

**Cannon River & Cross of Christ
Lutheran Churches ELCA
Faithful Through Generations
December 11, 2016**

PRELUDE

Organist: Jeff Rudi

Welcome and Announcements

***OPENING HYMN** *“Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn”* **ELW #242**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **C: Amen.**

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.** (*Silence for reflection and self-examination*)

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **C: Thanks be to God!**

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.**

Refrain: **Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way. Kyrie eleison, ev'ryday.**

1. 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. *Refrain*

3. 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. *Refrain*

2. 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. *Refrain*

4. 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. *Refrain*

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain: **This is the feast of vict'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.**

1. 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. *Refrain*

2. 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. *Refrain*

PRAYER OF THE DAY: *(Bulletin Insert)*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

ANTHEM

"Were You There"-CC

Sunday School

The First Reading *(Bulletin Insert)*

Isaiah 35:1-10

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

The Second Reading *(Bulletin Insert)*

James 5:7-10

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

***C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

***THE GOSPEL** (*Bulletin Insert*)

Matthew 11:2-11

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

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

SERMON

Pr. 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, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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 “CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART” ELW #186**

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER: God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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

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

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

***THE PREFACE**

***HOLY**

ELW p. 190

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

LAMB OF GOD

ELW P. 191

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.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

***P: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake 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.**

SENDING HYMN

"Cold December Flies Away"

ELW #299

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

POSTLUDE

(*Please Stand)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today	11:30AM	Coffee Fellowship-CC
	11:30AM	Adult Choir Practice-CC
	6:00PM	Confirmation Caroling-CC
Tuesday	9:00AM	WELCA Bible Study-Liberty's
	6:30PM	Council Meeting-CC
Saturday	9:00AM	Men's Bible Study-CC

Caroling

Confirmation students will go caroling later today and Sunday, December 18th. Please meet at Cross of Christ at 6:00 p.m.

Christmas Project

All Christmas Project gifts are due today. Please bring them unwrapped. Contact Lynette Hanson with questions.

Ruth's Kids

Please return all gifts for Ruth's Kids to Cannon River by Sunday, December 18th. They should be wrapped. Thank you!

WELCA Bible Study

WELCA Bible Study will be meet at Cross of Christ on Tuesday, December 13th at 9:00 a.m. and carpool to Liberty's to have breakfast and celebrate Christmas. Please bring a food shelf item instead of gifts. Pr. Bob will drive the van.

Christmas Schedule

The Sunday School programs for both Cross of Christ and Cannon River will be December 18th. Christmas Eve Worship will be held at Cross of Christ on Saturday, December 24th at 4:30 p.m. Christmas Day worship will be at Cannon River at 9:00 a.m. on December 25th. Please note, there will be no worship service at Cross of Christ on Sunday, December 25th.

Christmas Shoeboxes

The Mission Committee would like to thank everyone who prepared a Christmas shoebox. We do appreciate the extra donation of fleece hats and mittens; the purses will be great for the older girls and women!

Our boxes will be taken to Hope Coalition in Red Wing to help people who are homeless. Because of your support, we will hopefully make Christmas a little brighter for people who need our thoughts and prayers.

Thank you for your kindness!

Dinner and a Game at Cross of Christ

Everyone is invited to celebrate the completed basement project. During the dull winter months of January, February and March we plan to serve a delicious hot meal to church members and friends, starting on Friday, January 13th at 5:00 p.m. It will be an opportunity for all generations to visit and have fun together. Following the meal, we'll play an easy dice game called Bunco. Bunco is a fast-paced game where you rotate and get a new partner every game. There is never a dull moment. Prizes will be awarded.

Fresh Eyes on the Scriptures

The women of Cross of Christ and Cannon River Churches and friends are invited to attend our Annual Women's Retreat January 20–22, 2017 at Cedar Valley Resort near Lanesboro. See the flyer on the bulletin board or contact Julie Schreifels for more information at hjschreif@liv.com or 651-388-2326.

Cross of Christ Pew Record Books

Please remember to fill out the record books located in the pews. Members only need to update contact information if there are changes. Thank you!

Cross of Christ Offering Envelopes

The 2017 offering envelopes are available in the back of the church. If I have missed putting envelopes out for you, please let me know. Thank you, Rebecca Peterson

Cannon River and Cross of Christ Lutheran Parish, ELCA

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Pastor: Bob Berthold **Cell:** 507-318-8717 **E-mail:** pastor@ccrchurch.com

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

CC Greeter: Doris Gruber **CC Lector:** Anthony Nemcek

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

CC Council Person: Dennis Martin
