

# Mount Cross Lutheran Church

102 Camino Esplendido, Camarillo, CA 93010

805.482.3847 [www.mountcross.com](http://www.mountcross.com)

*Masks are now optional at Mount Cross.*

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!***

## **Third Sunday of Advent**

### **“What Can't Wait?”**

### **December 11, 2022, 9:30 a.m.**

# PRELUDE - "All Who Are Thirsty" (Brown/Roberts) - CCLI Song # 2489542

All may join in on the prelude or just listen and prepare your hearts for worship.

Verse

All who are thirst - y, all who are \_\_\_weak,  
come to the foun - tain. Dip your heart in the stream of  
life. Let the pain and the sor - row be wash'd a-way in the  
waves of His mer-cy as deep cries out to deep. (We sing)

Chorus

Come, Lord Je - sus, \_\_\_ come. Come, Lord Je - sus,  
\_\_\_ come. Come, Lord Je - sus, \_\_\_ come. Come, Lord  
Je - sus, \_\_\_ come. All who are thirst-

Words and Music by Brenton Brown and Glenn Roberts.

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## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Pastor Julie Morris

# GATHERING SONG - "My Soul in Stillness Waits" (Haugen) - Verses 5 and 6

As able, the assembly stands.

Refrain

For you, O Lord, my soul in still - ness  
waits, tru - ly my hope is in you.

Verses

1. O Lord of Light, our on - ly hope of
2. O Spring of Joy, rain down up - on our
3. O Root of Life, im - plant your seed with -
4. O Key of Knowl - edge, guide us in our
5. Come, let us bow be - fore the God who
6. Here we shall meet the Mak - er of the

glo - ry, your ra - diance shines in all who look to  
spir - its, our thirst - y hearts are yearn - ing for your  
in us, and in your ad - vent, draw us all to  
pil - grim - age, we ev - er seek, yet un - ful - filled re -  
made us, let ev - 'ry heart be o - pened to the  
heav - ens, Cre - a - tor of the moun - tains and the

you, come, light the hearts of all in dark and  
Word, come, make us whole, be com - fort to our  
you, our hope re - born in dy - ing and in  
main, o - pen to us the path - way of your  
Lord, for we are all the peo - ple of his  
seas, Lord of the stars, and pres - ent to us

D.C.

shad - ow.  
hearts.  
ris - ing.  
peace.  
hand.  
now.



## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at Baptism, as the presiding minister addresses the assembly:*

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who alone does wonders,  
who lifts up the lowly,  
who fills the hungry with good things.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on 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 God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin,  
and made us alive together with Christ.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,  
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C **Amen.**

## GREETING

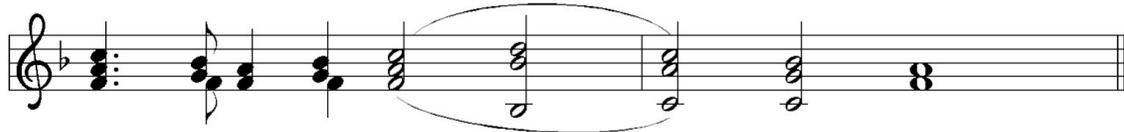
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

## KYRIE - "Kyrie Eleison" - ELW 155 - sing in Greek



1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.  
 2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.  
 1, 3 Lord, . . . have mer - cy. Lord, . . . . have mer - cy.  
 2 Christ, . . . have mer - cy. Christ, . . . . have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
 Chris - te e - le - i - son.  
 Lord, . . . have mer - cy.  
 Christ, . . . have mer - cy.

Music: Russian Orthodox traditional

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray.

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; 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.*

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH/CHILDREN'S MESSAGE - Pastor Julie Morris

### CHILDREN'S SONG - "Light One Candle" (Sleeth)



1. Light one can-dle for hope, one bright can-dle for hope.  
 2. Light one can-dle for peace, one bright can-dle for peace.  
 3. Light one can-dle for joy, one bright can-dle for joy.



Christ brings hope to ev' - ry heart. He comes! He comes!  
 Christ brings peace to ev' - ry heart. He comes! He comes!  
 Christ brings joy to ev' - ry heart. He comes! He comes!

Words and music by Natalie Sleeth. © 1976, Hinshaw Music, Inc. Used with permission.

## **FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:1-10**

*The prophet describes the return from the Babylonian captivity as a joyous procession to Zion. God's coming reign will bring a renewal of creation in which health and wholeness will be restored. There is no need for fear, for God is coming to save.*

<sup>1</sup>The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus <sup>2</sup>it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

<sup>3</sup>Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. <sup>4</sup>Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

<sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; <sup>6</sup>then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; <sup>7</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

<sup>8</sup>A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. <sup>9</sup>No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. <sup>10</sup>And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**



## RESPONSE (Luke 1:46b-55) - "My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness, God" - ELW 251

1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!  
 2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer - cy ev - er flows.  
 3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;

You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.  
 With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem - ing hearts ex - pose.  
 the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.

Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless - ing shall pro - claim—  
 The ruth - less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;  
 Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,

great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.  
 the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.  
 and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

## SECOND READING: James 5:7-10

*In anticipation of the Lord's coming, Christians are called upon to cultivate patience rather than discontent.*

<sup>7</sup>Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup>You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. <sup>9</sup>Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! <sup>10</sup>As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

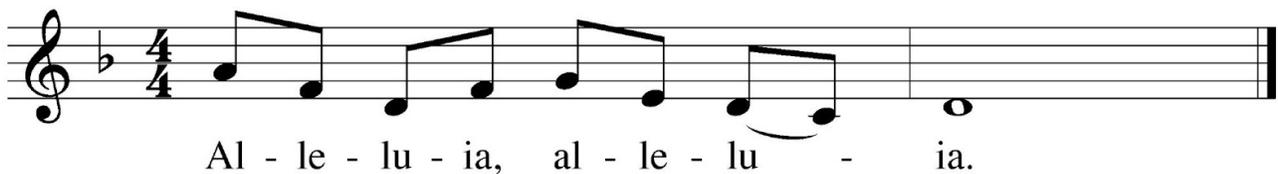
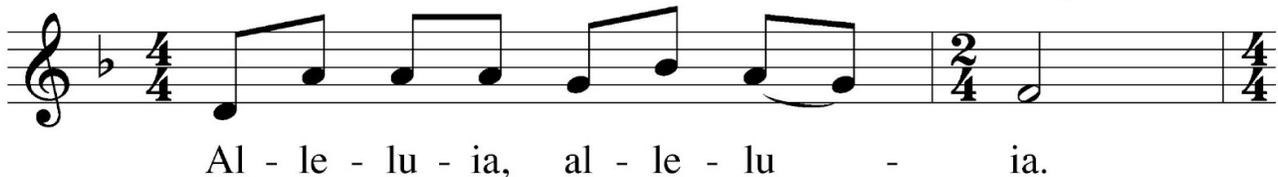
L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*As able, the assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - "Advent Gospel Acclamation" (Pishner) - sing 2x's

Based on VENI EMMANUEL  
Stephen Pishner



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## GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-11

*John the Baptist expects the Messiah to bring God's judgment upon the earth (Matt. 3:11-12). From a prison cell, he wonders whether Jesus is the one who will do this. Jesus' response indicates that God's reign is indeed being fulfilled already through healing and restoration.*

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

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

<sup>2</sup>When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" <sup>4</sup>Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. <sup>6</sup>And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

<sup>7</sup>As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup>What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. <sup>9</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’

<sup>11</sup>Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

**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 - "Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn" - ELW 242



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for  
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -  
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when  
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for  
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is  
all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so  
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.  
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;  
qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.  
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -  
mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -  
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in  
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and  
kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to  
won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and  
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.  
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.  
weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.  
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen

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## APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the 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 catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*The assembly may be seated.*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

Gracious God, we rejoice in the gifts of your Spirit. Equip the global church to magnify your love and peace in every land. We celebrate the anniversary of the ordination of Deacon Dr. Cecelia Travick-Jackson and ask your continued blessing on her ministry at Mount Cross, throughout the synod, and beyond. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Abundant God, we rejoice in your creation. Revive lands we have squandered and depleted. Make gardens flourish in cities and neighborhoods. Cleanse polluted air and water so living things may breathe, drink, and praise you. Bring relief to areas affected by storms and severe weather. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Righteous God, we rejoice in your justice. End racism and oppression. Deliver all who are unjustly imprisoned or persecuted. Reconcile nations and peoples in conflict, especially Ukraine, Russia, Iran, Afghanistan, the Holy Land, and anywhere there is violence. Help us pray for our enemies. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

A Abiding God, we rejoice in your company. Give us calm and patient hearts as we gather with family and friends. Keep us mindful of those for whom this season is not happy. Console the grieving and surround them with loving support. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Healing God, we rejoice in your compassion. Comfort any in distress because of worry, illness, or loss. Strengthen and protect health care workers, rescue teams, crisis counselors, and all who risk themselves to keep others safe, and bring peace to those who are suffering in body, mind, or spirit, especially everyone on our prayer list ...

### PRAYER CONCERNS from MOUNT CROSS

**We pray for Tom Andino** (friend of Carol Browning), **Mary Aschenbeck** (friend of Mary & Ric Kienitz), **Crista** (niece of Karen Cherry), **Kris Dawson, Pat Dawson, Kate Fisher, Johnathan Hammersley** (great-nephew of Marni Engh), **Jackie Hatcher, the family of Tom Heathorn** (cousin of Marni Engh), **Diana and Skip Hess** (friends of Judy & Bob Winters), **Jo Holler, Nancy Jaeger, Jerry Kochans, Mike McClary, Karen Nelson, Heather Rogers** (granddaughter of Nancy and Jim Jaeger), **Julianna McKillop** (grandmother of Rachel Zook Briner), **Jeff Miller** (friend of Becky & Ken Riley), **Neil Rubin** (son of Brian & Janet Rubin), **Norb and Marilyn Rud, Dianne Selbrede, Cassie Sorenson** (friend of Evonne Kuchera), **Marie Swartz** (sister of Jo Holler), **the family of Diane Tapangco** (sister of Bill Stoll), **and for the victims and families of the mass shootings in Colorado Springs and Chesapeake, Virginia, and for all survivors of violence.**

*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](mailto:office@mountcross.com) or call 805.482.3847.*

A God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God who listens, we now offer you our own prayers, either silently or aloud (*pause*) ... God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

C **Amen.**

### PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

# OFFERTORY - "God of the Poor" (Kendrick) - CCLI Song # 1223690



1. Beau - ty for bro - ken - ness, hope for des - pair, Lord, in Your  
 2. Shel - ter for fra - gile lives, cures for their ills, work for the  
 3. Re - fuge from cru - el wars, ha - vens from fear, cit - ies for  
 4. Rest for the rav - aged earth, o - ceans and streams, plun - dered and  
 5. Light - en our dark - ness, breathe on this flame, un - til Your



suff - 'ring world, this is our prayer. Bread for the chil - dren,  
 crafts - men, trade for their skills. Land for the dis - pos - sessed,  
 sanc - tu - 'ry, free - doms to share. Peace to the kill - ing fields,  
 poi - soned, our fu - ture our dreams. Lord, end our mad - ness,  
 jus - tice burns bright - ly a - gain; un - til the na - tions



jus - tice, joy, peace, sun - rise to sun - set Your  
 rights for the weak, voic - es to plead the cause of  
 scorched earth to green, Christ for the bit - ter - ness, His  
 care - less - ness, greed. Make us con - tent with the  
 learn of Your ways, seek Your sal - va - tion and



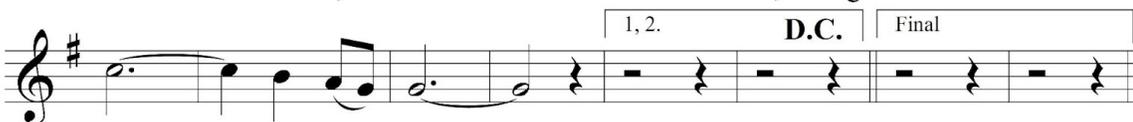
king - dom in - crease.  
 those who can't speak.  
 cross for the pain.  
 things that we need.  
 bring You their praise.



God of the poor, friend of the weak, give us com - pas - sion we pray,



melt our cold hearts, let tears fall like rain. Come, change our love from a



spark to a flame.

## OFFERING PRAYER

A Eternal God,  
you make the desert bloom  
and send springs of water to thirsty ground.  
Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money,  
and make us messengers of your mercy and love  
for all in need of your healing and justice.  
We ask this through Christ our Savior.

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.  
 You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,  
 through whom you will also make all things new  
 in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.  
 And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
 with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
 we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: *A Community Mass*, Richard Proutlx, b. 1937  
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P Holy God, the Beginning and the End,  
 our Salvation and our Hope,  
 we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty.  
 When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair,  
 you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy.  
 At this end of the ages  
 your Son Jesus came to bring us your love  
 and to heal all the suffering world.

P 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.

Remembering, therefore,  
his life, death, and resurrection,  
we await his coming again  
in righteousness and peace.

Send your Spirit on us  
and on this bread and wine we share:  
strengthen our faith,  
increase our hope,  
and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,  
Almighty God, with the Holy Spirit,  
in your holy Church,  
both 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 Be strong, do not fear!  
Here is your God, who has come to save you.

*The assembly may be seated.*

### LAMB OF GOD - "Lamb of God" (Kraft/IRBY)



Lamb of God, the world's Re - deem-er, mer - cy to your peo - ple give.

Lamb of God, the world's Re - deem-er, may we in your mer - cy\_ live.

Lamb of God, we all im - plore, grant us peace for ev - er - more.

Text: Linda J. Kraft, Pastor, Holy Trinity ELCA, Trumbull, CT.

Music: IRBY (8 7 8 7 77).

**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, and then walk to the side to receive wine or grape juice (in the center ring). Place your empty cup in the trays provided. Communion ministers will bring Holy Communion to those with mobility challenges (or those worshipping outside who don't wish to come inside).



## **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.<sup>1</sup>**



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<sup>1</sup> Adapted by Pastor Julie from a prayer written by the Anglican Diocese of Niagara.

COMMUNION SONGS - "Light of the World" (Daigle/Duncan/Mabury) - CCLI  
Song # 7023299

*Verse 1*

The world waits for a miracle  
The heart longs for a little bit of hope  
O come O come Emmanuel  
A child prays for peace on earth  
And she's calling out from a sea of hurt  
O come O come Emmanuel  
And can you hear the angels singing

*Chorus 1*

Glory to the Light of the world  
Glory the Light of the world is here

*Verse 2*

The drought breaks with the tears of a mother  
A baby's cry is the sound of love come down  
Come down Emmanuel woh  
He is the song for the suffering  
He is Messiah the Prince of peace has come  
He has come Emmanuel oh

*Chorus 2*

Glory to the light of the world  
Glory to the light of the world  
Glory to the light of the world  
Glory to the light of the world

*Bridge*

For all who wait for all who hunger  
For all who've prayed for all who wonder  
Behold your King behold Messiah  
Emmanuel Emmanuel

*Chorus 3*

Glory to the light of the world  
Glory to the light of the world  
Glory to the light of the world  
Behold your King behold Messiah  
Emmanuel Emmanuel

*(continued on next page)*

*Ending*  
The world waits for a miracle  
The heart longs for a little bit of hope  
O come O come Emmanuel

**“Gloria 3” (Taizé) - WOV 640 - sing in Latin (repeat as needed)**

The musical notation is for a single melodic line in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of two staves. The first staff has four measures, with the first measure marked '1\*' and the second measure marked '2'. The second staff has four measures, with the first measure marked '3' and the second measure marked '4'. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words hyphenated across measures.

Glo - ri - a,      glo - ri - a,      in ex - cel - sis De - o!  
Glo-ry to God,      glo-ry to God,      glo - ry in the high - est!

Glo - ri - a,      glo - ri - a,      al - le - lu - ia,      al - le - lu - ia!  
Glo-ry to God,      glo-ry to God,      al - le - lu - ia,      al - le - lu - ia!

*\*May be sung as a round.*

Text: Traditional  
Music: GLORIA 3, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994  
Music © 1979, 1988 Les Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.  
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**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

- A Faithful God,  
in this meal you have remembered your mercy,  
bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ.  
As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled,  
sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery.  
Guide us toward your promised future,  
coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.
- C **Amen.**

**RECOGNITION OF MOORPARK INTERNS (Audrey Gomes and Tommy Amezcua)**

*As able, the assembly stands for the Blessing.*

**BLESSING**

- P God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus,  
and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,  
✠ bless you now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

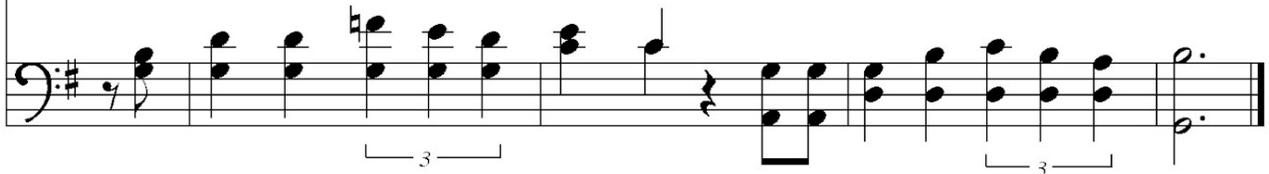
## SENDING SONG - "He Came Down" - ELW 253



1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;  
2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;  
3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;  
4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;  
he came down that we may have light; hal-le - lu - jah for-ev - er - more.  
he came down that we may have peace;  
he came down that we may have joy;



Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949

Arr. © 1986 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

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## DISMISSAL

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

## POSTLUDE - Guy Ervin III

**Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God  
by Jim and Susan Prosser in honor of their son Jeffrey's birthday.**

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE License #A-706290 and CCLI License #2022482. Images from sundaysandseasons.com used with permission from Augsburg Fortress.

If you haven't already done so today, let us know you're watching us online - fill out our connection card: <https://bit.ly/MCLCConnect>.

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 **11:00-11:30 a.m.**  
Please consider your vulnerabilities and risk factors before choosing to participate.

## **The Week at a Glance**

### **TODAY, December 11**

“The Jesse Tree” - Advent/Christmas  
Program, 4:00 p.m.

See the announcement below about our  
Advent/Christmas program presented by our Mount  
Cross Youth and Music Ministries. today at 4:00 p.m.

### **Monday, December 12**

Monday Meditation, 3:00 p.m.

The Meditation group meets on Zoom at 3:00 p.m.  
Questions, contact LaJean Wenzel.

### **NO Many Meals Dinner**

This month, the Many Meals dinner at St. Mary  
Magdalen is canceled due to schedule conflicts there.  
Contact Karin Grennan with questions.

### **Tuesday, December 13**

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

Women's Bible Study meets in the sanctuary, following  
the *Gather* magazine Advent devotional, “Good Things  
Come in Small Packages: Moving from Wanting to  
Waiting at Advent.”

4H Arts & Crafts, 5:30 p.m.

The 4H meets at 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Life Center.

### **Wednesday, December 14**

ROOTED and Adult Bible Study, 5:00 p.m.

The Wednesday Evening ROOTED program meets at  
5:00 p.m. in the Prayer Garden or Sanctuary  
(depending on the weather) for community  
connection, scripture reflection, and centering prayer.  
This is the final session of ROOTED and Adult Bible  
Study for 2022. Questions, contact Pastor Julie.

Fun with Faith, 5:00 p.m.

All children Preschool through 5th grade are invited to  
join Joe Zimmerly at 5:00 p.m. for “Fun with Faith”!  
Questions, contact Joe ([joe@mountcross.com](mailto:joe@mountcross.com)).

Community Dinner, 5:45 p.m.

All are invited to join us for dinner each Wednesday in  
the pavilion and Parish Life Center. Suggested  
donation: \$5/person. Questions, contact Joe  
([joe@mountcross.com](mailto:joe@mountcross.com))

NO Bell Choir Rehearsal

The Bell Choir will resume rehearsals on  
January 4.

Confirmation, 6:30 p.m.

Confirmation for our Middle School youth  
meets at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. Questions,  
contact joe ([joe@mountcross.com](mailto:joe@mountcross.com)).

Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.

The choir meets in the sanctuary at 6:30 p.m.  
this week to rehearse music for Sundays and  
learn anthems and special music.

### **Thursday, December 15** **Newsletter and Poinsettia** **Order Deadline**

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

The Men's Bible Study meets at Marie  
Callender's (185 E. Daily Drive, Camarillo). A \$15  
donation covers breakfast and a tip, No RSVP  
necessary. Contact Randy Churchill  
([hchurchill@verizon.net](mailto:hchurchill@verizon.net)) with any questions.

Afternoon Chapel, 2:00 p.m.

Afternoon Chapel is at 2:00 p.m. See the  
announcement below for details.

CDC Christmas Singalong,  
6:00 p.m.

The CDC's Christmas program is at 6:00 p.m.  
in the Sanctuary.

### **Saturday, December 17**

Al-Anon, 10:00 a.m.

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

### **Next Sunday, December 18**

Decorate for Christmas  
after Worship

Stay around after worship to finish  
decorating for Christmas.

## Masking Guidelines at Mount Cross

Masks are **optional** in all indoor and outdoor settings at Mount Cross. We encourage all members to take precautions to protect themselves and others from illness. We continue to offer seating outside for Sunday worship. Our masking guidelines will change again if the COVID case rate rises and Ventura County reinstates a mask mandate. Thank you for your cooperation and care.

## Announcements

### Sunday Worship

We always need worship assistants, especially for technology. We will train you. Contact Vicky Edell at vickyedell5@gmail.com 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 weekly programs, email Joe ([joe@mountcross.com](mailto:joe@mountcross.com)).

### Reconciling in Christ Work of the Week:

*This information is offered by the Peace & Justice Team in a spirit of goodwill for information purposes. We invite everyone to be a part of these ongoing conversations.*



*Each Sunday we confess our sins, asking the Lord to: "Show us Your ways; Teach us Your paths; and lead us in justice and truth."*

At the March leadership retreat, we listened to a team of speakers from Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Thousand Oaks tell us about their experience in becoming a "Reconciling in Christ" congregation. Since 1974, "Reconciling Works, Lutherans for Full Participation" has advocated for the full welcome, inclusion, and equity of (LGBTQIA+) Lutherans in all aspects of the life of their Church, congregations, and community.

At our April 19 meeting, The Mount Cross Church Council approved an ad hoc committee to gather more information regarding RIC. The team became comprised of 8 volunteers: Jessica Easter, Kevin O'Farrell, Becky Gilbertson, Jim Dinges, Lyndsay Montour, Henry Moraga, Becky Riley, and Bill Stoll.

For those who are interested, we have placed RIC educational material in the narthex and kiosk. Please feel free to avail yourself of this information.

In the coming months, we will be holding educational and informational meetings on the need for this designation, the process involved, and what it means for Mount Cross. We hope to include speakers to give us greater insight on this issue.

## "The Jesse Tree" - Advent/Christmas Program

**The Jesse Tree** is a way of journeying through Advent to Christmas by hearing the stories from Jesus' family tree. come and enjoy this program of scripture and symbols and songs from our Mount Cross Youth and Music Ministries,

**TODAY, December 11, 4:00 p.m.**

Most of all, we invite conversation from Mount Cross members. We want your views and your concerns as well as your prayers.

In the meantime, please feel free to talk to any of the team members. Although it is unlikely we will be able to answer all of your questions (at the outset perhaps very few), we will do our best to discuss them and find answers as best we can.

### Altar Flowers

To request flowers for our worship: <https://bit.ly/AltarFlowers2022>. **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, please let us know; we'll deliver the arrangement to another 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](mailto: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!

### 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 are always a good choice. They could also use **boxes of breakfast cereal** at the moment. **Please do not donate food that is expired.**

Thanks for your support.

## **Afternoon Chapel**

Join us for **Afternoon Chapel** on **Thursday, December 15**, at **2:00 p.m.** in the Mount Cross Sanctuary, a service of remembrance. This shortened Worship Service includes communion, singing, prayers, and fellowship. Contact the church office at 805-482-3847 if you need a ride to the Chapel Service or for more information.

## **The MC Christmas Greeting Board is back!**

Send your warm Christmas wishes to all your fellow parishioners while saving time, paper, and postage! Place one greeting card in the basket in the church narthex and the Fellowship team will post it on the board for you!

## **Gifts of Hope**

Visit the table on the patio during December to pick up your "gift cards" and complete your Christmas shopping with ease! We will have four different amounts for the alternative gifts this year, but each donation will support rental assistance through Harbor House. For your donation, you get a Christmas card and note to gift to a friend or loved one instead of buying them an item that they might not really need. As our old friend Binney Nast used to say - "On Jesus' birthday, you get a gift Jesus would love." Keeping local families in their

## **Noisy Offering - Laundry Love**

We're doing a quick and easy collection extended through the month of December - quarters to support Laundry Love, a program that helps offset the cost of a laundromat. Once a week, Harbor House hosts a laundromat in Thousand Oaks and pays for the washing and drying of homeless neighbors' clothes and possessions. Add some quarters to the tube on the "washing machine" in the narthex, and let the homeless in Ventura County receive some Laundry Love.

## **Harbor House Glove Drive from Family Faith Formation**

Help warm the hands (and hearts) of our neighbors at Harbor House this winter!

As winter has arrived, the Harbor House community is in need of adult-sized gloves. Children's gloves are welcome too. Gently-used or new gloves are appreciated. We will have an ongoing collection throughout winter - you can find the collection box in the narthex.

## **Winter Camp 2023**

Winter Camp is just around the corner. If you are interested in attending, please contact Joe ([joe@mountcross.com](mailto:joe@mountcross.com)) ASAP!

### **Family Winter Fest - January 14-16, 2023, at El Camino Pines**

The age range for Family Winter Fest is ages 4-17. It is not exclusive to those younger than 4, but it might be tough sleeping in cabins with other people.

please let Joe ([joe@mountcross.com](mailto:joe@mountcross.com)) know **before December 10** if you would like to attend. For more information, please click this link to their website:

**[Family Winter Fest 2023](#)**



## **Poinsettias for Christmas**

Again this year, we're asking for donations of poinsettias to help our Christmas Eve service look festive. Each poinsettia is \$7.50. You can sign up online: <https://bit.ly/MCPoinsettias> and include a dedication if desired.

You can make the donation through Mount Cross' online donation website, <https://www.mountcross.com/online-giving> (choose "designated" and type in "poinsettias"), OR you can mail a check to the church OR drop it in the offering at worship or during drive-through Communion. No matter your method of payment, please write on your check or note on the online donation website: "poinsettias."  
Responses are **needed by December 15**, please.

For those who want to take the plants home, poinsettias will be available after the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve worship service, or after 9:30 a.m. worship on Sunday, December 25.

## **A Christmas Act of Kindness – Share a Christmas Greeting!**

A list of Mount Cross members and friends who would delight in receiving Christmas cards is available to anyone who would like to share a Christmas card greeting this year.

Each year, these cards are received with great appreciation.

The Care Team Christmas Card Suggested Mailing List with addresses is available:

- on the counter in the church narthex,
  - in the church office,
  - by contacting the office ([office@mountcross.com](mailto:office@mountcross.com) or 805-482-3847) to send it to you, or
  - by calling Susan Prosser, Care Team, (805-657-6222) who can also email it to you.
- Use the list to add one person, a few, or the entire group to your Christmas card mailing this year. Be assured you that your greeting will brighten the day of the recipient and bring added meaning to your celebration.

## **Christmas With Areté**

Come join us this Holiday season as Areté Vocal Ensemble presents its first Christmas concert in the group's 13-year history! From beautiful canticles to the modern carols you know and love, this concert is guaranteed to fill you with the spirit of the season, and leave you feeling merry and bright. Come to the Samuelson Chapel at California Lutheran University **next Sunday, December 18, at 5:00 p.m.** to enjoy this special concert.

Areté Vocal Ensemble is an innovative professional ensemble of vocal artists based in Thousand Oaks, California, and includes Mount Cross member Carina McVeigh!  
To purchase tickets, please visit [www.aretévocalensemble.org](http://www.aretévocalensemble.org).

## Advent/Christmas Events and Activities

- ❖ TODAY, December 11, 4:00 p.m. - Advent/Christmas Program for all ages, featuring our Youth and Music Ministry
- ❖ Sunday, December 18, after worship - Make sandwiches for Harbor House and trim the Mount Cross Christmas Tree
  - ❖ Saturday, December 24, 5:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Service with Carols, Candles, and Communion
  - ❖ Sunday, December 25, 9:30 a.m. - Christmas Sunday Worship
- ❖ Sunday, January 1, 9:30 a.m. - Lessons & Carols with Holy Communion
  - ❖ Friday, January 6, 7:00 p.m. - Epiphany Star Service followed by a Dessert Potluck



## Mount Cross Generosity Campaign

**Rooted in God's Grace, We Grow Generosity Together**

If you haven't had an opportunity to complete your **Generosity Pledge/ Estimate of Giving and Time & Talent forms**, you can still do so.

These can be returned by mail, in person at the church, or on the church website for those wishing to complete the forms online.

Thank you to everyone who has already returned your forms.  
It is helpful and very much appreciated.

Mount Cross Lutheran Church  
@MountCross-LutheranChurch



**venmo**