

From your Interim Coordinator – July 20, 2022

Last night your Church Council met for their regular July monthly meeting. The agenda was full, as our church has many projects and initiatives going on as we reawaken from our pandemic shut down. One item of business was the ratification of our Congregational meeting last week and the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) that was approved unanimously. It has been submitted to the Synod and once they review our MSP, it will be posted for prospective Pastoral candidates to inquire about the Call opportunity.

Last Sunday we held a Service of the Word and Sacrament, presided by our Interim, Pastor Curtis Zieske. If you missed attending worship, you may watch a recording of these events on the Holy Cross YouTube channel at;
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiHbmFBDWLG1W-jcI8jRhOQ>

This coming **Sunday, July 24, 2022, at 10:00 AM**, Interim Pastor Curtis Zieske will again preside over a Service of the Word and Sacrament. All are welcome! We continue to sit socially distance and the wearing of masks, while optional, is recommended as another strain of COVID makes a surge.

A Funeral service for **Jennie Reisch** will be held this **Friday, July 22 at 11:00** with a reception following in our Fellowship Hall. All her fellow church members are welcome to attend and share remembrances of Jennie.

Please continue your prayers for Ray Miller and his family as he deals with health issues in the hospital. In addition, if anyone needs pastoral care or would like to be added to the prayer chain, please contact the church office.

Finally, as we continue to explore our “Better Together” connections with our community, your Council invites you to attend our joint worship service with our sister ELCA congregation, Christ the Good Shepherd (CGS). The service will begin at **10:00 AM on Sunday, July 31, 2022, at Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 4440 State Street, Salem, OR 97301**. Vicar Sena Norton will preside over the worship service, and we will be meeting afterwards for fellowship and conversation in their Gathering Space, refreshments provided. Do not miss out on this wonderful opportunity to get to know your fellow Lutherans and help chart a course for the future of both of our congregations.

There is a lot happening at Holy Cross during the month of July. So much for the summer slowdown! If you have any questions or concerns about the transition and events at our church, do not hesitate to me via email or phone.

Together with you in Christ, Bryan Struve, Interim Coordinator

**Worship at Home - Holy Cross Lutheran Church
July 24, 2022 – Seventh Sunday of Pentecost**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

**we confess that we have not followed your path
but have chosen our own way.**

**Instead of putting others before ourselves,
we long to take the best seats at the table.**

**When met by those in need,
we have too often passed by on the other side.**

Set us again on the path of life.

**Save us from ourselves
and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.**

Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins
but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are free to love as God loves. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

Genesis 18:20-32

Abraham bargains with God for the righteous of Sodom and Gomorrah

Psalm 138

Your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands. (*Ps. 138:8*)

Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19]

Buried with Christ in baptism, raised with him through faith

Luke 11:1-13

Jesus teaches the disciples to pray

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 745 “Lord, Teach Us How to Pray Aright”

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

Trusting in God’s extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

A brief silence.

Rooted and built up in Christ, we pray for the church. Embolden church leaders to take risks for the sake of the gospel, and equip the baptized to proclaim your extravagant love for the whole world. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Rejoicing in the works of your hands, we pray for the natural world. Make rivers and lakes, oceans and all waterways, sparkle with your radiance.

Protect water sources (*local water sources may be named*) and strengthen those who defend them. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Interceding on behalf of the vulnerable, we pray for the peoples of the world. Inspire all rulers and governing authorities with your justice. Guide the work of legislators and public officials, that they advocate for the well-being of those they serve. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Persistent in prayer, we pray for our neighbors in need. To all who have hunger, give daily bread. To all who have bread, give hunger for justice.

Open us to the cries of those who suffer (*especially*). Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Abounding in thanksgiving, we pray for this congregation. Bless the prayer and fellowship ministries in this place. Call us together in times of praise and blessing, trouble and sorrow, in your holy name. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Buried with Christ in baptism and raised with him to new life, we give thanks for your saints who rest in your eternal presence. Join our voices with theirs as we sing of your great glory. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom. **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.