

Mount Cross Lutheran Church

102 Camino Esplendido, Camarillo, CA 93010

805.482.3847 www.mountcross.com



*For those of you worshipping with us in person,
thank you for wearing your mask
and observing social distancing
at all times during the service.*

**4th Sunday of Easter
(Good Shepherd Sunday)
April 25, 2021, 9:30 a.m.**

PRELUDE - Guy Ervin III

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Pastor Julie Morris

**GATHERING SONG - "The River" (Wedgewood/Feliz/Silverberg) - CCLI Song
#7047433**

Verse 1

I know a place where we can go,
to lay the troubles down eating your soul.
I know a place where mercy flows,
take the stains, make you cleaner than snow.

Pre-Chorus

Like a tide, it is rising up deep inside.
A current that moves and makes you come alive.
Living water that brings the dead to life. Oh, oh.

Chorus

We're goin' down to the river, down to the river,
down to the river to pray.
Let's get washed by the water, washed by the water,
and rise up in amazing grace.
Let's go down, down, down to the river.
You will leave changed.
Let's go down, down, down to the river.
Never the same.

Verse 2

I've seen it move in my own life,
took me from dusty roads into Paradise.
All of my dirt, all of my shame,
drowned in the streams that have made me born again.

Pre-Chorus

Chorus

Bridge

Let's go down, oo, oo, oo.
Let's go down, oo, oo, oo.
Let's go down.

Chorus

Ending

Oo, oo.

Gotta go, gotta go, gotta go down in amazing grace.
We're going down to the river.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.
C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us
into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be
whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE - (Video from LRCC)

CHILDREN'S SONG - "This Is the Day" (Garrett)

This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made, that the
Lord has made. We will re-joyce, we will re-joyce and be
glad in it, and be glad in it. This is the day that the
Lord has made, we will re-joyce and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made.

Text (based on Psalm 118:24) and tune: Les Garrett, © 1967, 1980, 1986, Scripture in Song.
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FIRST READING: Acts 4:5-12

Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he can proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.

⁵The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.'

¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SONG OF RESPONSE - "Psalm 23" (Townend) - CCLI Song # 1585970

Verse 1

The Lord's my Shepherd I'll not want
He makes me lie in pastures green
He leads me by the still still waters
His goodness restores my soul

Chorus:

And I will trust in You a - lone, and I will trust in You a - lone;
for Your end-less mer-cy fol-lows me, Your good-ness will lead me home.

Words and Music: Stuart Townend. © 1996 Thankyou Music | Getty Music Hymns and Songs.
CCLI Song # 1585970. CCLI License # 2022482.

Verse 2

He guides my ways in righteousness
And He anoints my head with oil
And my cup it overflows with joy
I feast on His pure delights

Chorus

Verse 3

And though I walk the darkest path
I will not fear the evil one
For You are with me
And Your rod and staff
Are the comfort I need to know

Chorus

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24

Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God's commandments.

¹⁶We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

As able, the assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – “Halle, Halle, Hallelujah” - ELW 172 (sing 2x’s)

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional

GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.

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

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

[Jesus said:] ¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

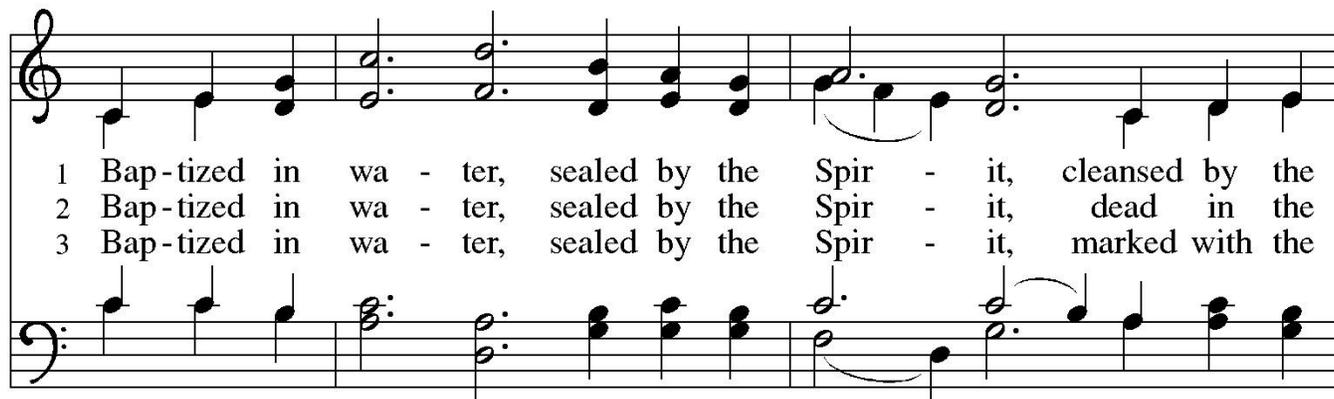
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly is seated.

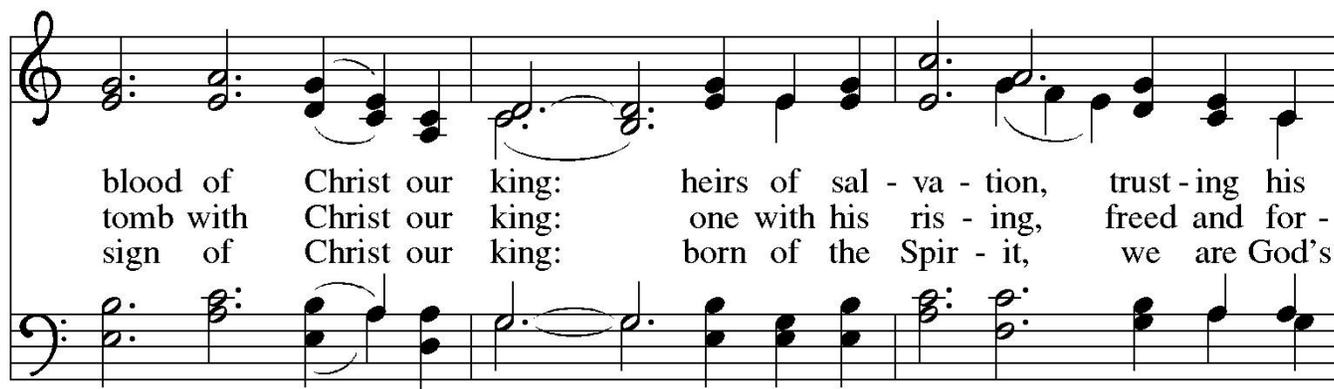
SERMON - Pastor Julie Morris

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

SONG OF THE DAY - "Baptized in Water" - ELW 456



1 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the
2 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the
3 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the



blood of Christ our king: heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing his
tomb with Christ our king: one with his ris - ing, freed and for -
sign of Christ our king: born of the Spir - it, we are God's



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

Text: Michael Seward, b. 1932

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version

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Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.



BAPTISM AND AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

The candidates for Baptism and Affirmation of Baptism are presented.

S *We present John Anton LaCalamita for baptism.*

S *We present Thomas and Patricia LaCalamita, who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.*

P Tom and Kate, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your child baptized into Christ?

R *I do.*

P As you bring Jack to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with him among God's faithful people, bring him to the word of God and the holy supper, teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in his hands the holy scriptures, and nurture him in faith and prayer, so that Jack may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace. Do you promise to help Jack grow in the Christian faith and life?

R *I do.*

The presiding minister addresses the parents and sponsors:

P Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Jack in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

R *I do.*

After the candidates for baptism and affirmation of baptism are presented, the presiding minister will invite the congregation to stand, as able, and join in the responses.

P I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

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 the life everlasting.**

P Thomas and Patricia, as you affirm your baptism and join this congregation, 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?

R *I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.*

The minister addresses the congregation:

P People of God, do you promise to support Jack, who is baptized today, and Thomas and Patricia, who are affirming 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 The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Water is poured into the font.

P We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit +, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you we give honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

The congregation may be seated.

The presiding minister baptizes Jack.

P John Anton LaCalamita, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen!**

The congregation sings:

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional

Clothed with Christ in baptism, the newly baptized may receive a baptismal garment.

P Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Laying both hands on the head of the newly baptized, the minister prays:

P Sustain Jack with 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.**

The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the newly baptized with oil.

P Jack, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

C **Amen.**

A lighted candle may be given to the newly baptized as his sponsor says:

S Receive the light of Christ. Be the light of Christ.

The presider prays individually for those affirming their baptism.

P O God, stir up in Thomas and Patricia 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.**

The presider invites the new members and newly baptized to face the congregation.

P Let us welcome the newly baptized and these new members of our congregation.

C **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!**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

Loving Shepherd, you know your own and your own know you. Your voice calls us to your loving embrace. In Christian love, we welcome our newest members, Tom and Patricia LaCalamita, and our newest baptized member, Jack LaCalamita. Bless them and enfold them into the fullness of life in Christ. Strengthen your church throughout the world that we bear witness to your expansive love. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

A Gracious Shepherd, you are generous with the gifts of goodness and mercy. We especially remember today the gift of creation, as just this past week, we honored Earth Day. Help us as we continue to strive to be good stewards of the earth. Restore your creation to wholeness so that cities and towns, countryside and wilderness, may abound with life. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Hope-giving Shepherd, the nations and peoples are your heritage. Place into the hearts of all leaders and rulers the passion to serve. Crucify any desire to overpower others and give leaders joy in lifting up the lowly. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Abiding Shepherd, your love flows as we reach out to those around us. Move us with your Spirit, so that we lay down our lives for those in need, especially (*those on our prayer list*). Help us love one another in truth and action. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Saving Shepherd, you restore us to wholeness. Help our community in our life together and give us vigor as a people of faith. In the midst of challenges and opportunities in relation to racial justice, help us to continue on a path toward greater peace, justice and accountability, fill us anew with your Holy Spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Eternal Shepherd, you hold us securely in your loving hands. In the assurance of resurrection hope, we remember our loved ones who have died in you, especially those who have died from COVID or gun violence. Bring us, with them, to dwell in your house forever. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

PEACE

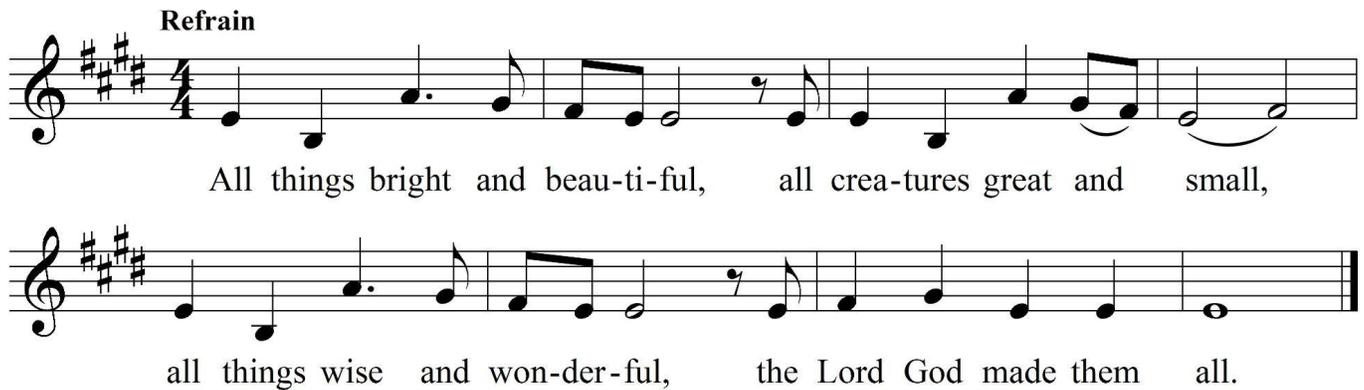
P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**



**OFFERING SONG - "All Things Bright and Beautiful (Alexander; arr. McCracken)
- CCLI Song # 7156536**

Refrain



All things bright and beau-ti-ful, all crea-tures great and small,
all things wise and won-der-ful, the Lord God made them all.

Words and Music: Cecil Frances Alexander, public domain.

This arrangement: Sandra McCracken, © 2019 Drink Your Tea Music (ASCAP),
admin. by Music Services. All rights reserved.

Verse 1

Each little flower that opens
Each little bird that sings
He made their glowing colours
He made their tiny wings

Verse 2

The cold wind in the winter
The pleasant summer sun
The ripe fruits in the garden
He made them every one

Verse 3

He gave us eyes to see them
And lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty
Who has made all things well

OFFERING PRAYER

P God of love,
you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table.
Receive our lives and the gifts we offer.
Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world;
for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ.

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,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter
and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the



high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

P We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all, in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son.

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.**

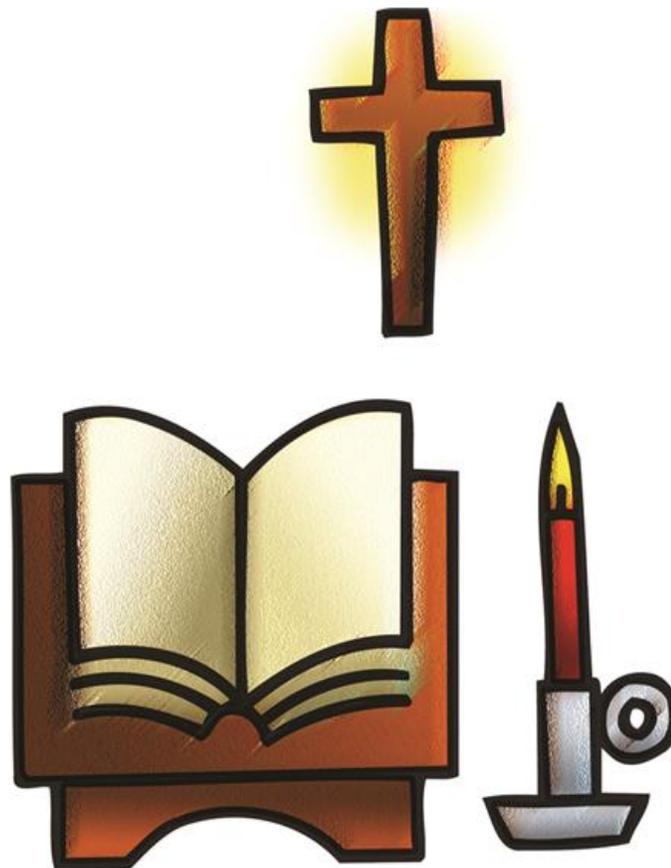
P O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

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

The assembly may be seated.

P The risen Christ welcomes you.
Receive him with a grateful heart.

LAMB OF GOD - ELW Setting 2



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

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."

All joining from home are invited to say the following prayer:

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 SONG - "Shepherd Me, O God" - ELW 780

Refrain

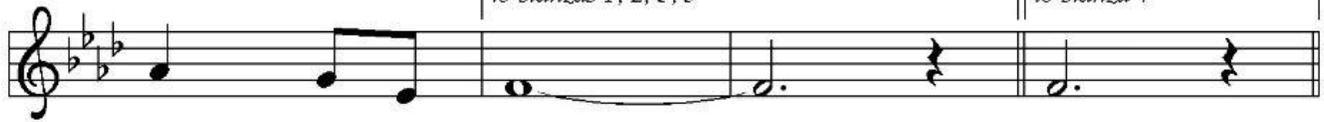
All



Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be - yond my fears, from

to stanzas 1, 2, 3, 5

to stanza 4



death in - to life. life.

Leader or All



1 God is my shep-herd, so noth - ing shall I want, I
 2 Gent - ly you raise me and heal my wea - ry soul, you
 3 Though I should wan - der the val - ley of death, I



rest in the mead-ows of faith - ful - ness and love, I
 lead me by path - ways of righ - teous - ness and truth, my
 fear no e - vil, for you are at my side, your

Refrain



walk by the qui - et wa - ters of peace.
 spir - it shall sing the mu - sic of your name.
 rod and your staff, my com - fort and my hope.

Leader or All



4 You have set me a ban-quet of love in the face of

Refrain



ha - tred, crown - ing me with love be - yond my pow'r to hold.



5 Sure-ly your kind-ness and mer-cy fol-low me all the days of my life;



I will dwell in the house of my God for-ev - er - more.

Final refrain

All



Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -



yond my fears, from death in - to life.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950, based on Psalm 23

Music: SHEPHERD ME, Marty Haugen

Text and music © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, www.giamusic.com, 800.442.3358.

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

P May the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. Our God of life, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SENDING SONG - "The Lord Now Sends Us Forth" - ELW 538 (sung in English)

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are in Spanish and English. The first line of music is: *En - via - do soy de Dios, mi ma - no lis - ta es - tá* / *The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,*. The second line: *pa - ra cons - truir con él un mun - do fra - ter - nal.* / *to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live.* The third line: *Los án - ge - les no son en - via - dos a cam - biar* / *The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain*. The fourth line: *un mun - do de do - lor por un mun - do me - jor;* / *to do what we were meant to do in Je - sus' name;*. The fifth line: *me ha to - ca - do a mí ha - cer - lo rea - li - dad.* / *that falls to you and me and all who are made free.* The sixth line: *A - yú - da - me, Se - ñor, a ha - cer tu vo - lun - tad.* / *Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day.*

Text: Anonymous, Central America; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923
Music: ENVIADO, anonymous, Central America
English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen.
C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
- P Rooted in God's grace,
C **we joyfully witness and serve.**

POSTLUDE - Guy Ervin III

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

Join us for **Community Conversation Time on Zoom** following this service! Grab a cup of coffee or tea and some treats and visit with us. Here is the **Zoom link**:
<http://bit.ly/CommunityConversationTime>.

Or to join by phone, call **1 669 900 6833**. You will be asked for the **meeting ID (889 0267 0619)** and **passcode (302996)**.

(Beginning in May, this Zoom fellowship will switch to the last Sunday of the month only.)

Come to the Table: Mount Cross is offering **Communion reception both in the sanctuary or in your car** from **11:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon**. If you are unable to come inside, we will serve Communion to those who prefer to remain in their cars.

We ask that you please consider your vulnerabilities and risk factors before choosing to participate.

PRAYER CONCERNS from MOUNT CROSS

We pray for an end to the coronavirus, for doctors, nurses, and caretakers, for researchers, all involved in the vaccine efforts, and for the families grieving the loss of each victim.

We pray for peace, unity, and understanding in our country.

We pray also for Elizabeth A, Bob Anderson, Cynthia Bishop (friend of Bob and Judy Winters), **Mike Carpenter, Terry Cline** (relative of Jim & Karen Gramacki), **Rob Conant** (boyfriend of Mary Goodenough's daughter), **Michael Crane** (friend of Avis Miley), **Julie Cushing** (friend of Jen & Randy Churchill), **Donna** (friend of Evonne Kuchera), **Steve Doshier** (Paul Crockett's brother-in-law), **Bob Edell, Steve Engh** (friend of Gayle & Cy Johnson), **Nora Fajnor** (as she recovers from her kidney donation), **Sandy Fox, David Gale** (friend of Herb & Jo Holler), **Ron Higginbotham, Charles Hilley, Jo Holler, Joan Husband** (friend of Bill & Glenda Greason), **Jack** (friend of Melissa Henry), **Nancy Jaeger, Ric Kienitz, Michelle Kolder** (daughter of Karen & Joe Diehl), **the family of Pauline Lopez, the family of Kathryn Mann** (mother of Marilyn Gardner and grandmother of Meredith Smith), **Lynn Nelson** (mother of Julie Fernandez), **Karen Nelson, Sonja** (friend of LaJean Wenzel), **Allan Steele** (friend of Becky & Ken Riley).

*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.*

The Week at a Glance

TODAY, April 26, 2021

Children's Church Zoom, 9:00-9:20 a.m.
Contact Joe (joe@mountcross.com)
for the Zoom information.

Youth Group, 6:00 p.m.
High School Youth gather with Joe Zimmerly; email
joe@mountcross.com with questions.

Lutherans Restoring Creation

Lutherans Restoring Creation is working on another gorgeous program of liturgy, visual journeys, musical offerings, pastoral insights and inspiration from lay leaders.

Bishop Elizabeth Eaton will be delivering the sermon for this special service!

Live on **April 25th** via our Facebook and YouTube channel at 6 am pacific time and available for replay any time after that.



The ELCA is inviting you to attend a virtual worship service for Earth Day this year, put together by Lutherans Restoring Creation. It is a celebration of our beautiful planet, with a sermon by Bishop Elizabeth Eaton. The service is livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube today, available 6:00 a.m. PDT or after. Visit [Lutherans Restoring Creation | Facebook](#) or search www.youtube.com for Lutherans Restoring Creation.

Monday, April 27, 2021

Monday Meditation, 3:00 p.m.

The Monday Meditation group meets at 3:00 p.m. To join by computer or smart phone/tablet go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83666658855> or to call on your phone, dial 1 (669) 900-6833. You will be asked to enter the Meeting ID which is 836 6665 8855 and then push pound (#).

Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Women's Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.

The Women's Bible Study meets at 9:00 a.m. in the church. Contact Pastor Julie, pastorjulie@mountcross.com, or Vicar Amanda, amanda@mountcross.com, if you have questions.

Upper Room Zoom, 12:00 noon

Upper Room Zoom meets on Tuesdays. It's a nice 15-minute break in your day that includes scripture, prayer, and relaxing video/audio. Join as often as you'd like. Join: <http://bit.ly/MCUpperRoomZoom> OR, you can call in on a phone. Dial 1 (408) 638 0968. Meeting ID: 847 4745 9576, push pound (#).

Fellowship Committee, 7:00 p.m.
The Fellowship Committee meets at 7:00 p.m. on site.

Wednesday, April 28, 2021

Fun with Faith, 5:00 p.m.

Fun with Faith (Preschool through 5th grade) meets with the Children, Youth & Family staff from 5:00-6:00 p.m., **on site**. Any questions, contact Joe at joe@mountcross.com

Adult Bible Study, 5:00 p.m.

On Wednesday evenings at 5:00 p.m., we gather for Bible Study on the upcoming Sunday's Gospel. Via Zoom:

<http://bit.ly/MCWednesdayNights>

OR you can call in by phone, 1 (669) 900 6833. Meeting ID: 827 1932 0163, Passcode: 615543.

Confirmation, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Students preparing for Confirmation meet with Joe Zimmerly **on site**. Email Joe (joe@mountcross.com) if you have any questions.

Music Ministry Zoom, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

If you love music and want to be part of the conversation about our music ministry here at Mount Cross, join Carol Browning at a Zoom meeting on **Wednesday, April 28**, from **7:00-8:00 p.m.:**

<http://bit.ly/MCMusicZoom>

Meeting ID: 820 3969 3655 /
Passcode: music123

Or join by phone: +1-669- 900-6833, Meeting ID: 82039693655, Passcode: 43275198.

Thursday, April 29, 2021

Men's Bible Study, 7:30 a.m.

We meet every other Thursday to study the Gospel for the upcoming week. Contact Pastor Julie, pastorjulie@mountcross.com, if you would like to be on the Men's Bible Study email list. To join us on Zoom, please use the following link, <http://bit.ly/MCMensBibleStudy>, or call (408) 638 0968. The meeting ID is 891 5038 5706 and the Passcode is 521872.

Friday, April 30, 2021

Deadline for Legacy/Endowment Funding Requests

The Legacy Giving Team is currently soliciting requests for distributions from the Endowment Fund. Requests may be made in the areas of Missions, Education, Children and Young Adult Ministry, Worship and Music, as well as capital projects. Please include requested funding amount and a justification statement.

The Legacy Giving Team will consider all requests and will submit recommendations to the Church Council for funding.
Provide funding requests to Carol (office@mountcross.com) in the church office by **Friday, April 30, 2021.**

Any grant-requesting committee or charity will be invited to give a three-minute presentation on their ministry and how it serves Mount Cross and our community on May 16, 2021, at 12:30 p.m.

Thank you to all who contributed to our “Gifts of Life” Campaign to raise funds for Pastor Fermin Hernandez of Centro Cristiano Familiar de Oxnard and his wife Lucila to attend training to become “trainers of trainers” for suicide prevention. We are delighted to report that our goal of raising over \$1,200 was reached (total of \$1,255). Thank you for your generous support of this important ministry!



Announcements

Sunday Worship

The Re-Opening Committee has approved in-person attendance for our outdoor worship. Those attending need to sign in, have their temperature checked, wear masks, and observe social distancing. We have some chairs available or you may bring your own.

We also need worship assistants:

<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/88920928020/false#/invitation>. Thank you in advance for helping to keep Mount Cross safe!

Beginning May 2, the Re-Opening Committee has approved a cautious return to indoor worship.

(May 23, Confirmation Sunday, and June 6, Graduate Blessing Sunday, will be outside.) Those attending will still need to sign in, have their temperature checked, wear masks, and observe social distancing. Seating in every other pew with six feet between household groups; singing indoors is discouraged. Livestream worship will continue to be available online.

Help with Drive-through and Sanctuary Communion Reception

We are looking for help to make Sunday Sanctuary and Drive-through Communion possible. If you would like to help set up or as a parking lot usher, greeter, or communion assistant, please sign up at <http://bit.ly/WorshipandCommunionAssistants> or call the office at (805) 482-3847.

Children's Church (Sunday School)

Join us Sundays on Zoom from 9:00-9:20 a.m. for Children's Church with a fun story and gathering! Please print out your children's bulletins before the meeting. If you need a hard copy, please message Joe at joe@mountcross.com.

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

To find out about our programs, email Joe (joe@mountcross.com) for details or questions.

LWR Backpacks

We have a new batch of fabric waiting to be transformed into backpacks. Sign out a bag during drive-through Communion or during the week in the office - or send Melissa Henry a text or email and she can deliver you a bag. Each bag has enough supplies to sew 5 simple backpacks... and takes about an hour to complete. Bring it back to church when you have sewn it and we'll get the ropes in before we start filling them with school supplies in August.

Anti-Racism Work of the Week:

After a long and difficult week full of lots of terrible and joyous news, it's time for an ice cream break! Thursday was Earth Day - and if you didn't celebrate then, you can celebrate today. (Every day is Earth Day, after all.) Anti-racism work overlaps into all aspects of our life, and the environment is no different. Read this article from Ben and Jerry's and contemplate ways to change the ways we live so that others can also live better. [3 Reasons to Make this Earth Day about Climate Justice | Ben & Jerry's](#)

Bishop Eaton's Pastoral Word on the Verdict of the George Floyd Murder Trial

You can find Bishop Elizabeth Eaton's pastoral statement on the verdict in the trial of Derek Chauvin for the murder of George Floyd on the ELCA website: <https://elca.org/News-and-Events/8099>

Music Ministry Zoom Gathering

As Music Director for this year of transition, I'd like to hear about your experiences with Music Ministry at Mount Cross. As we work to figure out how to make music safely as a community, what are your experiences, dreams, hopes, visions? What would you want me to know about Music Ministry at Mount Cross? Whether you've been a part of the various music groups here in the past or are interested in being involved going forward, if you love music and want to be part of the conversation, you're welcome to join me at a Zoom meeting **this Wednesday, April 28, from 7:00-8:00 p.m.:** <http://bit.ly/MCMusicZoom>

Meeting ID: 820 3969 3655 / Passcode: music123
Or join by phone: +1-669- 900-6833, Meeting ID: 82039693655, Passcode: 43275198.

I look forward to talking with you. Carol Browning

Vaccine Sign-up Site

All adults in California are now eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine!

Please visit venturacountyrecovers.org to schedule your vaccination appointment. If you are having trouble getting a vaccine appointment through the county website, you can try myturn.ca.gov. Unlike venturacountyrecovers.org, you can make both first and second dose appointments at the same time. The myturn site also appears to show more availability.

Altar Flowers

We have altar flowers, when requested, for our outdoor worship. To request flowers: <http://bit.ly/AltarFlowers2021>. The cost remains \$35.00; you are welcome to take the arrangement home with you after worship, or pick it up at Drive-through Communion. If you are not present but would still like flowers for a special occasion, please let us know and we can deliver the arrangement to a homebound member to enjoy.

More Ways to Give

Thank you, Mount Cross congregation, for all the generosity you have shown in these times of trial! 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 email any questions about giving and/or statements to Financial Secretary Joan Brundage at jbrundage@mountcross.com.

Amazon Smile

If you haven't already done so, choose Mount Cross Lutheran Church as your non-profit to support on smile.amazon.com so 0.5% of purchases will go to Mount Cross. Thank you!