

# *C.R.O.S.S. Appeal Sunday*

*September 17, 2017*

**AS WE GATHER...**September 14<sup>th</sup> has been designated in the Church Year Calendar as being “Holy Cross Day.” Today we pause to thank our gracious Lord for the gift of Christian Day School ministries in our District and their efforts to provide a Christ-centered education to children beneath the cross. To that end, our Minnesota North District gathered in convention has also initiated the C.R.O.S.S. Appeal (Congregations Reaching Out to Support Schools). Gifts to this appeal are divided equally among the seven Christian Day School ministries in our District and is used to strengthen our schools (gifts are not used to pay normal operational costs).

HYMN “God’s Own Child, I Gladly Say It” LSB 594

## INVOCATION

- P: We begin in the name of the Triune God, in Whose name we were baptized and brought by grace into the family of God...
- C: The Father, Who created us...
- P: The Son, Who redeemed us...
- C: The Spirit, Who has brought us to faith and still teaches us today to grow in “the grace and the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (2 Peter 3:18)

## CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

- P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us His forgiveness.
- C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done

and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy upon us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

- P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.

HYMN “Baptismal Waters Cover Me” LSB 616

## PSALM 78:1-7

- P: O my people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth.
- C: I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter hidden things, things from of old
- P: what we have heard and known, what our fathers have told us.
- C: We will not hide them from their children; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, His power, and the wonders He has done.
- P: He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which He commanded our forefathers to teach their children,
- C: so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children.
- P: Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget His deeds but would keep His commands.
- ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT Isaiah 45:21-25

NEW TESTAMENT 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

HOLY GOSPEL

JOHN 12:20-36

APOSTLES' CREED or NICENE CREED

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN

"Let Children Hear the Mighty Deeds"

LSB 867

MESSAGE

OFFERING

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRAYER FOR OUR CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOLS

P: Heavenly Father, it is Your good and gracious will that all people be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth.

C: We pray for our Christian Day School ministries as they seek to teach the truth of Your Word to children, for this is in harmony with Your will.

P: Grant Your blessings to those who teach and to those who learn

C: that each of our Christian Day Schools may be places where children do grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.

P: We ask this in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, Who took the children into His arms and blessed them. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

HYMN

"Lift High the Cross, the Love of Christ Proclaim" LSB 837