

Important Notice

Dear Holy Cross Family and Friends,

Over two years ago, as the pandemic began to close down society, Holy Cross Lutheran Church began mailing out weekly letters containing a short Worship at Home liturgy. Originally, we started with postal mailings to over 120 households each week and are now down to thirty-five.

Since we are again worshipping in person, we will ***discontinue producing the Worship at Home liturgy*** as of September 1, 2022.

You may take the weekly bulletin from worship for use at home. If you are unable to attend worship service in person and pick up a copy, please reach out to the church office and we can make arrangements to get you materials for your use at home.

Everyone in our church family is important and we do not want to lose contact with any of you. Please reach out to Bryan or Janet in the church office with any questions or concerns you may have.

From your Interim Coordinator – August 24, 2022

Last Sunday we held our second joint worship with our fellow ELCA and Better Together partner, Christ the Good Shepherd (CGS), with over seventy people together here in the sanctuary at Holy Cross Lutheran Church. Our Interim Pastor, Curtis Zieske presided and Vicar Sena Norton from CGS provided the sermon. We heard our organ for the first time since Easter as Sonya Zieske played the Prelude and Postlude along with three hymns that we joined together in singing. If you missed attending the joint worship, you may watch this and other video recordings on the Holy Cross YouTube channel at; <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiHbmFBDWLG1W-jcI8jRhOQ>

After the worship service concluded with the Blessing and Dismissal, we adjourned to the Fellowship Hall for refreshments and to continue our Community Conversation with our Better Together partners. Again, the mood was positive, and excitement filled the room as folks discussed the many ways in which Christ's love touches them and how they spread the good news.

This was the second of three joint worship services and community conversations. The next one will be held at Christ the Good Shepherd on September 11th. Plan to attend and express your thoughts on the future of your church and ministry in Salem.

Come Worship with us at Holy Cross this coming **Sunday, August 28, 2022, at 10:00 AM**. Our Endowment Committee will be presenting scholarships to nine college students with a small reception to follow in the Narthex. The 28th is also the last day to bring in your school supplies to the church. Then Gae and Suzanne and other Faith in Action volunteers will sort and organize the supplies before gifting them all to Washington Elementary. Thanks to all of you for your generous support for both of these service projects.

Also, please continue to **respond to the Member Contact Information Form** that we sent out two weeks ago and update your email address and contact information. You may reply via email, call the church office, drop it off on Sunday or mail in your response. Thanks for keeping us connected to you!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about the transition and events at our church, do not hesitate to contact Loran or I via email or phone.

Together with you in Christ, Bryan Struve, Interim Coordinator

**Worship at Home - Holy Cross Lutheran Church
August 28, 2022 – Twelfth 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

O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are
humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the
generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

Proverbs 25:6-7

Do not put yourself forward

Psalm 112

The righteous are merciful and full of compassion. (Ps. 112:4)

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

God is with us: let acts of mutual love continue

Luke 14:1, 7-14

An image of God's reign: invite the poor, crippled to your banquet

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 651 “Oh, Praise the Gracious Power”

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.

For the church and its leaders, we pray. Uphold all deacons, pastors, and bishops who serve and teach your people (*national, synodical, and local leaders may be named*). Awaken in your church a spirit of invitation that reaches ever outward. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For the well-being of creation and its inhabitants, we pray. Stir in us reverent awe for the beauty of the natural world, for oceans and lakes, rivers and streams, forests and deserts (*local places may be named*). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For the nations and peoples of the world, we pray. Sustain the efforts of those who pursue justice and equity for all. Defend and accompany all immigrants and refugees and all who are persecuted for their ethnic origin or religious beliefs. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, we pray. Be present with those who live in isolation or fear, especially those who are incarcerated or detained. Comfort all who are sick or grieving (*especially Steve Tweet*). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For this congregation and its ministries, we pray. Prepare children, teachers, and youth ministry directors for a new year of learning.

Embolden our witness to invite others to the table. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

For all the saints who confessed God's name (*especially Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, and Moses the Black*), we give thanks. May we cling to the promise of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today, and forever. God of grace, **hear 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.