serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Eternal God, you hold firm amid the changes of this world. Hear us now as we pray for the church, the world, and everyone in need.

A brief silence.

Merciful God, we give thanks for all missionaries who have brought your message of hope to new communities and wiped tears away (*especially John Christian Frederick Heyer, Bartholomaeus Ziegenbalg, Ludwig Nommensen whom we commemorate today*). Continue to raise up courageous missionaries to share your gospel of hope. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creating God, we praise you for abundant harvests and the goodness of creation. Create communities of care for your earth so that all land, water, and soil will be celebrated and cherished by future generations of saints. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of peace, we give you thanks for nations of peace that serve as a refuge for all whose homelands are afflicted with violence. Strengthen those who continue to work for peace and support all veterans who carry the scars of war. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of healing, we give you thanks for health care workers who labor around the clock to answer cries for help. Bring wholeness to all who struggle with post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, depression, addiction, and all who long for healing in any way (*especially*). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of justice, we praise you for the feeding ministries and for all meals that bring people together for nourishment and fellowship. Bless chefs, bakers, servers, dishwashers, communion assistants, and meal ministry coordinators. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of the ages, we give you thanks for the saints of this congregation who have inspired, challenged, loved, and taught us (*those who have died during the past year may be named*). Wipe away our tears and lead us by their example until we feast together on your holy mountain. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our protection and strength, we entrust to you all for whom we pray. Remain with us always, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.