

**Cannon River & Cross of Christ
Lutheran Churches ELCA
Faithful Through Generations
December 6, 2015**

PRELUDE

Welcome and Announcements
Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Organist: Jeff Rudi

*OPENING HYMN

"Hark, the Glad Sound"

ELW #239

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

ELW p. 94

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

P: Most merciful God, **C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

GREETING & KYRIE

ELW p. 98

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the wellbeing of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **C: Amen, amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

"This Is The Feast"

ELW p.101

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches, wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor, glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY: *(Bulletin Insert)*

THE FIRST READING *(Bulletin Insert)*

Malachi 3:1-4

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE SECOND READING *(Bulletin Insert)*

Philippians 1:3-11

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p.102

C: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

*THE GOSPEL

Luke 3:1-6

***Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Robert Berthold

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Prepare the Royal Highway"

ELW #264

***THE APOSTLE'S CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 THE CHURCH (Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.)**

***The Peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.**

OFFERING

***OFFERTORY HYMN "We Are an Offering" ELW #692**

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering, we are an offering.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER ELW p.107**

P: Let us pray. C: Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING ELW p.107**

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***THE PREFACE**

***THE SANCTUS ELW p. 108**

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

LAMB OF GOD ELW p. 112

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.

ANTHEM "Angels from the Realms of Glory/Emmanuel" CC Vocalists

HYMNS DURING DISTRIBUTION-CC ELW #249, #254

***P: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

***BENEDICTION: May God bless you and keep you. May God's face shine on you and be gracious to you. May God look on you with favor and give you peace. C: Amen.**

***POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE ELW p.113**

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have pre-pared in the sight of ev'ry people: a light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel. Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace.

***P: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE (*Please Stand)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today	11:30AM	Worship & Music Meeting-CC
	11:30AM	Brochure Meeting-CC
	5:15PM	Adult Choir-CC
	5:30PM	Christmas Dinner
Tuesday	9:30AM	WELCA Bible Study-Liberty's
	6:30PM	CC Council Meeting-Dahlen Hall
Wednesday	6:30PM	Adult Choir-CC
	7:00PM	WELCA Meeting-CC
Thursday	7:00PM	CR Council Meeting-Parsonage
Saturday	9:00AM	Men's Bible Study-CC

Christmas Shoeboxes

The Mission Committee would like to thank everyone who has prepared a Christmas shoebox. **A special thank you to the Sunday school children who put together shoeboxes on Sunday morning and to the ladies who made hats and mittens!** These boxes will be brought to Hope Coalition in Red Wing and shared with people who are homeless. Because of all your support, we will hopefully make Christmas a little brighter for people who need our thoughts and prayers.

Thank you! The Mission Committee

Adult Choir Practice

Adult Choir will have a quick practice before the Christmas Dinner at 5:15 p.m. today.

Christmas Dinner

Please join us this evening for our annual Christmas Dinner. We'll gather in Dahlen Hall at 5:30 pm; please bring a dish to share. Tableware and beverages will be provided. It is not too late to share a talent during the program!

WELCA Morning Bible Study

WELCA Bible Study group will meet Tuesday, December 8th at Liberty's Pizza in Red Wing for breakfast at 9:30 for our Christmas Breakfast. All who want to car pool meet at Cross of Christ at 9:00 a.m.; Pastor Bob will drive the van. We can pick up others in town on our way. Bring food for the food shelf in Red Wing instead of gifts. Let Millie Niebeling know if you need a ride at 651-388-4616.

Kwik Trip Cards

Kwik Trip cards make great presents for Christmas or any time. Use them to make purchases at Kwik Trip. The church gets 5% off when ordering the cards and another 10% if you use them to purchase items other than fuel at Kwik Trip. The proceeds from the KT sales are used for church maintenance. Order cards in any combination of the following amounts: \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50 or \$100. Let Julie Schreifels know what you would like to order: jschreif@live.com phone or 651-388-2326. Order by Tuesday, December 8th; cards will be available in church on Sunday, December 13th.

Cross of Christ Adopt-a-Family

Please take a tag from the tree in the back of the church. Return *unwrapped* gifts to church by December 13th. Thank you!

2016 Offering Envelopes

Your 2016 offering envelopes will be in the back of the church on Sunday, December 13th. Please let me know if you don't wish to use envelopes in 2016. Please remember that the "Simply Giving" program is an option at any time. You can enroll by contacting me.

Thank you, Rebecca Peterson

EconoFoods Receipts

Please keep saving EconoFoods receipts from Red Wing and Cannon Falls for Missions. Once we reach our goal, \$1000 will be sent to Feed My Starving Children.

Women's Retreat

The Women's Retreat will be January 24-26, 2016. Registration is \$125. If you wish to go on the sleigh ride on Saturday please add \$10. Massages will also be available. **Please make your payment or at least \$50 deposit** to either Julie Schreifels or Char Leurquin by December 15th.

Cannon River and Cross of Christ Lutheran Parish, ELCA

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Parish Secretary: Ellen Hartman **Organist:** Jeff Rudi

CC Greeters: Bob & Sandy Luhman **CC Lector:** David Hill

CC Ushering Team for December: Dean Dinndorf, David Hill, Jim Hill, Dennis Martin

CC Council Person: Jim Hill
