



**Cross of Christ  
Lutheran  
Church (ELCA)**

*Christmas Eve  
Candlelight Service*

*December 24, 2016*



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December 24, 2016

4:30 P.M.

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Prelude

## **Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful**

ELW #283

Oh, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!

Oh, come, ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;

Come and behold Him born the king of angels:

*Refrain*

Oh, come, let us adore Him, oh, come, let us adore Him,

Oh, come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

The highest, most holy, light of light eternal,

Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;

Son of the Father now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,

Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God in the highest: *Refrain*

## Christmas Dialog and Greeting

L: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

**C: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**

L: Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

**C: We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.**

L: For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

**C: In him was life, and the life was the light of all people.**

L: May the grace and truth of Christ be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

## Opening Prayer

L: Let us pray. (A brief silence) Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*For Unto Us A Child Is Born*

Choir

Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

***O Little Town of Bethlehem***

ELW #279

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and, gathered all above  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love,  
Oh morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
Oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

*Birthday of a King*

Choir

Reading

Titus 2:11-14

***Angels We Have Heard on High***

ELW #289

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heav'nly song?  
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Special Music

“O Holy Night”

Bob Wasti

Reading

Luke 2:1-7

**Away in a Manger**

ELW #277

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,  
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.  
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky  
And stay by my cradle til morning is nigh.

Special Music

“Noel”

Kayleen & Emma Dinndorf

Reading

Luke 2:8-20

**Infant Holy, Infant Lowly**

ELW #276

Infant holy, infant lowly, For his bed a cattle stall;  
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all.  
Swiftly winging, angels singing, Bells are ringing, tidings bringing;  
Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping Vigil till the morning new  
Saw the glory, heard the story, Tidings of a Gospel true.  
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, Praises voicing, greet the morrow;  
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Sermon

Pastor Bob Berthold

Offering

*A Song of Christmas*

Choir

**What Child is This**

ELW #296

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch  
are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

*The minister lights a large candle from an altar candle, which symbolizes Christ, the Light of the world of whom John's gospel speaks. The ushers light their candles from the minister's candle, then light the candle of each worshiper nearest the aisle. The lighted candle is never tilted, but is always held upright when giving light to another.*

### The Prayers

L: Glory to God in the highest,

**C: And peace to God's people on earth.**

L: Blessed are you, Prince of Peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.

**C: Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.**

L: Blessed are you, Wonderful Counselor. You enlighten the heart with steadfast love.

**C: Enliven your church that it might bear good tidings of great joy to all people.**

L: Blessed are you, Emmanuel. You promise to be with us even to the end of the age.

**C: Open our eyes to see your presence in all who are hungry, lonely, or homeless.**

L: Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity.

**C: Have mercy on the sick, the dying, and all who suffer this day.**

L: Blessed are you, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.

**C: Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear your light to all the world. Amen**

**Silent Night, Holy Night!**

ELW #281

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;  
Glories stream from heaven afar, heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!  
Christ, the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming  
grace, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Lord's Prayer

Blessing

L: May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ Child. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*The candles are extinguished.*

**Joy to the World**

ELW #267

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the  
sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse if found.

He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations  
prove The glories of His righteousness and wonders of His love.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Sunday	9:00AM	Christmas Day Worship Service-CR
Saturday	9:00AM	Men's Bible Study

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### **WELCA Annual Retreat**

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](mailto:hjschreif@liv.com) or 651-388-2326

### **Annual Meeting**

Cross of Christ's Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, February 12, 2017. The Annual Report will be available two weeks prior, on January 29<sup>th</sup>. Please have your committee reports turned in by Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup> and treasurer's reports by January 15<sup>th</sup>.

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## **Cannon River and Cross of Christ Lutheran Parish, ELCA**

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**Office:** 24036 County 7 Blvd. • Welch, Minnesota 55089  
**Phone:** 651-388-3464 • **E-mail:** [secretary@cccrchurch.com](mailto:secretary@cccrchurch.com)  
**Website:** [www.ccchurch.us](http://www.ccchurch.us)

**Ministers:** People of Cross of Christ & Cannon River Churches  
**Pastor:** Bob Berthold **Cell:** 507-318-8717 **E-mail:** [pastor@cccrchurch.com](mailto:pastor@cccrchurch.com)  
**Choir:** Grace Nelson & Robin Nelson-Williams **Organist:** Jeff Rudi  
**Secretary:** Ellen Hartman **Greeter:** Jim Gustafson **Lector:** Mary Berthold  
**Council Person:** Dennis Martin

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**Thank you to those who purchased poinsettias to  
beautify our sanctuary at Cross of Christ.**

Oscar and Janet Daley in memory of Lloyd & Clarice Hoeft and  
Freeman & Helen Daley

The Dinndorf Family in memory of Grandma Itzie

Darwin and Cheryl Fox in honor of men and women serving our  
country and our grandchildren

Gustafson Family in memory of Carl & Bernice Gustafson and  
Richard Safe

Jim and Sue Hill in honor of our families

Jean Kehren in memory of Karl Kehren

Terry and Sandie Petrashek in memory of Paul & Arlene Capraro,  
Derick Bolton, Calvin Chapman, Fred Chapman

Todd and Kris Portinga in memory of John & Nancy Nilson

Todd and Kris Portinga in honor of Jim & Shirley Portinga

Steve and Patti Schaaf in honor of our grandkids

Hans and Julie Schreifels on honor of our grandchildren, M'Lynn &  
Vinnie Thonpson

Ken and Joan Slingsby

Tatge Family, Bauer Family and Glenn Holmquist in memory of  
Marilyn and Glenn Holmquist

Anita Vadis, Lona Froyum, Len Berg and Families in memory of  
Stuart and Florence Berg

***Please take your poinsettia home after the service.  
Thank you***