

Cannon River and Cross of Christ Lutheran Churches ELCA  
*Faithful Through Generations*  
December 23, 2018

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**Gathering**

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**Welcome and Announcements**

**BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

P: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. In your Son, Emmanuel, you have shown us your light and saved us from the power of sin. Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath. Increase our longing for your presence, that at the celebration of your Son's birth his Spirit might dwell anew in our midst, for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever. **C: Amen**

***"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"***

**ELW#240**

1. Light one candle to watch for Messiah:  
let the light banish darkness.

He shall bring salvation to Israel,  
God fulfills the promise.

2. Light two candles to watch for Messiah:  
let the light banish darkness.

He shall feed the flock like a shepherd,  
gently lead them homeward.

3. Light three candles to watch for Messiah:  
let the light banish darkness.

Lift your heads and lift high the gateway  
for the King of glory.

4. Light four candles to watch for Messiah:  
let the light banish darkness.

He is coming, tell the glad tidings.  
Let your lights be shining!

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free, the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy, the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace. **C: Amen.**

Let us come before God in confession.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: To you, O God, we lift up our souls.

**C: You know us through and through; we confess our sins to you. Remember not our sins; remember us with your steadfast love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

P: Sisters and brothers, come with joy and draw water from the well of salvation. Remember the gift of baptism: your sin is washed away in the name of + Jesus; you belong to Christ; you are anointed to serve. Stand up and raise your heads! The reign of God is near. **C: Amen.**

### ***Come and Worship***

Angels from the realms of glory  
Wing your flight o'er the earth.  
Ye who sang creations story  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth.

### **Chorus**

Come and worship, come and worship,  
Come and worship,  
Worship Christ the newborn King.

Shepherds in the fields abiding  
Watching o'er your flocks by night.  
God with man is now residing  
Yonder shines the infant light  
(Chorus - 2x)

Saints before the altar, bending,  
Watching, longing, hope and fear.  
Suddenly the Lord descending  
in His temple shall appear.  
(Chorus - 2x)

### ***Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* #272**

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming  
From tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming  
As seers of old have sung,  
It came, a flow'r so bright,  
Amid the cold of winter,  
When half-spent was the night.

Isaiah had foretold it,  
The rose I have in mind;  
With Mary we behold it,  
The virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright,  
She bore to us a Savior,  
When half-spent was the night.

This flow'r, whose fragrance tender  
With sweetness fills the air,

Dispels with glorious splendor  
The darkness ev'rywhere.  
True man, yet very God,  
From sin and death he saves us  
And lightens ev'ry load.

O Savior, child of Mary,  
Who felt our human woe;  
O Savior, king of glory,  
Who dost our weakness know:  
Bring us at length, we pray,  
To the bright courts of heaven  
And into endless day.

### ***O, Come, O Come Emmanuel* #257**

O come, O come, Immanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.

### **Refrain:**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O Wisdom from on high,  
Who ordered all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show  
And teach us in its ways to go.  
(Refrain)

O come, O come, great Lord of might,  
Who to your tribes on Sinai's height  
In ancient times did give the law  
In cloud and majesty and awe.  
(Refrain)

O come, O Branch of Jesse's stem,  
Unto your own and rescue them!  
From depths of hell your people save,  
And give them victory o'er the grave.  
(Refrain)

### **Prayer of the Day**

(Bulletin Insert)

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## Word

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### **First Reading**                      **Micah 5:2-5a**

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

### **Second Reading**                      **Hebrews 10:5-10**

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

### **Rejoice**                                      (Bulletin Insert)

See the morning, see it rising  
Over the mountains high  
See the mercy, in the mighty hand of God  
Living water, come and fill us  
Only You can satisfy  
Turn our sorrow, into singing  
The song of life

### **Chorus**

Rejoice, rejoice  
And sing with the angel voices  
Rejoice, rejoice  
All Heaven and earth rejoice

Lord Your strength is, a tower  
The righteous run into  
Lord Your love is, a banner over us  
And we hold on, to the promise  
That Your hold on us is true  
There's no other, like You Jesus  
No one like You  
(*Chorus-2x*)

### **Bridge**

Always, again I say rejoice  
Always, again I say rejoice  
Always, again I say rejoice  
Always, always  
(*Chorus-2x*)

### **Gospel**                                      **Luke 1:39-45 (46-55)**

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

Deacon Todd Portinga

### ***Joy To The World (Unspeakable Joy)***

Joy to the world, the Lord is come  
Let earth receive her King  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room  
And heaven and nature sing  
And heaven and nature sing  
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns  
Let all their songs employ  
While fields and floods  
Rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy  
Repeat the sounding joy  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy

### **Chorus**

Joy, unspeakable joy  
An overflowing well  
No tongue can tell  
Joy, unspeakable joy  
It rises in my soul  
Never lets me go

He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness  
And wonders of His love  
And wonders of His love  
And wonders, wonders of His love  
(*Chorus-2x*)

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## Sending

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### 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 power of 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.**

### Peace

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

### Offering

***"Create In Me A Clean Heart"*** #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.

### The 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.**

### Blessing

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. **Amen**

***Go Tell It on the Mountain*** ELW #290

### Dismissal

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

### Postlude

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