

**Cannon River & Cross of Christ
Lutheran Churches ELCA
Faithful Through Generations
March 16, 2014**

PRELUDE
Welcome and Announcements

Organist: Jeff Rudi

***OPENING HYMN** *“Lift High the Cross”* **ELW #660**

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.**

KYRIE ELEISON (Lord, have mercy) **ELW p.184**
Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way. Kyrie eleison, ev'ryday. *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.* Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way. Kyrie eleison, ev'ryday. *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.* Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way. Kyrie eleison, ev'ryday. *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.* Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way. Kyrie eleison, ev'ryday. *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.* Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way. Kyrie eleison, ev'ryday.

GLORY TO GOD **ELW p. 185**
Glory to God in the highest, the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Glory to God in the highest, the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. Glory to God in the highest, the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen. Amen. Amen. Glory to God in the highest, the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Glory to God in the highest, the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
PRAYER OF THE DAY: *(Bulletin Insert)*
CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The First Reading *(Bulletin Insert)* **Genesis 12:1-4a**
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Second Reading *(Bulletin Insert)* **Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***C: Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord. Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord. Save us you promised; we will trust your word. Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.**

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

John 3:1-17

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

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

SERMON

Pastor Bob Berthold

HYMN OF THE DAY

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

ELW #759

***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** “CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART” **ELW #185**

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

***OFFERTORY PRAYER: Merciful God, everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

***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.**

***CLOSING HYMN**

“How Firm a Foundation”

ELW #796

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

POSTLUDE

*(*Please Stand)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today	10:00AM	Council Meeting-CR
	11:30AM	Stewardship Meeting-CC
Monday	7:00PM	Contemporary Service Practice-CC
Wednesday	10:30AM	Bible Study-CF
	5:30PM	Soup Supper-CC
	7:00PM	Lenten Service-CC
Thursday	7:00PM	WELCA Evening Bible Study-CC
Saturday	9:00AM	Men's Bible Study-CC

Cross of Christ Stewardship Meeting

There will be a stewardship meeting immediately following worship today at Cross of Christ. All are welcome.

Lent

Lenten soup supper and worship service will be held at Cross of Christ on Wednesday, March 19th. Serving will begin at 5:30 p.m. with worship at 7:00 p.m.

WELCA Bible Study

WELCA Evening Bible Study will meet Thursday, March 20th at 7:00 p.m. in Dahlen Hall. Please read chapter 10.

Casting Crowns Concert

Cannon River and Cross of Christ members have the opportunity to attend the Casting Crowns concert on April 5th at Target Center. The cost is now reduced to \$10 per person. This is the last day to sign up!

Mitten and Fleece Hat Sewing Day

WELCA Ladies are invited to another Wool Mittens and Fleece Hat Day sewing session on Saturday, March 29th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Come for a half a day or a whole day. A signup sheet is posted between the church and Dahlen Hall. Bring a sewing machine or just come to help cut out patterns. Everyone please bring a scissors. We will have an extra sewing machine available. A light lunch will be served; bring a snack if you wish. Any questions call Mary Fjetland at 651-480-8110 or Millie Niebeling at 651-388-4616.

Cross of Christ Baskets of Promise

Please see the enclosed Baskets of Promise flyer. Each week a different item will be collected to assemble Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief.

March is Food Share Month

Cannon River is collecting donations for the Cannon Falls Food Shelf during the month of March. Please consider giving a monetary donation or a gift of non-perishable food.

IMPORTANT REMINDER!! Directing your Thrivent Choice Dollars

If you are a Thrivent member and purchase products from them, you are given "Choice Dollars" to direct throughout the year. You may direct that those choice dollars to Cross of Christ Church or Cannon River by visiting www.thrivent.com or calling them at 800-847-4836. Choice Dollars can be directed once they have been designated to you in your account and this can be as often as monthly. The easiest and optimal way to ensure that all of your designated Choice Dollars are directed to your chosen organization is to direct them once between 1/1 and 3/31 of the current year for the whole preceding year's accrual. Designated dollars that have accrued for your account in 2013 can still be directed until **3/31/14**. If you have a question regarding this, please don't hesitate to ask a council or finance committee member. Choice Dollars from Thrivent Financial have earned Cross of Christ over \$15,800. Cannon River has also benefited greatly from Thrivent Choice Dollars. Thank you!

Mission: St. Louis 2014

Once again we will be partnering with Living Water in Cameron, WI for a mission trip to St. Louis. We will be working on various mission projects with a church in St. Louis. Brochures with more information are available in Dahlen Hall. If you are interested in going, please contact Jeff or Rhonda Meyer at 651-385-8578 or jrjnmeyer@msn.com

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CC Greeter: Kris Portinga **CC Lector:** Jim Hill

CC Council Person: Jean Kehren
