



## WORSHIP: Season of Creation

Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
Progressive In Approach: Christlike In Action!

September 20, 2020

Wilderness & Homecoming Sunday

### Finding Home in this Pandemic Wilderness!

Pastor **Dawn Hutchings** Musician: **Marney Curran**

Worship Team: **Marney Curran, Eric Schultz,**  
**Joshua Schultz, Andrew Slonetsky, Jane Winstanley**

Welcome:

Prelude: ***First Gnossienne*** by Erik Satie

Invocation:

Music: ***Behold I Gather All to Me***

WORDS: David R. Weiss; TUNE: traditional: El Condor Passa

Music printed under  
LiscenSing #1975

Our song we sing in praise of God who swirled  
Over chaos, hov'ring Wisdom, birthing the world.  
Each word you spoke was so – and so was good.  
Now, O Wisdom, on your Sabbath, sing if you would

#### *Refrain*

Behold, I gather all to me; those I gather, I set free.  
Behold in me all things are new:  
At first light, and then in Christ, and now in you.

In Christ your holy Wisdom dwelt on earth  
Preaching welcome, bringing wholeness, and sharing mirth.  
Though crucified, the resurrected One  
Sends the Spirit, to God's people: the song goes on—

Our song we sing in praise of God today;  
God who claims us, God who names us, both straight and gay.  
And each is safely kept beneath your wing:  
Loving holy, living fully, because you sing—*Refrain*

Behold, I gather all to me; those I gather, I set free.  
Behold in me all things are new:  
At first light, and then in Christ, and now in you.

## Prayer of the Day:

Let us breathe deeply, trusting the ONE who lives and breathes in, with, through and beyond us to open us to the LOVE in which we live and move and have our being.

These are challenging days filled with news which inspires fear and trepidation.

Let the power of LOVE's breathe open us to the many wonders which surround us.

Let us see beyond our fears so that we can find the courage to find hope in the wilderness.

Let the splendour of Creation inspire us to dream new dreams.

Let the rustle of the winds caress us with joy so that we can once again celebrate our hunger for truth and beauty.

Let our worship transcend boundaries so that together we can be LOVE in the world.

We pray in the name of the ONE who IS Beyond the Beyond and Beyond that also,  
our LOVER, BELOVED, and LOVE ITSELF. AMEN.

## Praise

## Earth the Original Liturgy

video produced by The Work of the People

Acclamation:

***Alleluia, Holy ONE***

### Refrain

Kristopher E. Lindquist



### Verse



Music & text © 2001, 2005 KEL. [www.KELmusic.com](http://www.KELmusic.com)

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-4:2

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. John tried to dissuade Jesus saying, "I should be baptized by you, and yet you come to me!"

But Jesus replied, "Leave it this way for now. We must do this to completely fulfill God's justice." So John reluctantly agreed.

Immediately after Jesus had been baptized and was coming up out of the water, the sky suddenly opened up and Jesus saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove and hovering over him. With that, a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Own, my Beloved, on whom my favour rests." Then Jesus was led into the desert by the SPIRIT, to be tempted by the devil. After fasting for forty days and forty nights, Jesus was hungry.

Reflection:        **Finding Home in this Pandemic Wilderness!**

Song of the Day:        **Love IS the Touch**

Text: Alison M. Robertson; Music: John L. Bell

**LOVE is the touch of intangible joy;  
LOVE is the force that no fear can destroy;  
LOVE is the goodness we gladly applaud:  
GOD is where LOVE is, for LOVE is of GOD.**

**LOVE is the lilt in a lingering voice:  
LOVE is the hope that can make us rejoice;  
LOVE is the cure for the frightened and flawed:  
GOD is where LOVE is, for LOVE is of GOD.**

**LOVE is the light in the tunnel of pain;  
LOVE is the will to be whole once again;  
LOVE is the trust of a friend on the road:  
GOD is where LOVE is, for LOVE is of GOD.**

Prayer of the People

***The MYSTERY that we call God is not some far off person in the sky. Our God is the Ground of our Being, the ONE in whom we live and move and have our being. God lives in, with, through, and beyond us. So, our prayers rise up among us so that we might become Christs to one another and move our prayers from words and worries into actions and change.***

***We will begin by offering prayers of gratitude, then our concerns for the Earth and the peoples of the world, and then our concerns for the people in our lives.***

***We do not pray to change the mind of a far off being but rather to open ourselves to the power of the ONE we call GOD who lives in us, with us, through us, and beyond us, so that we might be LOVE in the world.***

Interpretation of the Prayer Jesus Taught:

## ***God of Sky and God of Earth***

Interpretation: William L. Wallace.

Music: Bobby McFerren

1.O God of sky and God of Earth, We hon - our your pres - ence with -  
2.Give us, O God, for - giv - ing hearts Af - firm - ing each o - ther with  
3.You greet us here and ev - 'ry - where, In mo - ments of one - ness and  
4  
in us and be - yond. As we eat may we share your gifts  
hu - mour and with grace. May we grow be - yond nar - row needs  
spac - es of de - light. To all this we now say "A - men",  
7  
of hope and com - pas - sion with all the life of Earth.  
to join in the spread - ing of just and lov - ing peace.  
Your song is our an - them, your dance our cos - mic joy.

## **Blessing**

Where will we find the strength in this wilderness to find our way home?

Breathe, in and out, in and out, in and out.

Breathe deeply of the ONE who breathes in, with, through, and beyond us, trusting that that ONE is the LOVE in which we live, and move, and have our being, the LOVE which is our home.

Breathe and feel very much at home in the LOVE with is the MYSTERY which we call God.

Breathe and let each and every breathe give you the strength to be LOVE in the world so that in, with, through and beyond you and I new homes will emerge.

Homes built not out of fear of the wilderness, but homes built from the WISDOM gained by all those who have the courage to venture deeply into the wilderness.

Let it be so among us. Let it be so.

In the name of the ONE who is our LOVER, BELOVED, and LOVE ITSELF. Amen.

Announcements: *see below for details*

Sending:

GO IN PEACE.

Be LOVE in the world.

Thanks be to all that is HOLY!

Postlude

**The Homecoming**, by Hagood Hardy

# HOMECOMING

Sunday September 20<sup>th</sup>

Worship  
ONLINE followed  
by  
a physically distant  
**Social Gathering**  
**Bring your mask!**  
We have a lot of  
catching up to do!



season of  
**creation**

**Gather with us! ONLINE  
Sundays @ 10:45am**

We are reviving the early Christian  
practice of "Home Church."  
Updated for these challenging times:

**Online Worship Videos  
are posted  
Sundays at 10:45am**

[www.holycrosslutheran.ca](http://www.holycrosslutheran.ca)

**Progressive in Approach: Christlike in Action!**



**HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Progressive in approach: Christlike in action!

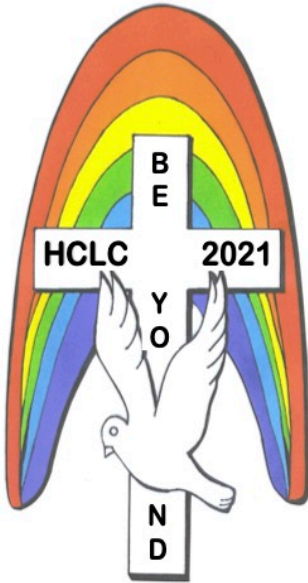
Worship Videos posted Sundays at 10:45am  
[www.holycrosslutheran.ca](http://www.holycrosslutheran.ca)

Pastor.....The Reverend **Dawn Hutchings** B.A., M.Div. 905-868-0897  
Musical Director.....**Marney Curran** B.S.M., A.R.C.T.  
email.....[holycrosslutheran@rogers.com](mailto:holycrosslutheran@rogers.com)  
Member of the Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

**Opening ourselves  
to the MYSTERY  
which is God  
who IS LOVE**



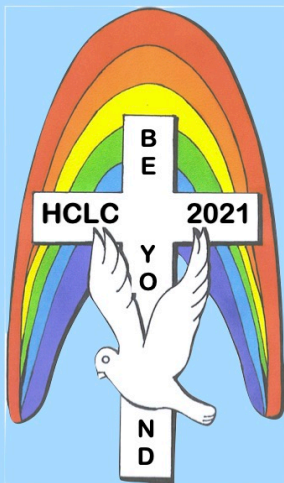
# HC2021 & BEYOND TEAM



**If you are interested in helping  
to shape Holy Cross' future,  
then this is the team for you!!!**

**HC2021 & BEYOND has a broad mandate which includes exploring what worship might look like, deepening the connections and between members, friends and viewers, expanding programming which will better serve our members, friends, and viewers and exploring ways to ensure that Holy Cross' continues to be Progressive in Approach: Christlike in Action for many years to come.**

## HC2021 & BEYOND TEAM



**Help us to shape  
the future of our  
congregation!**

**First Zoom Meeting:  
Wed. September 30<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm**

*What will a post-covid church look like?  
Whether you've been a member for  
decades, a friend of the community, or an  
online viewer, we want to hear from you!*

**Please pre-register to join this meeting by  
Wed. Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> to pre-register go to:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/ZUkfumrrjkuE9UdYkhKCnufnzPzKt1reQy->

**Progressive in Approach: Christlike in Action!**

**Registration link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUkfumrrjkuE9UdYkhKCnufnzPzKt1reQy->

# OFFERINGS:

There are several ways to ensure that we are able to continue meeting our commitments.

**You can mail in your offerings:**

Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
1035 Wayne Drive  
Newmarket, On. L3Y 2W9

**You can sign up to our Preauthorized Remittance Program PAR**

contact our Treasurer Sharon Smyth who will guide you

You can go to Holy Cross' **CanadaHelps** page to donate just follow the link:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/36983>

## E-transfer

**You can now transfer funds via email to:**  
**[holy.cross.donations@rogers.com](mailto:holy.cross.donations@rogers.com)**

### CARE TEAM:

We are doing our best to connect with our HC Family. We are grateful that at the moment we have more volunteers than we need. This will serve us well in the coming weeks. Soon, we will be creating a phone chain to ensure that we all stay connected. If you need help, or simply a conversation, **PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE** to leave a voicemail on the church phone: 905-898-1682 – we are checking these messages 3 times a day. So, someone will get back to you ASAP.

**You can also call Pastor Dawn directly on her cellphone 905-868-0897.**

## Holy Cross Finances as of JULY 31, 2020

**THANK-YOU! THANK-YOU! THANK-YOU!** Thanks to all the generous, Members and Friends of Holy Cross who have graciously stepped up to ensure that our financial house is in order during these unprecedented times! Your ongoing donations are especially appreciated as we all struggle to come to terms with the current realities of financial insecurity. Thanks to your generosity we have been able to meet our expenses. As a result of reduced services our expenses are running well below Budget. As many of you know, the budget does not reflect the annual expenses which are paid in the first half of the year.

### Financial Report - General Fund Jan-July 31, 2020

INCOME	Jan-July BUDGET	Jan-July ACTUAL	Variance
Regular Sunday Offerings		\$57,861.28	
BLOG Participants		\$3,500	
Total OFFERINGS	\$75,737.17	<b>\$61,361.28</b>	<b>-\$14,375.89</b>
Solar Panel Income	\$5,250.00	\$2,695.52	<b>-\$2,554.48</b>
Fundraising	\$1,166.65	\$0.00	<b>-\$1,166.65</b>
Gifts	\$291.65	\$0.00	<b>-\$291.65</b>
Interest	\$0.00	\$34.38	\$34.38
Non-Budgeted Expenses	\$583.35	\$0.00	<b>-\$583.35</b>
Budgeted Expense		1857.40	\$1,857.40
Budgeted Exp. Government Subsidy		\$7,226.00	\$7,226.00
Total Budgeted Expenses	\$583.35	<b>\$9,083.40</b>	\$8,500.05
Rentals: Church Facility	\$875.00	\$540.00	-\$335.00
Rental: Armitage Daycare	\$7,525.00	\$7,525.00	\$0.00
Movie Nights/Matinees	\$1,750.00	\$608.81	<b>-\$1,141.19</b>
Miscellaneous Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sub-Total General Fund	\$93,762.17	<b>\$81,848.39</b>	<b>-\$11,913.78</b>
2019 Surpluss Carried forward	\$578.95	\$578.95	
TOTAL INCOME	<b>\$94,341.12</b>	<b>\$82,427.34</b>	<b>-\$11,913.78</b>
TOTAL EXPENSES to July 31, 2020	<b>\$94,341.02</b>	<b>\$80,891.40</b>	-\$13,449.62
NET INCOME as of July 31, 2020		<b>\$1,535.84</b>	