

Mount Cross Lutheran Church

102 Camino Esplendido, Camarillo, CA 93010

805.482.3847 www.mountcross.com



*To you is
born this
day a* **Savior**
LUKE 2:11

**1st Sunday of Christmas
Lessons & Carols
December 27, 2020, 9:30 a.m.**

PRELUDE - "I Saw Three Ships" (English carol; arr. McElroy)

Mount Cross Bell Choir

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Pastor Julie Morris

GATHERING SONG - "O Come, All Ye Faithful" - ELW 283, v. 1, 3 & 4

SATB Quartet (Becky Riley, Gayle Johnson, Dan Nelson, Randy Churchill)



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!



DIALOGUE

- P Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.
C **By day and night he shines for all to see.**
P Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty
C **that the world may see the justice and richness of God.**
P God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,
C **so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.**
P Jesus is the light of the world.
C **Jesus is the light of our lives.**
P Sing to God a new song!
C **A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world.**

OPENING PRAYER

- P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Let us pray.

Gracious God of heaven and earth, you have thrown a lifeline to us in our darkness—a beam of light that shines through Jesus. Though born in a manger, he is the firstborn of all creation. Though crucified on a cross, he is the Lord of life. Fill us with the wonder and joy of his presence in the world and in our hearts.

- C **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON - Genesis 1:1-5, 14-18 (read by Stan Patscheck)

When the world was brought into being through the voice of God, God created humankind in his own image.

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

¹⁴And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights — the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night — and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL - “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” - ELW 282, v. 1 & 4

SATB Quartet (Becky Riley, Gayle Johnson, Dan Nelson, Randy Churchill)

- 1 It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
“Peace on the earth, good will to all,
from heav’n’s all-gracious king.”
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.

- 4 For lo! The days are hast’ning on,
by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years
shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendors fling,
and all the world give back the song
which now the angels sing.

SECOND LESSON - Micah 5:2-5a (Read by Jacquanna Davis)

The prophet Micah, having pronounced judgment upon Judah, speaks of a future shepherd-king who, like David, will come from the small town of Bethlehem. (Ephrathah refers to the area around Bethlehem.) This king will restore Israel and bring peace. New Testament writers understood this passage to be referring to Jesus.

²But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. ³Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.

⁴And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; ⁵and he shall be the one of peace. If the Assyrians come into our land and tread upon our soil, we will raise against them seven shepherds and eight installed as rulers.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL - "The Coventry Carol" - handbells

Mount Cross Bell Choir

THIRD LESSON - Luke 1:26-35, 38 (read by Melissa Henry)

In this annunciation, Luke makes clear that God comes with good news for ordinary people from little known places. This king will not be born to royalty in a palace, but to common folk in a stall. Here Luke highlights the role of the Spirit, a special emphasis in this gospel.

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL - "Magnificat" (Paris)

Mount Cross Youth Band (Tiana Stouch, Ben Fisher & Joe Zimmerly)

Chorus

My soul magnifies the Lord.
My spirit rejoices in God.
My soul magnifies the Lord
My spirit rejoices in God.

Verse

For He who is mighty has done great things for me.
Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy is His name.

Luke 1:50-54

*You have mercy on those who fear you, from generation to generation.
You have come to the aid of your servant Israel,
to remember the promise of mercy, the promise made to our forebears,
to Abraham and his children forever.*

Chorus

Verse

Chorus and Verse

Chorus

FOURTH LESSON - Matthew 1:18-25 (read by Mark Storer)

Matthew's story of Jesus' birth focuses on the role of Joseph, who adopts the divinely-begotten child into the family of David and obediently gives him the name Jesus, which means "God saves."

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." ²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL - "Beautiful Savior" - ELW 838

Men's Quartet (Keith Selbrede, Bill Stoll, Dan Nelson, Randy Churchill)



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!
robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
bright the spar - kling stars on high;
Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,
Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
than all the an - gels in the sky.
now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904
Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

FIFTH LESSON - Luke 2:8-20 (read by John & Jaimie Marroquin)

The world's deep night is shattered by the light of God's new day. The glory of God is revealed to poor shepherds, who share the good news with others.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL - "Silent Night, Holy Night" - ELW 281

Mount Cross Virtual Choir Video

SIXTH LESSON - Matthew 2:1-11 (read by Landon Stouch)

God's promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honor a new king. Strangers from a faraway land, they welcome the long-awaited messiah of Israel.

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel."

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL - "The First Noel" - ELW 300

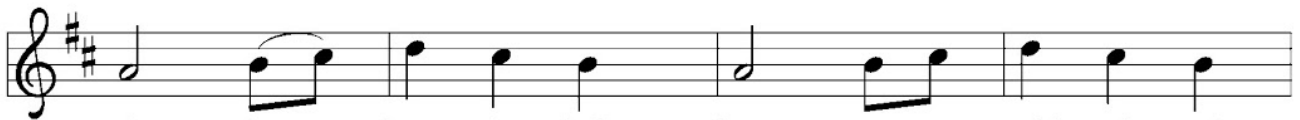
SATB Quartet (Becky Riley, Gayle Johnson, Dan Nelson, Randy Churchill)



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing
3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .
4 This star drew near to the . . . north - west, o'er . .
5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the
wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it
rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -
king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the
there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, and

Refrain



night that was so deep.
tin-ued both day and night.
star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
place where Je - sus lay.
myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Text: English traditional

Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional

SEVENTH LESSON - John 1:1-14 (Read by Travis Davis)

The prologue to the Gospel of John describes Jesus as the Word of God made flesh, the one who reveals God to be "full of grace and truth."

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL - "By Our Love" (Nockels)

Quartet (Marion Cole, Jessie Hanevich, Carina McVeigh, Jerry Warren)

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

P Today, we pray for all those on our Mount Cross prayer list and for all the prayers we hold in our hearts.

It is you, loving God, who lights our path with truth.

C **Your Word, Jesus, is truth.**

P In his light, draw all to the manger

C **to gather in wonder with the shepherds.**

P In his light, draw all to the manger

C **to kneel in reverence with the wise ones.**

P In his light, draw all to the manger

C **to sing for joy with the angels.**

P In the brightness of his life

C **cast away the darkness of injustice, poverty, and hunger in the world.**

P It is you, loving God, who meets us on our way.

C **In the light of Jesus, show the world the way of life.**

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

C **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen.**



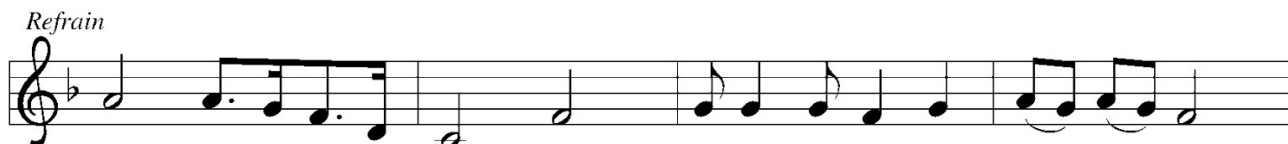
BLESSING

P May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, † the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

C **Amen.**

SENDING SONG - "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" - ELW 290

Carina McVeigh & Carol Browning



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



- 1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
- 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
- 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born;



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho-rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE - "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen"

Men's Quartet (Keith Selbrede, Bill Stoll, Dan Nelson, Randy Churchill)

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Mount Cross Bell Choir: Carol Browning, Guy Ervin III, Bill Greason, Melissa Henry, Barbara Recker, Melissa Sobolik, Aimee Stoll, Justin Thai.

Thanks to all who participated in today's worship!
Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!!

Join Pastor Julie for **Community Conversation Time on Zoom** following this service! Grab a cup of coffee or tea and some treats and visit via Zoom:
<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)**.

There is **NO Drive-Through Communion** today.

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 also for Angelica (friend of the Marroquin family), **Elizabeth A, Robert and Robin A** (friends of Becky & Ken Riley), **Roger Allmandinger** (brother-in-law of Jim & Susan Prosser), **Sharon Benner** (sister of Karen Gramacki), **Cynthia Bishop** (friend of Bob and Judy Winters), **Mike Carpenter, Chip** (friend of Wendy & Mike McClary), **Terry Cline** (relative of Jim & Karen Gramacki), **Rob Conant** (boyfriend of Mary Goodenough's daughter), **Stephanie Copenhaver** (friend of Kathleen Jones) **Howard Corey, the family of Barbara D'Addario, Travis and Jacquanna Davis, Sonja Demeter, Tom Demeter** (uncle of Allison Johnson), **Bob Edell, Steve Engh** (friend of Gayle & Cy Johnson), **the family of Edith Frederick, Sharon Goodenough** (daughter of Mary Goodenough), **Ron Higginbotham, Charles Hilley, Michael Mann** (nephew of Keith Selbrede), **Sandra Manning** (friend of Judy Winters), **Norm Morgan, Karen Nelson, for the family of Maria Perales and of Julie Reynoso** (friends of Pastor Julie's family), **Lisa Saner, the family of Jerry Schumann** (Janet Kessler's daughter-in-law's father), **Patricia Springer** (mother of Joan Brundage), **the family of Madaline Statton, Patrick Tovar** (uncle of Christina Tovar-Hamernik), **Mike Turek** (friend of the Henrys), **the family of Dominic Valenzano** (friend of Herb and Jo Holler), **Bill Voigt** (father of Heather Edwards), **Lisa and Kurt Wyrick** (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

Most of our regular programs are on break for the next two weeks.

Monday, December 28, 2020

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, December 29, 2020

Upper Room Zoom, 12:00 noon

Upper Room Zoom meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays. It's a nice 15-minute break in your day that includes scripture, prayer, and relaxing video/audio. Join us as often as you'd like.

Join: <http://bit.ly/MCUpperRoomZoom>

OR, you can call in on a phone. Dial 1 (408) 638 0968. You will be asked for a Meeting ID. It is 847 4745 9576, then push pound (#).

Thursday, December 31, 2020

New Year's Eve

Upper Room Zoom, 12:00 noon

Upper Room Zoom meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays. It's a nice 15-minute break in your day that includes scripture, prayer, and relaxing video/audio. Join us as often as you'd like.

Join: <http://bit.ly/MCUpperRoomZoom>

OR, you can call in on a phone. Dial 1 (408) 638 0968. You will be asked for a Meeting ID. It is 847 4745 9576, then push pound (#).

**New Year's Eve Service of Light,
7:00 p.m.**

We'll be offering a reflective online Worship to end 2020 and welcome 2021, livestream on our [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) pages, at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, January 1, 2021

**Church Office CLOSED
Blessings for the New Year!**

Announcements

Sunday Worship

The Re-Opening Committee has approved a testing phase for outdoor worship. Email office@mountcross.com or call 805-482-3847 if you are interested in attending the service in person. When arriving for Sunday morning worship, please park in designated areas or on the street; sign in and have your temperature taken; wear a mask; practice social distancing; bring a chair (some chairs available).

Thank you in advance for helping to make this a safe worship experience!

Help with Sunday Worship and Communion

We are looking for help to make Sunday worship 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.

If you'd like to serve as a lector, intercessor, or musician on a Sunday, either by joining us on-site for the livestream or by recording in advance, contact the office.

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

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

Connect Online

Let us know you're watching us online - fill out our connection card: [tps://bit.ly/MCLCCconnect](https://bit.ly/MCLCCconnect).

Altar Flowers

For the last couple of months of 2020, we resumed having altar flowers, when requested, for our outdoor worship. Since it's not easy to post a Flower Chart on-site for people to sign up, we've added an Altar Flower SignUp Request: <http://bit.ly/AltarFlowers2021>. The cost for the flowers remains \$35.00 and you are welcome to take the arrangement home with you after worship, if attending in person, 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! We want to make it as simple as possible for you.

If you'd like 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 Year-To-Date statements to Financial Secretary Joan Brundage at jbrundage@mountcross.com. Also, if you haven't already, 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!