

**HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH MINNEAPOLIS  
1720 E MINNEHAHA PARKWAY  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55407**

**FOR THE  
MESSAGE OF  
THE CROSS IS  
FOOLISHNESS  
TO THOSE WHO  
ARE PERISHING,  
BUT TO US WHO  
ARE BEING  
SAVED IT IS THE  
POWER OF GOD.**

**- 1 CORINTHIANS 1:18 -**



**THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY  
JANUARY 22, 2023**

## **Silent Prayer Before Worship:**

Lord God, Your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into Your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and LORD. Amen.

<p><b>Hymnals:</b> <i>Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW, the red cover hymnal), The Lutheran Hymnal (TLH, blue hardcover hymnal), and With One Voice (WOV, blue paperback cover)</i></p>
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## **Welcome**

### **GATHERING HYMN, ELW 631, stanzas 1-3**

*"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"*

## **INVOCATION**

P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Almighty God, to Whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from Whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ our LORD.

**C: Gracious God, 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 we have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen us all with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in our hearts through faith.

**C: Amen.**

**AGNUS DEI, "O Christ, Lamb of God" [ELW, page 196]**

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
 have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take  
 a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy up - on us.  
 O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
 grant us your peace. A - men.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**The Light of Your love shines brightly, LORD! Guide us by Your Holy Spirit, we pray, so that we will not allow Your Light to dim, but rather, shine in such a way that others will feel Your grace with its forgiveness and guidance. In Your holy name, Jesus. Amen.**

## **FIRST READING, ISAIAH 9:1-4 (NRSV)**

*Isaiah prophesies a glorious time for Zebulun and Naphtali.*

There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [God] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time He will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, You have increased its joy; they rejoice before You as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, You have broken as on the day of Midian.

L: This is the word of the LORD.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING, 1 CORINTHIANS 1:10-18 (NRSV)**

*Paul encourages his friends to come together as friends.*

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our LORD Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say that

you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L: This is the word of the LORD.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**CHOIR, "Behold My Servant"** by Bruce Bengtson

**GOSPEL READING, MATTHEW 4:12-23 (NRSV)**

*Jesus begins His ministry "in earnest."*

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, He withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made His home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: *"Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles – the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned."*

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven has come near."

As He walked by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea – for they were fishermen. And He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fish for people." Immediately they left their

nets and followed Him. As He went from there, He saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and He called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

P: This is the Gospel of the LORD.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

#### **APOSTLES CREED** (ELW p. 206)

**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 to the dead.\* 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 to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian+ church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*\*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.*

*+ Or, catholic, universal*

#### **HYMN OF THE DAY, ELW 618**

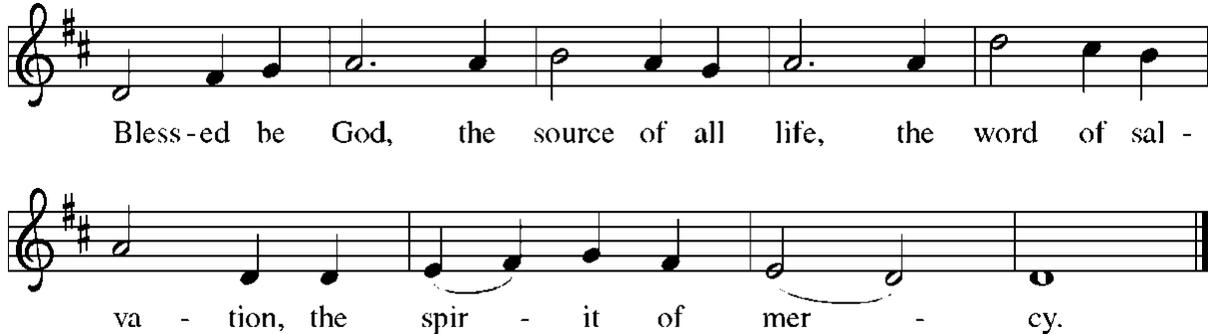
*"Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer"*

## SERMON, "This Foolish God"

*"The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing,  
but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."*

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1:18

## OFFERTORY, "Blessed Be God, the Source of All Life" [ELW 210]



Bless-ed be God, the source of all life, the word of sal -  
va - tion, the spir - it of mer - cy.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**LORD'S PRAYER**, page 208 (right column, traditional)

***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

P: The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The LORD share His presence with you and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

## **SENDING HYMN, ELW 631, stanzas 1 and 4**

*"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"*

### **Spoken Announcements**

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#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

##### **Statistics**

The attendance on Sunday, January 15 was 41. The total offering for was \$13,873 including \$105 for the Building Fund, \$101 for Synod and \$100 for OTHER and \$1,150 for use of church. In addition to the above \$600 was received electronically.

##### **Annual Altar Guild Meeting**

The annual Altar Guild meeting will be held on THIS Saturday, January 28, from 9:30 to 11:30. We will meet in the family room from 9:30 to 10:30 for the meeting and from 10:30 to 11:30 for our annual cleanup chores.

**Farewell to Pastor Don** -- It is with extreme gratitude and the most heart-felt thanks that we will say "so long" to Pastor Don on February 5. We will have a time of fellowship following the service on his final Sunday. Pastor Don has joined Holy Cross! So after some well deserved time off, he will be back – just in the pew instead of the pulpit.

##### **New Administrative Assistant**

Our new Administrative Assistant will be Amy Hanson. She will begin this week on Tuesday. Kevin and Amy will work together this week.

## **2022 Financial Statements**

If you have NOT received the statement of your giving, be sure and let the office know immediately. You should have received it by email or by US mail.

## **Celebrations this Week**

Birthdays: Jonathan Woltman (1/20)

Anniversary: Dave and Tina Ubl (1/13)

## **Volunteers Needed**

- **Ushers and Counters:** We are in need of volunteers to usher and count. Please let the office know if you are available!
- **Snow Shoveling:** Our snow removal contract is for 1 inch or more. If we have LESS than an inch we still need to shovel the sidewalks. If this is something you can help with, there is a signup sheet in the narthex. Talk to Jerry Rusk for more information.

## **Pillar of Warmth and Love**

We are once again collecting warm socks, new or gently used hats, scarves, and mittens for the Holy Cross pillar throughout the winter. Your donations are greatly appreciated. The collection bin is in the Family room. We'll start putting items out in mid-December when the really cold weather sets in. *Hands in Ministry*

## News about our New Pastor

- Pastor Jay Carlson has accepted the call to be the new pastor of Holy Cross.
- His first day in the office will be February 6.
- His first Sunday in the pulpit will be February 12.
- His installation is scheduled for February 19 at 2:00 PM
- Bishop Ann Svennungsen of the Minneapolis Area Synod will be presiding at the installation.
- A reception for Pastor Jay and his family will follow the service.



## **PRAYER CHAIN UPDATE**

- *"The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results" James 5:16*
- *" For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer..." 1Peter 3:12*

### **Prayerfully consider joining or continuing to be a part of Holy Cross' Prayer Team!**

We at Holy Cross are so thankful for the dedication and love that Milly Phelon has given us in using her gifts from the Lord of being a prayer warrior. She is ready to step down and has asked Kim Blomberg to take over as coordinator of the prayer chain. The structure will change a bit, meaning it is more of a prayer group than a chain.

*Prayer requests can come to Kim via her confidential email kvstar99@aol.com or voicemail 612-803-4884 and in the near future a button on the HC website.*

*She will be collecting the prayers and email the requests on a weekly basis to those with emails. For those that don't have email she will print out the sheet and give it to you at church or mail it to you.*

Not everyone has an email or is tech savvy, so those that don't she will be calling with urgent prayers ie; surgeries, time sensitive requests etc.

We want everyone to be able to participate even if they are homebound.

More to come! Thank you!

**FILL OUT THE BLUE FORM  
AVAILABLE ON THE TABLE IN THE BACK OF THE CHURCH  
HAND IT TO THE USHER  
OR LEAVE IT IN THE BASKET ON THE TABLE**

## **IN THE BACK OF THE CHURCH SERVING TODAY**

### **Today, January 22**

January Altar Guild: Linda Scanlon  
January Elder: Becky Dennis  
Choir Director: David Hinrichs  
Choir Accompanist: Wendy Kofoot  
Counters: Lynn Oolman & Sandi Likely  
Lector: Sally Gorski  
Organist: Julie Wright  
Interim Pastor: Rev. Don Mulfinger  
Recorder: James Blomberg  
Treats: Kim Blomberg  
Usher: Tim Phelon

### **Next Sunday, January 29**

January Altar Guild: Linda Scanlon  
January Elder: Becky Dennis  
Choir Director: David Hinrichs  
Choir Accompanist: Wendy Kofoot  
Counters: Adam Horrmann & Gail Klatt  
Lector: Jean Anderson  
Organist: Julie Wright  
Interim Pastor: Rev. Don Mulfinger  
Recorder: James Blomberg  
Treats: Pat Swanson  
Usher: Steve Blomberg

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