

# Cross of Christ and Cannon River Lutheran Church

*Faithful Through Generations*

August 16, 2020



In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

PRELUDE

Organist: Jeff Rudi

Welcome and Announcements

## **LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE**

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L: The Light shines in the darkness. **C: and the darkness does not overcome it.**

**OPENING HYMN** "*Lord Jesus Christ be Present Now*" (Verses 1, 2 & 4) **ELW#527**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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L: Trusting in the word of life given in baptism, we are gathered in the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

L: Let us return to God with all our hearts, confessing our sins and our need for healing.

L: Gracious God, **you know the depths of our sins against you and each other; have mercy on us. We pray for forgiveness we cannot earn and renewal we do not merit, given only through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

L: God knows and loves us completely, just as we are. Through water and word, Spirit and saving Son, we are cleansed from sin, joined with the communion of saints, and brought to new and abundant life. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Live in the newness of life. **Amen.**

## **GREETING**

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L: 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.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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**God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **THE FIRST READING**

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**Isaiah 56:1, 6-8**

Thus says the Lord:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,  
for soon my salvation will come,  
and my deliverance be revealed.

<sup>6</sup>And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,  
to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord,  
and to be his servants,  
all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,  
and hold fast my covenant—

<sup>7</sup>these I will bring to my holy mountain,  
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;  
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices  
will be accepted on my altar;  
for my house shall be called a house of prayer  
for all peoples.

<sup>8</sup>Thus says the Lord God,  
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,  
I will gather others to them  
besides those already gathered.

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

## **THE SECOND READING**

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**Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32**

[Paul writes:] <sup>1</sup>I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. <sup>2a</sup>God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

<sup>29</sup>For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. <sup>30</sup>Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, <sup>31</sup>so they have now been

disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. <sup>32</sup>For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

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

**GOSPEL**

**Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28**

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand:<sup>11</sup> it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.”<sup>12</sup> Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?”<sup>13</sup> He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted.<sup>14</sup> Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.”<sup>15</sup> But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.”<sup>16</sup> Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding?<sup>17</sup> Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer?<sup>18</sup> But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles.<sup>19</sup> For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander.<sup>20</sup> These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”]

<sup>21</sup>Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon.<sup>22</sup> Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.”<sup>23</sup> But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.”<sup>24</sup> He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”<sup>25</sup> But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.”<sup>26</sup> He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.”<sup>27</sup> She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.”<sup>28</sup> Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

**SERMON**

Deacon Todd Portinga

**HYMN OF THE DAY**      *“Healer of Our Every Ill”*      (Verses 1 & 4)      **ELW#612**

\*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**)

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

\*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.**

\*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.**

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