Mount Cross Lutheran Church

102 Camino Esplendido, Camarillo, CA 93010 805.482.3847 <u>www.mountcross.com</u>

Let us know you're watching us online - fill out our connection card: https://bit.ly/MCLCConnect.



To the Parents of Our Young Children -

We are so glad you are here. We know how challenging it can be to get a family out the door to come to church. We hope you can relax and receive the gifts of God that are here for you today. Please don't worry about squirming children or crying babies. All are welcome here. If you feel you must leave the service with your child, please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

We want them to know they are at home in this house of worship.

To All Worshippers -

The presence of those with special needs is a gift to us and the Church. Please welcome all children and give their parents a smile of encouragement. Please greet those with special needs and their families, helping them to know they are valued

and accepted in our community.

Please introduce yourself to someone you do not know.

Thank you for being the welcoming Body of Christ!



Reconciling in Christ: Intentionally welcoming and affirming LGBTQIA+ people and families.

Pentecost / Confirmation May 19, 2024, 9:30 a.m.

PRELUDE - "The River" (Silverberg/Feliz/Wedgeworth) - CCLI Song #7047433





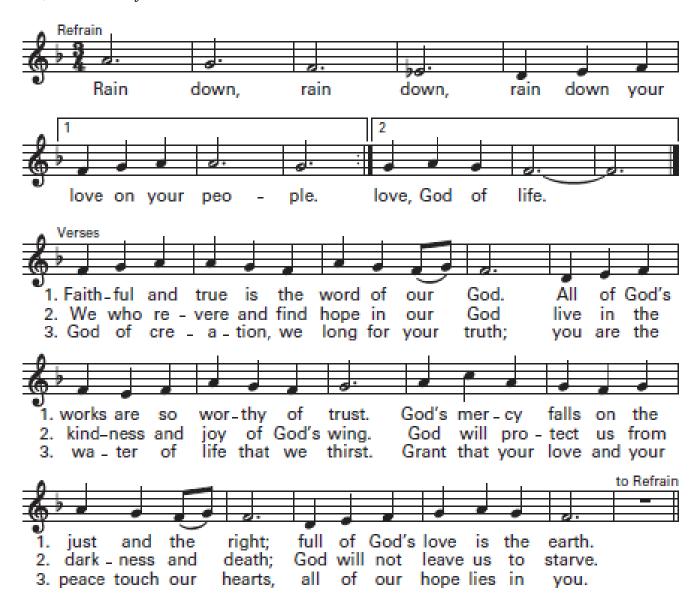
Words and music by Joshua Silverberg, Jordan Feliz, Colby Wedgeworth. © 2015, Capitol CMG Amplifier | CentricSongs | Red Red Pop | Colby Wedgeworth Music | Fair Trade Publishing. For use solely with SongSelect®. CCLI Song # 7047433. All rights reserved, www.ccli.com.

ENEMENE MENERNE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Pastor Julie Morris

GATHERING SONG - "Rain Down" (Cortez)

As able, the assembly stands.



Text: Based on Psalm 33. Text and music @ 1991, Jaime Cortez. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.



GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

- 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.
- P Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE - Pastor Julie Morris

Children through 5th Grade are welcome (but not required) to come up for the Children's Message and then follow the staff to the Parish Life Center for an age-appropriate Bible lesson and activity. They will return to the sanctuary before Holy Communion. There are faith activity bags available near the front door for children who would rather stay in church.

CHILDREN'S SONG - "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah" - ELW 172 (sing 2 times)



Music: Caribbean traditional; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954 Arr. $\ensuremath{\mathbb{O}}$ 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 37:1-14

The Hebrew word rendered as ruach means "spirit," "wind," or "breath." This reading plays on the different meanings of the word. Just as the dry bones in Ezekiel's vision are given new life, flesh, and breath (or spirit), so God will give the exiles God's own spirit and will bring them home to the land of Israel.

¹The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." ¹Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

⁷So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' ¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord."

- L Word of God, word of life.
- C Thanks be to God.



PSALM 104 - "Rejoice in All Your Works" (Kimbrough)



SECOND READING: Acts 2:1-21

Originally Pentecost was a Jewish thanksgiving-type festival celebrated seven weeks after Passover. On this particular Pentecost, however, the Holy Spirit is poured out upon the entire community of believers just as Jesus had promised and the scriptures had prophesied. Empowered by the Spirit, the entire community bears witness to God's activity in multiple languages.

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

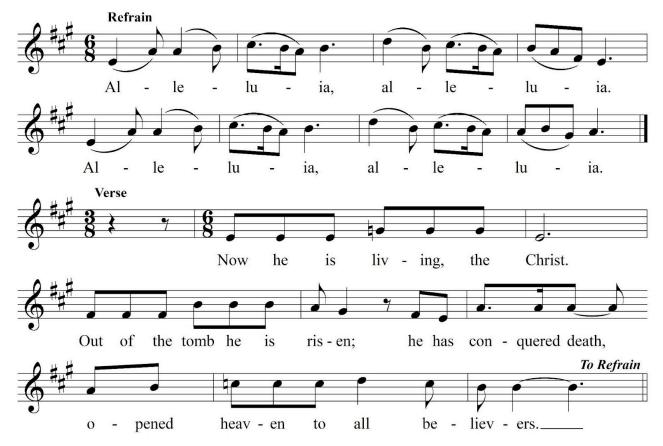
⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. ¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. ²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. ²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'"

- L Word of God, word of life.
- C Thanks be to God.

As able, the assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - "Celtic Alleluia" - ELW 174



Text and music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, © 1985. Admin. OCP Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

GOSPEL: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

While speaking to his disciples before his death, Jesus refers to the Holy Spirit as "the Helper" and describes the difference the Spirit will make in their lives and in the world.

P The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ, according to John.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said,] ²⁶"When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. ²⁷You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

^{16:4b}"I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' ⁶But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. ⁷Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; ¹¹about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

¹²"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

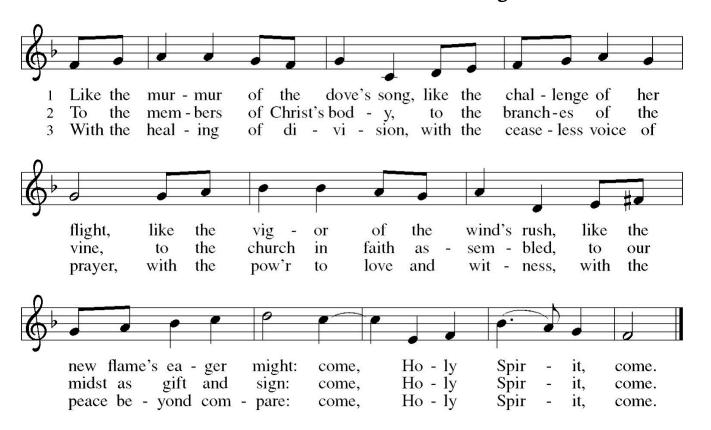
- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON - Pastor Julie Morris and God Stories from 2024 Confirmands (Mateo Carpenter and Kaitlyn Edwards)

As able, the assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

SONG OF THE DAY - "Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song" - ELW 403



Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: BRIDEGROOM, Peter Cutts, b. 1937

Text © 1982 Hope Publishing Company.

Music © 1969 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The congregation may be seated.

CONFIRMATION

P Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism, and we come before God with our confirmands as they make affirmation of their baptism into Christ.

The confirmands are presented by Joe Zimmerly.

Mateo Cruz Carpenter Kaitlyn Ashley Malia Edwards

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Water may be poured into the font.

- P Blessed are you, holy God. You are the creator of the waters of the earth. You are the fire of rebirth. You poured out your Spirit on your people Israel. You breathe life into our dry bones. Your Son Jesus promised to send the Spirit to us that the world may know your peace and truth. Thank you for making Mateo and Kaitlyn your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your spirit and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold them in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. Pour out your Holy Spirit, and breathe new life into us. By your Spirit adopt us all as your children, through our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.



AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

The presiding minister will invite the congregation to stand, as able, and join in the responses.

- P Confirmands, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church, and I invite the entire congregation to join you in the responses.
 - Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?
- C I renounce them.

- P Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?
- C I renounce them.
- P Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?
- C I renounce them.
- P Do you believe in God the Father?
- C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
- P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
- C 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.
- P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
- C I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.

The congregation may be seated.

P Those of you affirming your baptism:
Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Response: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The minister addresses the assembly.

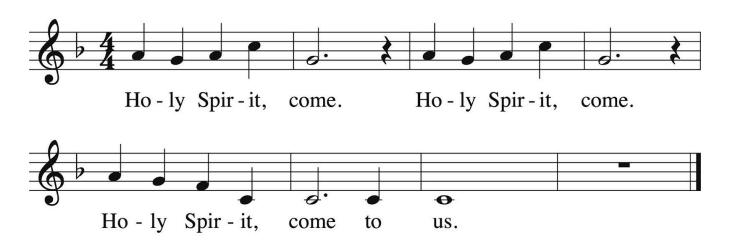
- P People of God, do you promise to support these young people who are making public affirmation of their baptism, and to pray for them in their life in Christ?
- C We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.
- P Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

The congregation sings the following refrain:

Veni Sancte Spiritus (Sequence for Pentecost) Attr. Stephen Langton, ca. 1150–1228 Verses Tr. Christopher Walker

Carol Browning



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One at a time, the families of the confirmands come forward.

The following words of blessing are repeated for each person. The leader may lay both hands on the head of the person and say:

- P Stir up in (*name*) the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.
- C Amen.

After each laying on of hands, the congregation sings the "Holy Spirit, Come" refrain above.

After all have been confirmed, the presider continues:

P Mateo and Kaitlyn, we rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

The assembly congratulates the newly confirmed individuals with applause as they and their families return to their seats.



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

We pray for the church universal, for its ministries, and for the spread of the gospel. Shower your Spirit upon the newly confirmed, especially Mateo Carpenter and Kaitlyn Edwards, and all who seek to grow in their faith. God of life, **receive our prayer**.

We pray for the earth, and give thanks for the diversity of plant and animal life on our planet. Empower us by your Spirit to be wise and faithful stewards of all you have made and bring relief where natural disasters have wreaked havoc. God of life, **receive our prayer**.

We pray for the nations and those who govern. Give those in authority understanding hearts, that they work together to bring justice and peace on earth, especially in our own country, Israel, Gaza, the entire Middle East, Ukraine, Russia, and Sudan. God of life, **receive our prayer**.

We pray for this congregation: for those who plan and lead worship, for acolytes and communion servers, for readers and technology ministers, for musicians, and for all who prepare and care for our worship space. May our worship be pleasing in your sight. God of life, **receive our prayer**.

A We pray for those in need around the world: for victims of crimes, for victims of sexual abuse and exploitation, for those who are incarcerated. For all who suffer in any way, especially those on our prayer list ...

PRAYER CONCERNS from MOUNT CROSS

We pray for Barbara Burke, Mike Caceres (nephew of Becky Gilbertson), the family of Vibs Clausen, Kris Dawson, Sonja Demeter, Patrick Heckman (relative of Marni Engh), Gordon Henry, Miriam Hoffmann, Betty Hough, John Hunter (cousin of Scott Fajnor), Trevor Jeffrey (friend of the Phipps family), Craig Kaihara (friend of Scott & Nora Fajnor), Susan Klein, David Ludwig (friend of Jim & Susan Prosser), Jack & Penny Luhrsen, Alexea Mitchell (stepmother of Tracy Blois), Dan Nelson, Karen Nelson, Aaron Nuñez (friend of Claire Johnson), Angie Patscheck (sister-in-law of Stan Patscheck), Stan Patscheck, Michael Potts (friend of Becky & Ken Riley), Dianne Selbrede, Carol Smith (friend of Marni Engh), Fleet Smith (friend of Mark & Lisa Saner), Waldon Swenson (brother of Janet Rubin), Doug T (friend of the Blois family), Russell Wall (brother of Nora Fajnor), Jerry Warren, Nancy Zeph (niece of Barbara Sletten).

Unless otherwise specified, prayer requests remain in the bulletin for four weeks.

If you would like to add or remove someone to or from the prayer list, please e-mail the church office at office@mountcross.com or call 805.482.3847.

A God of life, **receive our prayer**.

God who listens, we now offer you our own prayers, either silently or aloud (pause) ... God of life, **receive our prayer**.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

C Amen.

PEACE

- P The peace of Christ be with you always.
- C And also with you.



OFFERTORY - "O Living Breath of God" - ELW 407



- 1 O liv-ing Breath of God, wind at the be-gin-ning up-on the wa ters;
- 2 O liv-ing Breath of God, by whose pow'r the Son came to birth a mong us;
- 3 O liv-ing Breath of God, bear-ing us to life through bap-tis-mal wa ters;



- O liv-ing Breath of God, bear-ing the cre a tion to won-drous birth:
- O liv-ing Breath of God, who to the cre a tion gives life a new:
- O liv-ing Breath of God, sigh-ing with cre a tion for free-dom's birth:





O liv-ing Breath of God, Ho-ly Spir-it, breathe in us as we pray.

Text: Osvaldo Catena, 1920-1986; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923 Music: VÅRVINDAR FRISKA, Swedish folk tune Tr. © 1998 Augsburg Fortress

OFFERING PRAYER

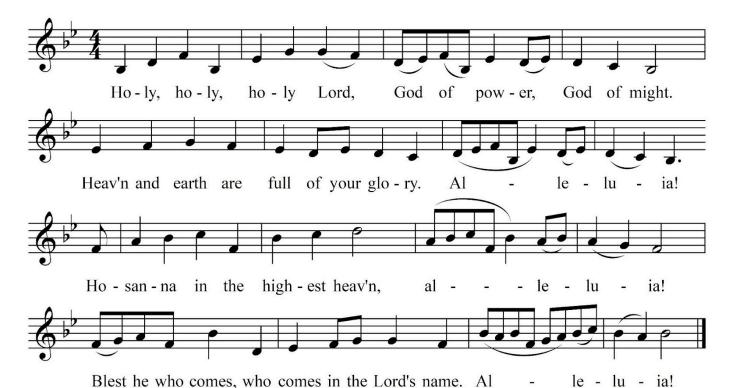
A Risen One,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

C Amen.

As able, the assembly stands for the Great Thanksgiving.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.
 Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue.
 And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Text adapt.: CB.

Music (EASTER HYMN, 7777 and alleluias), J. Walsh, Lyra Davidica, 1708

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

- C Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
- P Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
- C Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
- P Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

- C Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.
- P O God of resurrection and new life:
 Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
 and on these gifts of bread and wine.
 Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C Amen.

- P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
- C 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.

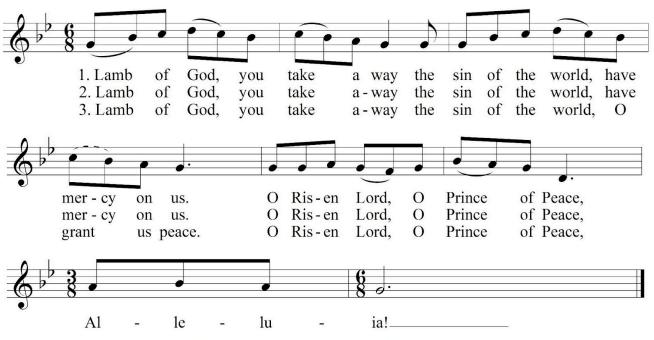
BREAKING OF THE BREAD/INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table.

The assembly may be seated.

LAMB OF GOD - "Eastertide Lamb of God" (O FILII ET FILIAE, adapt.)



Text adaptation: CB. Tune: O FILII ET FILIAE (10 10 with alleluias), adapt & harmonized by Marty Haugen, © 1986, GIA Publications, Inc.

All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Holy Communion will be distributed in the center aisle. Ushers will dismiss people by rows, beginning from the back of the church.

Please come forward to receive the bread (gluten-free hosts available), and then walk to the side to dip the bread in the chalice of wine or to receive a small cup of grape juice. Place your empty cup in the trays provided.

Communion ministers will bring Holy Communion to those with mobility challenges.

PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (for our Livestream viewers)

A spiritual communion is a personal devotion that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion. As Martin Luther once wrote: "I can enjoy the sacrament ... every day if only I keep my eyes on the promise, that is, on the words and promise of Christ, which feeds and strengthens my faith."

As we distribute Holy Communion to the congregation here, we invite those on the livestream to offer the Prayer of Spiritual Communion displayed on your screen:

I worship and adore you, Lord Jesus Christ, present in the bread and wine, and present in your people, who are gathered in spirit. In this moment I join with them to receive you in my heart.

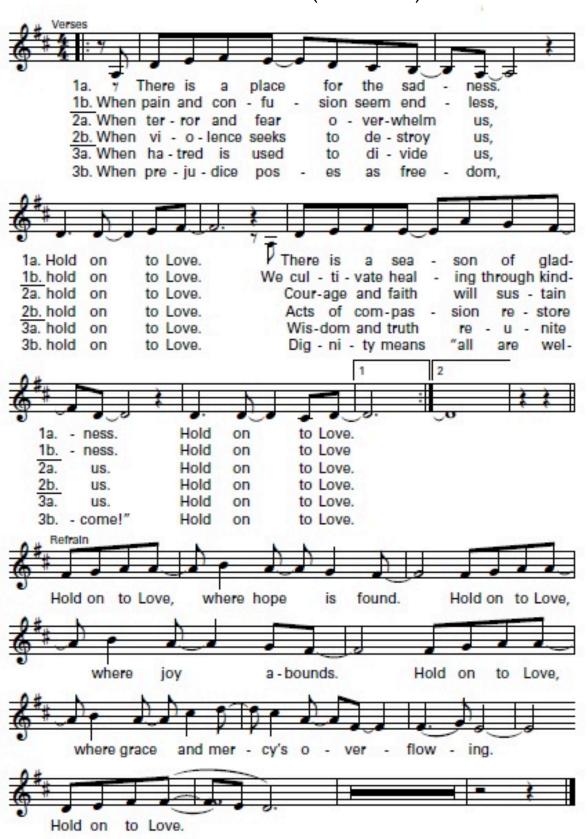
(We pause for silent prayer).

Fill us all with your love and grace, and strengthen us to serve the world in your name. Amen.1



¹ Adapted by Pastor Julie from a prayer written by the Anglican Diocese of Niagara.

COMMUNION SONGS - "Hold on to Love" (Manibusan)



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"Spirit Song" (Wimber)



Words and music: John Wimber. © 1979, Mercy Publishing. Admin. by Maranatha! Music. All rights reserved.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

C Amen.



As able, the assembly stands for the Final Blessing.

BLESSING

- P May the Spirit of truth lead you into all truth, giving you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, and to proclaim the wonderful works of God; and the blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Christ +, and Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.
- C Amen.

SENDING SONG - "Go Make a Difference (Angrisano/Tomaszek)



Text: Based on Matthew 5:13-16; Steve Angrisano and Tom Tomaszek. Music: Steve Angrisano and Tom Tomaszek. © 1997, 1998, Steve Angrisano and Thomas N. Tomaszek.

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DISMISSAL

- A Alleluia! Alleluia! Rooted in God's grace,
- C we joyfully witness and serve. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE - Guy Ervin III

Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God in celebration of our newly Confirmed young people - Mateo Carpenter and Kaitlyn Edwards.

Thank you to today's Worship Assistants (current as of printing date)

Acolytes - Jenna Berariu

Altar Guild - Vicky Edell, Evonne Kuchera

Assisting Minister - Kevin O'Farrell

Children, Family, Youth Ministry Director - Joe Zimmerly

Clergy - Pastor Julie Morris

Communion Assistants - Mateo Carpenter, Kaitlyn Edwards,

Meredith and Luke Smith, LaJean Wenzel

Greeter - The McCue family

Music Ministers -

Songleaders - Carina McVeigh, Brian Stouch

Accompanist - Guy Ervin III

Keyboard - Jerry Warren

Guitars - Jessie Hanevich, Carina McVeigh

Percussion - Jeffrey Saner

Readers - Bill Greason, Melissa Henry

Technical Crew - Bill Dawson, Justin Thai, Simon Mere-Mere

Ushers - The LaCalamita family

Deacon Dr. Cecelia Travick-Jackson is not serving for a few weeks due to medical reasons.

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Join us for Fellowship in the Pavilion after worship each Sunday!

Come to the Table: Mount Cross is offering **Communion reception in the sanctuary or in your car** from <u>11:00-11:15 a.m.</u>

The Week at a Glance

TODAY, May 19

Camarillo United Methodist Handbell Concert, 4:00 p.m.

Concert, 4:00 p.m.

All are welcome at Camarillo United Methodist (291

Anacapa Dr.) at 4:00 p.m. today for their annual

Handbell Concert (see details below).

Monday, May 20

Men's Al-Anon, 7:00 p.m. A Men's Al-Anon group meets in the Parish Life Center at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 21

Women's Bible Study, 9:00 a.m. The Women's Bible Study meets at 9:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. Questions, contact Pastor Julie.

Church Council Zoom, 7:00 p.m. The Church Council meets on Zoom at 7:00 p.m. https://bit.ly/MountCrossCouncil.

Wednesday, May 22

Meditation, 10:00 a.m.

The Meditation group meets on Zoom at 10:00 a.m. Questions, contact LaJean Wenzel.

Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6:15 p.m. The Bell Choir rehearses in the sanctuary loft from 6:15-7:15 p.m.

Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m.

The choir meets in the sanctuary at 7:30 p.m. to rehearse music for Sundays and learn anthems and special music.

Thursday, May 23

Quilters, 2:00 p.m. The Quilters meet at 2:00 p.m..

Saturday, May 25

Al-Anon, 10:00 a.m. Al-Anon meets at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Life Center.

Announcements

Sunday Worship

We always need worship assistants. We will train you. Contact Vicky Edell at <u>vickyedell5@gmail.com</u>, 818-395-7674, or sign-up online at https://signup.com/Group/7769976983269200115/. Thank you for serving at Mount Cross!

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

For information on our programs, email Joe (joe@mountcross.com).

Altar Flowers

To request flowers for our worship:

https://bit.ly/AltarFlowers2023. The cost is \$40.00; you can take the arrangement home with you after worship, or pick it up at Communion following worship. If you aren't here but would still like flowers, let us know; we'll deliver the arrangement to another member to enjoy. If you ordered flowers, please remember to pay for them - online or in the offering, marked for "Flowers."

Financial Statements

Thank you, Mount Cross congregation, for all the generosity you show your church family!
Please email any questions about giving and/or statements to Financial Secretary Joan Brundage at <u>ibrundage@mountcross.com</u>.

St. Columba's Food Pantry

Each Sunday, we have a bin where you can bring non-perishable food for St. Columba's Project Hope food pantry. Canned vegetables or proteins (tuna or chicken) are always a good choice. They could also use cereal, oatmeal, pasta sauce, pasta, canned soup, mac & cheese, fresh bread, toilet paper, paper towels, and Kleenex. Please do not donate food that is expired.

Thanks for your support Thanks for your support.

Handbell Concert at Camarillo United Methodist Church TODAY, May 19, 4:00 p.m.

Camarillo United Methodist Church (291 Anacapa Dr.) will present their Annual Handbell Concert TODAY, May 19, 4:00 p.m., featuring 6 Bell Choirs, the CUMC Chancel Choir, and guest artists. Freewill Offering. https://camarilloumc.org/

Civic Life and Faith Study Group

The ELCA is developing a social statement on civic life and faith, the relationship of church and state, and related matters, as called for by the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly. Social statements are the ELCA's primary documents to address significant social issues. They are intended to aid reflection, shape conscience, and set forth the ELCA's teaching and policy on the major social issues and questions of contemporary life. Social statements are developed by task forces, using an established process of study and widespread participation across the church to guide theological and moral deliberation.

Church members are encouraged to study and give feedback on a draft version of the social statement. You can read a draft of the statement at https://bit.ly/CivicLifeFaithDraft. The feedback period will be open until September 30, 2024. Pastor Julie invites you to join her in studying the draft document using a 6-session study guide prepared by the ELCA Task Force on Civic Life and Faith.

The remaining meetings are Sundays, May 26, June 2, June 9, and June 30 from 11:00 a.m. - Noon in the Parish Life Center.

Contact her at pastorjulie@mountcross.com for more information.

Sponges, Dish Towels, and Dish Soap Needed for New Housing Community

Many Mansions is opening their newest low-income housing community in June. Central Terrace on Meta Street in Oxnard will be the new home for 87 households—35 of whom are coming directly from homelessness. They have asked Mount Cross to donate new sponges, dish towels, and dish soap for each household. We will be collecting these items throughout the month of May. Please bring them to worship on Sunday. Thank you for your generosity!

For any questions, please contact Gordon or Melissa Henry or Pastor Julie.

<u>Graduation Sunday - June 2</u>

On Sunday, 6/2, at our 9:30 a.m. worship, we'll be recognizing our high school seniors who are graduating this year, as well as celebrating any other individuals who are graduating from other grade levels. Please let Joe Zimmerly (joe@mountcross.com) know if you or a family member would like to be included in this celebration.

Save the Date - June 2, 2:00 p.m. Handbell Concert

On **Sunday**, **June 2**, at **2:00 p.m.**, our talented Mount Cross Handbell Choir will present "**Celebrate with Gladness**," an afternoon program of handbell music from throughout the church year. The concert will also feature handbell and chime soloist Linda Young. All are welcome. No charge; freewill donation.

<u>Camarillo Pride - June 2, Noon - 4:00 p.m.</u>

Mark your calendars for June 2. Mount Cross' RIC Team invites you to stop by our table at the 3rd annual Camarillo Pride. June is Pride month and is an important time to affirm and advocate for LGBTQIA+ people. It's a wonderful opportunity to stand together, in love and acceptance in our community. Let us be a beacon of inclusivity and compassion.

(Bob Kildee Park - 1030 Temple Ave, Camarillo)

If you would like to make a contribution to Mount Cross RIC/RW in June, funds will be used for our annual commitment to Reconciling Works (<u>reconcilingworks.org</u>).

Join the RIC Team as we get special shirts to wear for Camarillo Pride and other church events. Follow the link HERE to see and purchase this colorful shirt with a nice message. There are many color options as well as sizing options for unisex, women's slim fit, long sleeve, tank tops, and youth options. Purchase your shirt soon if you want to get it in time for Camarillo Pride!

The shirts are labeled online as "San Diego Pride Parade." Unclick the donation tab.

Join us as we spread the love.

Help Feed People in Need

The second Monday of every month, Mount Cross joins with Camarillo United Methodist Church to cook for Many Meals, the dinner served at St. Mary Magdalen Church to people in need. The recipes are provided. All you need to do is sign up, cook, and drop off the food at 4:00 p.m. at St. Mary's. If you can help, please let Karin Grennan know. Her email address is grennan4@verizon.net.



<u>Vacation Bible School - August 5-9</u>

Mount Cross is hosting **Vacation Bible School** on **August 5-9**, **9:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon** each day. Our theme this year is "On Earth as in Heaven" written by ELCA World Hunger. Each day, our kids will be learning parts of the Lord's Prayer through stories, crafts, games, and music. Make sure to click the link below in order to register your child. Children of VBS volunteers attend for FREE this year! If you would like help, please contact Joe (joe@mountcross.com).

We hope to see your children there! Click Here - VBS Registration Form

ELCA National Youth Gathering - July 15-20, 2024

Every three years, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America hosts the National Youth Gathering in various cities around the country for over 30,000 high-school-aged youth. The Gathering's goal is to create environments and opportunities for faith formation through worship, interactive learning, Bible study, service, and fellowship. While some of the experiences can be replicated at home, some are unique and special to the Gathering because of the size and scope of this ministry. As we worship in the Superdome (home of the New Orleans Saints), walk through Jackson Square, listen to the community, pray for one another, I encourage you to follow our journey and I also invite you to find ways to support our youth from Mount Cross. Whether that be financially, or by prayer, we want the entire Mount Cross community to remember that we are all on this journey together. —Joe Zimmerly

Giving to Mount Cross!

If you would like to give to Mount Cross, in addition to adding your offering to the collection plate on Sundays, you can do so via <u>our online giving page</u>, through mail (102 Camino Esplendido, Camarillo, CA 93010), or via our Venmo account (@MountCross-LutheranChurch, or scan the QR code) To give to Mount Cross on your cell phone or tablet, download Vanco's free GivePlus app from the App Store or Google Play, enter zip code 93010, and choose Mount Cross. Please be sure to indicate what your payment / donation is designated for. Thank you!



Mount Cross Lutheran Church Welcome Statement

Mount Cross Lutheran Church welcomes, embraces, and affirms all individuals, regardless of race, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, faith background, physical or mental ability or anything else that may set us apart from each other. We are a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation, one of over 1000 Lutheran communities that intentionally welcome and affirm LGBTQIA+ people and families. We are committed to racial equity and the work of anti-racism, celebrating the beautiful tapestry of humanity and fostering an inclusive community that recognizes the inherent worth and dignity of every person. We strive to follow Jesus' way of love, compassion, and justice and invite you to walk this path alongside us. With open hearts and open arms, we welcome you.